

Mickey Spillane Quotes

*Book, Literature, Writing, Hammers, Likes, Lasts, People, Guy, Important,
House, Ifs, Names, Knows, New York, Kissing, Past, Inspirational, Grain Of
Salt, Country, Magazines*

The first chapter sells the book; the last chapter sells the next book.

~Mickey Spillane

The most important part of a story is the ending. No one reads a book to get to the middle.

~Mickey Spillane

I'm actually a softie. Tough guys get killed too early... I've got a full head of hair and don't wear eyeglasses.

~Mickey Spillane

Inspiration is an empty bank account.

~Mickey Spillane

Mike Hammer drinks beer because I can't spell Cognac.

~Mickey Spillane

If the public likes you, you're good. Shakespeare was a common, down-to-earth writer in his day.

~Mickey Spillane

Nobody reads a book to get to the middle.

~Mickey Spillane

Those big-shot writers ... could never dig the fact that there are more salted peanuts consumed than caviar.

~Mickey Spillane

I have no fans. You know what I got? Customers. And customers are your friends.

~Mickey Spillane

If I need something, I'll invent it.

~Mickey Spillane

I don't like any of them, because they don't read the books. In *Kiss Me Deadly* my story is better than his story. Anthony Quinn played in *The Long Walk* and he didn't read the book either.

~Mickey Spillane

Stephen King. Now I'm not crazy about him, but he's a great writer.

~Mickey Spillane

Hemingway hated me. I sold 200 million books, and he didn't. Of course most of mine sold for 25 cents, but still... you look at all this stuff with a grain of salt.

~Mickey Spillane

If you're a singer you lose your voice. A baseball player loses his arm. A writer gets more knowledge, and if he's good, the older he gets, the better he writes.

~Mickey Spillane

Now I'm not an author, I'm a writer, that's all I am.

~Mickey Spillane

I started off at the high level, in the slick magazines, but they didn't use my name, they used house names. Anyway, then I went downhill to the pulps, then downhill further to the comics.

~Mickey Spillane

I'm not an author, I'm a writer, that's all I am. Authors want their names down in history; I want to keep the smoke coming out of the chimney.

~Mickey Spillane

See, heroes never die. John Wayne isn't dead, Elvis isn't dead. Otherwise you don't have a hero. You can't kill a hero. That's why I never let him get older.

~Mickey Spillane

Where I am they can smell out a hurricane. My house survived Hurricane Hazel, but it didn't get past Hugo.

~Mickey Spillane

I'm a commercial writer, not an author. Margaret Mitchell was an author. She wrote one book.

~Mickey Spillane

Nobody reads a mystery to get to the middle. They read it to get to the end. If it's a letdown, they won't buy anymore. The first page sells that book. The last page sells your next book.

~Mickey Spillane

I'm the most translated writer in the world, behind Lenin, Tolstoy, Gorki and Jules Verne. And they're all dead.

~Mickey Spillane

If the public likes you, you're good.

~Mickey Spillane

I know an awful lot of Hollywood people, who are so self-important, I can't understand it.

~Mickey Spillane

I'm 82 years old, wherever I go everybody knows me, but here's why... I'm a merchandiser, I'm not just a writer, I stay in every avenue you can think of.

~Mickey Spillane

I read all the time... I read a lot of history books.

~Mickey Spillane

My father was Catholic, my mother was Protestant, and because of that I got Christened in both churches, so I've got all these names... but my

Dad always called me Mick.

~Mickey Spillane

No one likes my books except the public.

~Mickey Spillane

The first page sells this book. The last page sells your next book.

~Mickey Spillane

Imagine this guy hits Mike Hammer over the head with a wooden coathanger and knocks him out. You hit Mike Hammer over the head with a wooden coathanger, he'll beat the crap out of you.

~Mickey Spillane

Critics themselves, they used to tear me up.

~Mickey Spillane

I'm a country boy. I hate New York. But that's where things happen, so I use it as a base for stories, I know enough about it. But I have to keep going back there.

~Mickey Spillane

I try to stay in good physical shape, I don't smoke, I don't drink.

~Mickey Spillane

I played in a movie called Ring of Fear with Clyde Beatty and Pat O'Brien.

~Mickey Spillane

Victor Saville was bad news because he wanted money just to do one big picture.

~Mickey Spillane

Oh yeah, I was one of the first guys writing comic books, I wrote

Captain America, with guys like Stan Lee, who became famous later on with Marvel Comics.

~Mickey Spillane

I wrote the original Mike Hammer as a comic, Mike Danger.

~Mickey Spillane

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