

# Michael Azerrad

## Quotes

*People, Rocks, Band, Writing, Musician, Thinking, Unique, Ethos, Sound, Indie  
Rock, Mean, Soup, Knows, Morning, Stories, Media, Skills, Made, Theory,  
Hitting*

Just as not all popular albums are wonderful, not all wonderful albums are popular.

~Michael Azerrad

You didn't have to be a huge rock star; you just had to do well enough to continue doing what you wanted to do. It wasn't about hitting the jackpot, it was about sustainability.

~Michael Azerrad

Bon Jovi's trick is to use heavy-metal chords and still sound absolutely safe. Rock & roll used to be rebellion disguised as commercialism; now so much of it is commercialism disguised as rebellion.

~Michael Azerrad

Now that the generation that grew up on '80s indie-rock has attained influential positions in the culture, that music is the new yardstick. And that will shift yet again some day.

~Michael Azerrad

I really believe in the power of music - and I mean literally the power of musical tones - to rearrange the way you can think.

~Michael Azerrad

As a journalist, I'm not supposed to be the subject, but as an author, I'm fair game - another ingredient in the media soup.

~Michael Azerrad

People shared everything: information, equipment, their floors, whatever. There was strength in unity.

~Michael Azerrad

There's no law that says anybody has to do an interview.

~Michael Azerrad

The American indie underground made music for like-minded people who thought for themselves. Thinking for yourself is intrinsically subversive.

~Michael Azerrad

I'll leave it to other people to evaluate the legacy of my book, but I'm very moved when musicians tell me that they've been inspired by my book.

~Michael Azerrad

I just wanted to tell the story of a bunch of musicians who had never had their story told before. There's no preaching or theorizing.

~Michael Azerrad

People didn't get to see how other towns interpreted the underground ethos, and so they developed their own unique versions of it.

~Michael Azerrad

Naturally, no one knows more about music than musicians. They talk about their own work all the time, but they rarely get to talk about other people's music.

~Michael Azerrad

There's no glamour in Nirvana, no glamour at all, in fact.

~Michael Azerrad

There's a whole apparatus for indie bands now, but back in the eighties it was just getting built. The early people really took it on the chin.

~Michael Azerrad

Nine Inch Nails' sound is dominated by clanging synths and sardonic, shrieking vocals.

~Michael Azerrad

I have this theory, bands with enigmatic lyrics attract crazies.

~Michael Azerrad

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