

# Neil LaBute

## Quotes

*Thinking, Men, People, Character, Movie, Stories, Writing, Deceit, Play,  
Friendship, Average, Victim, Feminism, Humans, Gambling, Drama, Byu, Hurt,  
Unrequited Love, Pregnancy*

I think Christine and Chad are on the opposite extremes of the spectrum. Christine is a model victim, and Chad is a model perpetrator, and Howard is closer to the middle.

~Neil LaBute

Everyone has a little bit of Howard and Chad in them. I think there's Christine in all men as well.

~Neil LaBute

We live in a disposable society. It's easier to throw things out than to fix them. We even give it a name - we call it recycling.

~Neil LaBute

In a relationship you have to open yourself up.

~Neil LaBute

My best male friend is my best friend until he crosses me. We're all protective of the self.

~Neil LaBute

If we put the camera on ourselves, our friends and neighbors, we'll come up with some scary stuff.

~Neil LaBute

There is a lot of absurdity sometimes, not just in Mormonism but often in other religions that want to pretend that no bad happens in their church, rather than taking care of what bad does happen.

~Neil LaBute

The future is now. It's time to grow up and be strong. Tomorrow may well be too late.

~Neil LaBute

Everybody has the ability to be manipulative, to be hateful and

deceitful.

~Neil LaBute

Everyone has a story.

~Neil LaBute

We humans are a fairly barbarous bunch.

~Neil LaBute

I was very careful to cast guys who were very good-looking and very fit and who had a certain sense of privilege about them, because with that sense of privilege comes contempt.

~Neil LaBute

I see bits and pieces of me in all the characters in my films.

~Neil LaBute

First I would probably place men at the bottom of the food chain. On a grander scale, I would say they're reacting to change. Feminism has got to be part of that.

~Neil LaBute

And I've got some screenplays and plays ready to dip into when I need to.

~Neil LaBute

But for me, it feels like a natural extension of what I've been doing: exploring relationships. Here you have two relationships and we can explore how difficult it is for people to be together.

~Neil LaBute

I think the more the actor lets you know what he thinks of the character, the less the audience cares - like a comedian who laughs at his own jokes.

~Neil LaBute

Relationships in general make people a bit nervous. It's about trust. Do I trust you enough to go there?

~Neil LaBute

I would be more frightened as a writer if people thought my movies were like science fiction.

~Neil LaBute

With *In the Company of Men*, the misogynist label stuck early and firmly. In the end, it probably did hurt the film a bit, because getting women into the theaters was difficult.

~Neil LaBute

People think my work is therapeutic. I don't see it that way. It's not like I'm saving money from a weekly therapy visit by writing down my life.

~Neil LaBute

I didn't choose BYU, I like to think it chose me.

~Neil LaBute

Without *In The Company of Men*, I could still be teaching, so who knows if this would've existed.

~Neil LaBute

People have perhaps gotten to the point where for the most part movies are a just bit of escape.

~Neil LaBute

Movies are - all I've found is that they're just tougher and tougher to make.

~Neil LaBute

I wanted to tell a story that interested me as much in the telling as in the watching.

~Neil LaBute

I make movies I want to see.

~Neil LaBute

I have a healthy view of what one can do with art.

~Neil LaBute

I'm more than open to hope, but I think men and women have a difficult time dealing with each other and often take the low road.

~Neil LaBute

You start as an audience member and create a world you're interested in, and then you move into the telling of those stories, bringing what has interested you as an audience member.

~Neil LaBute

My business is can I create a world that's possible and could happen? I think that's the only thing that I have to do, and I think that I have done that each time.

~Neil LaBute

And with Aaron, I'd have to find a reason not to work with him.

~Neil LaBute

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