

Michael Morpurgo

Quotes

Book, Writing, Children, Thinking, War, People, Stories, Teacher, Reading, Dream, Dark, Memories, Art, Trying, Real, Brother, Want, Knowing, Eye, Heart

Stories make you think and dream; books make you want to ask questions.

~Michael Morpurgo

Read a lot - poems, prose, stories, newspapers, anything. Read books and poems that you think you will like and some that you think might not be for you. You might be surprised.

~Michael Morpurgo

There's a nobility in his eye, a regal serenity about him. Does he not personify all that men try to be and never can be?

~Michael Morpurgo

It's the teacher that makes the difference, not the classroom.

~Michael Morpurgo

Don't worry about writing a book or getting famous or making money. Just lead an interesting life.

~Michael Morpurgo

Always write your ideas down however silly or trivial they might seem. Keep a notebook with you at all times.

~Michael Morpurgo

Live an interesting life. Meet people. Read a lot and widely, learn from the great writers

~Michael Morpurgo

Animals are sentient, intelligent, perceptive, funny and entertaining. We owe them a duty of care as we do to children.

~Michael Morpurgo

Encouraging young people to believe in themselves and find their own voice whether it's through writing, drama or art is so important in giving

young people a sense of self-worth.

~Michael Morpurgo

Being his real brother I could feel I live in his shadows, but I never have and I do not now. I live in his glow.

~Michael Morpurgo

I can hate you more, but I'll never love you less.

~Michael Morpurgo

I write fiction. I make things up, it's what I do.

~Michael Morpurgo

Anything that gets children reading is fine.

~Michael Morpurgo

Books that kids read should be about what is going on in the world.

~Michael Morpurgo

I'm still not sure I want to be a writer. I think of myself as a storyteller more.

~Michael Morpurgo

Genuinely good people are like that. The sun shines out of them. They warm you right through.

~Michael Morpurgo

Admitting failure is quite cleansing, but never - pleasurable.

~Michael Morpurgo

Characters are the key to a good book. It took me several novels to comprehend that.

~Michael Morpurgo

What's really good is that there are people making stories and writing them and the vast majority never see the light of day and it doesn't matter a fig.

~Michael Morpurgo

By the time I sit down and face the blank page I am raring to go. I tell it as if I'm talking to my best friend or one of my grandchildren.

~Michael Morpurgo

But I didn't dare. That has always been my trouble. I've never dared enough.

~Michael Morpurgo

Like most writers, I sit in a room and scribble a story and you don't have a connection with the people who take your story, whether it be to the stage or to the screen.

~Michael Morpurgo

Blind terror drove me on, with my flying stirrups whipping me into a frenzy. With no rider to carry I reached the kneeling riflemen first and they scattered as I came upon them.

~Michael Morpurgo

There's room for all sorts of magic and miracles in this world - that's what I think.

~Michael Morpurgo

We have bodies coming home and coffins covered in flags, not just in the UK but world-wide.

~Michael Morpurgo

As a young child my attention span was, as I remember it, rather short.

~Michael Morpurgo

Wars become history all too soon and are forgotten all too soon as well, before the lessons can be learned.

~Michael Morpurgo

Any problem can be solved between people if only they can trust each other

~Michael Morpurgo

I could believe only in the hell I was living in, a hell on earth, and it was man-made, not God-made.

~Michael Morpurgo

I fill up the well of stories in my head - without ever knowing I'm doing it.

~Michael Morpurgo

I was brought up, as a lot of kids are, on 'Aesop's Fables,' 'Brothers Grimm,' 'La Fontaine,' all those sorts of things. Hans Christian Andersen is a hero of mine.

~Michael Morpurgo

Any story you write about war, or film you make about war, is bound to be political whether you like it or not.

~Michael Morpurgo

I don't want to be separate from something that's important to me.

~Michael Morpurgo

We're much alike, bee, you and me," I said. "You may carry your pack underneath you and your rifle may stick out of your bottom. But you and me, bee, are much alike.

~Michael Morpurgo

Children have to be motivated to want to learn to read. Reading must

not be taught simply as a school exercise.

~Michael Morpurgo

It's what I'll be singing in the morning. It won't be God Save the Ruddy King or All Things bleeding Bright and Beautiful. It'll be Orange and Lemons for Big Joe, for all of us.

~Michael Morpurgo

A notion for a story is for me a confluence of real events, historical perhaps, or from my own memory to create an exciting fusion.

~Michael Morpurgo

When I write I try as far as possible to forget I'm writing it at all. I tell it down onto the page, as if I'm telling it to one person only, my best friend.

~Michael Morpurgo

If I learned anything in this life, I've learned that you can't cling on.

~Michael Morpurgo

If it is possible to be happy in the middle of a nightmare, then Tophorn and I were happy that summer.

~Michael Morpurgo

You know, I really wish now I'd had the nerve to become an actor. Because I'd have been Robert Redford, no question.

~Michael Morpurgo

He never reckoned much to schooling and that. He said you could learn most what was worth knowing from keeping your eyes and ears peeled. Best way of learning, he always said, was doing.

~Michael Morpurgo

Remember to write for yourself, not for a market and give yourself time

to develop your own style, your own voice. It takes a lifetime. Enjoy it!

~Michael Morpurgo

It's good to focus on the universal suffering that goes on in any war. Whatever the right and wrongs of the war, there is always universal suffering.

~Michael Morpurgo

It is the child's understanding that teaches the adults the way of the future. They're still doing it today with modern technology.

~Michael Morpurgo

Everyone is interested in war, in that people don't want it to happen. I'm much more interested in peace than in war but it's important to understand why we fight.

~Michael Morpurgo

I got married young, far too young, but it is fine. We are still married 48 years later. I got married at 19.

~Michael Morpurgo

I think there's something about studying a book which will kill it if you're not careful.

~Michael Morpurgo

But try as I might, I never got to eat any of her pastries, and do you know, she never even offered me one.

~Michael Morpurgo

cause when there's life there's still hope

~Michael Morpurgo

That's what this war is all about, my friend. It's about which of us is the crazier. And clearly you British have an advantage. You were crazy

beforehand.

~Michael Morpurgo

Wherever my story takes me, however dark and difficult the theme, there is always some hope and redemption, not because readers like happy endings, but because I am an optimist at heart.

~Michael Morpurgo

My Albert married his Maisie Brown as he said he would. But I think she never took to me, nor I to her for that matter. Perhaps it was a feeling of mutual jealousy.

~Michael Morpurgo

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