

# Michael Dirda

## Quotes

*Art, Book, Writing, Thinking, Kindness, Library, World, People, Instructors,  
Summer, Self, What Matters, Mother, Years, Absolutely Nothing, Order, Selling,  
Fiction, Listening, Talking*

Make sure your message is clear, yet that you are faithful to its complexity.

~Michael Dirda

What matters are those ordinary acts of kindness and of love, not vaulting ambition with its attendant hubris and smugness.

~Michael Dirda

Throughout history the exemplary teacher has never been just an instructor in a subject; he is nearly always its living advertisement.

~Michael Dirda

The world is a library of strange and wonderful books, and sometimes we just need to go prowling through the stacks.

~Michael Dirda

I sometimes lie awake at night and try to imagine what would be the best period in history to spend one's seventy-odd years.

~Michael Dirda

Science fiction is, after all, the art of extrapolation.

~Michael Dirda

Order and surprise: these are two intertwined elements that make for any great library or collection.

~Michael Dirda

Best selling authors are always worth listening to, even if you choose to ignore their advice.

~Michael Dirda

I am shocked that we seemed to have learned nothing, absolutely nothing, from Vietnam.

~Michael Dirda

I think the essence of [Kurt] Vonnegut's humanism lay in his emphasis on human kindness as, so to speak, our saving grace.

~Michael Dirda

I think that his [Kurt Vonnegut's] appeal, though, will always be chiefly to adolescents. His sense of the world matches that of young people, who feel deeply life's absurdity.

~Michael Dirda

Whatever Kurt Vonnegut's ultimate status will be in the annals of literature, he was important to a lot of people right now. That's what most writers really care about.

~Michael Dirda

### **Related Links:**

- Art Quotes
- Book Quotes
- Writing Quotes
- Thinking Quotes
- Kindness Quotes
- Library Quotes
- World Quotes
- People Quotes
- Instructors Quotes
- Summer Quotes
- Self Quotes
- What Matters Quotes
- Mother Quotes
- Years Quotes
- Absolutely Nothing Quotes
- Order Quotes
- Selling Quotes
- Fiction Quotes
- Listening Quotes
- Talking Quotes