

James McBride

Quotes

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God is the color of water. Water doesn't have a color.

~James McBride

I asked her if I was black or white. She replied "You are a human being. Educate yourself or you'll be a nobody!"

~James McBride

You have to choose between what the world expects of you and what you want for yourself.

~James McBride

Writing for me is cutting out the fat and getting to the meaning.

~James McBride

First person narrative is a very effective tool but you have to know as a writer how to make it work.

~James McBride

If you have the material it will form itself as a kind of connective tissue.

~James McBride

People don't realize you're blowing over changes, time changes, harmony, different keys. I mark a point in my solo where it's got to peak at point D I go to A, B, C D then I'm home.

~James McBride

I come to the understanding that maybe what was on the inside was more important, and that your outer covering didn't count so much as folks thought it did, colored or white, man or woman.

~James McBride

I put headlights in Ford vans. I still drive a Ford.

~James McBride

It is hard to find romance in the present because there's nothing left to the imagination.

~James McBride

Newt Gingrich wrote a novel, and he's a short story. Bill Clinton wrote a biography, and he's a novel.

~James McBride

Family is the last and greatest discovery. It is our last miracle.

~James McBride

My family is my career.

~James McBride

As a journalist, the details always tell the story.

~James McBride

What humor allows you to do is to let the past go with less pain. It's a healing element. It releases some of the pain from the shotgun wound.

~James McBride

I'm not interested in food. It's just fuel.

~James McBride

The black church will accept anybody.

~James McBride

So sweet and precious is family life.

~James McBride

Educate yourself or you'll be a nobody!

~James McBride

I think a lot of the history we've read up to this point, some of it is just

off. It's written with the same prejudice that certain networks have when they report the news of the day.

~James McBride

I just read history books. I read nothing but history books. They have so much to give; I wish I'd majored in history in college.

~James McBride

It's a real stumper to sit around and try to think in your own head, but when you go into somebody else's head that takes the foot off the breaks. You can think in someone else's head.

~James McBride

But what difference does it make? ... When you're mixed, you see how absurd this business of race is.

~James McBride

I'm proud of 'Miracle at St. Anna' and I loved it; there's no question in my mind it's as good as any movie that came out in 2007.

~James McBride

I'd like to do something involving jazz. But books are how I earn my living, and I'd like to stay with the horse I rode in on.

~James McBride

I wish all critics, no matter their color, were more sophisticated when it comes to the moral questions a film like 'St. Anna' is trying to raise.

~James McBride

My black friends never asked me how much money I made, or what school my children went to, or anything like that. They just said, "Come as you are."

~James McBride

Sometimes it seemed like the truth was a bandy-legged soul who dashed from one side of the world to the other and I could never find him.

~James McBride

God gived you the seed. But the watering and caring of that seed is up to you.

~James McBride

Put yourself in God's hands and you can't go wrong.

~James McBride

But at the end of the day, there are some questions that have no answers, and then one answer that has no question: love rules the game. Every time. All the time. That's what counts.

~James McBride

It's the same old story. Nothing in this world happens unless white folks says it happens. And therein lies the problem of being a professional black storyteller - writer, musician, filmmaker.

~James McBride

Until you expose the cancer, you can't fix it.

~James McBride

The question of religion in black America is something filmmakers don't want to touch.

~James McBride

Be kind to the living.

~James McBride

The man was the finest preacher. He could make a frog stand up straight and get happy with Jesus.

~James McBride

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