

# Nicholas Royle

## Quotes

*Writing, Ideas, Stories, Poetry, Country, Personality, Trying, Form, Together,  
Obsessed, Government, Racism, Stuff, Extremes, Complaining, Two, Splits,  
Europe, Giving, Fiction*

Belgium is a country with a split personality.

~Nicholas Royle

I'm not trying to write cinematic novels, but I have been told several times that my style is cinematic.

~Nicholas Royle

What the short story needs above all is for one of the big publishers to get an equivalent series up and running and to support it and promote it.

~Nicholas Royle

I never know exactly where I'm going with a story, whether it's a short story or a novel. If I did I'd soon grow bored of it. The fun, for me, is in the finding out and the making sense of it.

~Nicholas Royle

The idea that a student can write a sonnet or a novel without having a sound understanding about its history, and where it fits into literature as a whole, seems to me to be manifestly daft.

~Nicholas Royle

I have no patience with up-themselves authors who complain about having to trail round a few bookshops signing stock.

~Nicholas Royle

I always have lots of zany ideas for promotional stuff as publication nears.

~Nicholas Royle

There has been corruption in the Belgian civil service and at government level for decades. The Royal family do what they can to hold things together, and they don't do a bad job.

~Nicholas Royle

The short story feels like the most natural length for prose fiction, or certainly for the kind of ideas and situations I like to encounter.

~Nicholas Royle

I am interested in power and in the idea of one country exerting power over another. The Soviets took this to an extreme.

~Nicholas Royle

The Belgians tend to downplay the cultural divide issue, and the far-right issue, but there's a staggering degree of casual racism in Belgium, much worse than in the UK.

~Nicholas Royle

I've written over 100 short stories. You could say I'm obsessed with short stories.

~Nicholas Royle

I love experimental writing, when it's good, and good examples are much more likely to be found in the short form.

~Nicholas Royle

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