

# John McPhee

## Quotes

*Writing, Thinking, Way, Marine, Sound, Source, Stethoscope, Mind, Race, Opposites, Keys, Forever, Limestone, Lakes, Letters, Years, Colonels, Art, Floating, War*

If by some fiat I had to restrict all this writing to one sentence, this is the one I would choose: The summit of Mt. Everest is marine limestone.

~John McPhee

With their four-dimensional minds, and in their interdisciplinary ultra verbal way, geologists can wiggle out of almost anything.

~John McPhee

Rocks are records of events that took place at the time they formed. They are books. They have a different vocabulary, a different alphabet, but you learn how to read them.

~John McPhee

In making war with nature, there was risk of loss in winning.

~John McPhee

The doctor listens in with a stethoscope and hears sounds of a warpath Indian drum.

~John McPhee

Taking things from one source is plagiarism; taking things from several sources is research.

~John McPhee

Writing is a suspension of life in order to re-create life

~John McPhee

I can't stand a sentence until it sounds right.

~John McPhee

Almost all Americans would recognize Anchorage, because Anchorage is that part of any city where the city has burst its seams and extruded Colonel Sanders.

~John McPhee

I used to sit in class and listen to the terms come floating down the room like paper airplanes.

~John McPhee

Catch and release fishing may be cruelty masquerading as political correctness

~John McPhee

The summit of Mount Everest is marine limestone.

~John McPhee

Nonfiction-what the hell, that just says, this is nongrapefruit we're having this morning.

~John McPhee

He (Dave Brower) is an emotionalist in an age of dangerous reason.

~John McPhee

He liked to go from A to B without inventing letters between.

~John McPhee

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