

Nick Cave Quotes

*Writing, Song, Thinking, People, Believe, World, Art, Ideas, Rocks, Artist,
Moving, Years, Mean, America, Children, Heart, Way, Sorrow, Needs, Hate*

I want to write songs that are so sad, the kind of sad where you take someone's little finger and break it in three places.

~Nick Cave

Love is a state that I would like to exist in continuously.

~Nick Cave

An artist's duty is rather to stay open-minded and in a state where he can receive information and inspiration. You always have to be ready for that little artistic Epiphany.

~Nick Cave

I can control the weather with my moods. I just can't control my moods.

~Nick Cave

Kylie Minogue is the greatest thing that has happened to Australian music.

~Nick Cave

It's a wonderful life if you can find it.

~Nick Cave

He who seeks, finds, and who knocks, will be let in.

~Nick Cave

All of our days are numbered. We cannot afford to be idle. To act on a bad idea is better than to not act at all, because the worth of an idea never becomes apparent until you do it.

~Nick Cave

But if you're gonna dine with them cannibals Sooner or later, darling, you're gonna get eaten . . .

~Nick Cave

The artistic process seems to be mythologized quite a lot into something far greater than it actually is. It is just hard labor.

~Nick Cave

Who knows their own story? It certainly makes no sense when you're in the middle of it

~Nick Cave

People think I'm a miserable sod but it's only because I get asked such bloody miserable questions.

~Nick Cave

'Inspiration' is a word used by people who aren't really doing anything.

~Nick Cave

My music has to do with beauty, and it's intended to, if not lift the spirits, then be a kind of a balm to the spirits.

~Nick Cave

I am not interested in anything that doesn't have a genuine heart to it. You've got to have soul in the hole. If that isn't there, I don't see the point.

~Nick Cave

Most people wait for the muse to turn up. That's terribly unreliable. I have to sit down and pursue the muse by attempting to work.

~Nick Cave

I look at you and you look at me and deep in our hearts know it That you weren't much of a muse, but then I weren't much of a poet

~Nick Cave

I'm very happy to hear that my work inspires writers and painters. It's the most beautiful compliment, the greatest reward. Art should always

be an exchange.

~Nick Cave

I've never been interested in being relevant.

~Nick Cave

My biggest fear is losing memory because memory is what we are. Your very soul and your very reason to be alive is tied up in memory.

~Nick Cave

In the hysterical technocracy of modern music, sorrow is sent to the back of the class where it sits, pissing its pants in mortal terror.

~Nick Cave

I think it's an essential fact for any performer or artist to fail as poignantly as they can succeed.

~Nick Cave

I'm a believer. I don't go to church. I don't belong to any particular religion, but I do believe in God. I couldn't write what I write about and be creative without a certain form of belief.

~Nick Cave

I've spent my life butting my head against other people's lack of imagination.

~Nick Cave

I love being manipulated by what I see. I love weepies and romantic comedies where you're reaching for the Kleenex at the right moment.

~Nick Cave

You searched through all my poets, From Sappho through to Auden, I saw the book fall from your hands, As you slowly died of boredom.

~Nick Cave

You write a scene, and it works or it doesn't. It's immediate.

~Nick Cave

Said 2,000 years of Christian history, baby And you ain't learned to love me yet?

~Nick Cave

I've always done a lot of research and stuff around the songs that I write so there are pages and pages of writing and you can kind of see these songs emerging.

~Nick Cave

A gentleman never talks about his tailor.

~Nick Cave

It's very important that the music has a sense of adventure to it, and that it's done by the seat of your pants. There's a kind of nervy element about it.

~Nick Cave

I am the captain of my pain.

~Nick Cave

The older I get, the more I feel those kinds of ghosts - especially the women in my life - moving out of the shadows a bit more and becoming more present in my life.

~Nick Cave

If you got a trumpet, get on your feet, brother, and blow it!

~Nick Cave

I'm a big fan of teatowels and am always on the lookout for a good one.

~Nick Cave

The songs that I like are the ones that you can't visualize, that are just cries from the heart - those very straight, direct songs that make rock & roll music so wonderful.

~Nick Cave

Most of the time, feelings just seem to get in the way. They're a luxury for the idle, a bourgeois concept. Feelings are overrated.

~Nick Cave

The society of whores stuck needles in an image of me.

~Nick Cave

Accessible local libraries are vital to communities and to children.

~Nick Cave

I'm not a misogynist, so you can dispense with that. I think I've done wonders for the feminist movement.

~Nick Cave

Out of sorrow entire worlds have been built out of longing great wonders have been willed they're only little tears darling let them spill and lay your head upon my shoulder.

~Nick Cave

And I kissed away a thousand tears My lady of the Various Sorrows
Some begged, some borrowed, some stolen Some kept safe for tomorrow.

~Nick Cave

No wonder sorrow doesn't smile much. No wonder sadness is so sad.

~Nick Cave

I write songs from the point of view I had at a time; I'm not trying to write songs from a young person's point of view. That only ends in disaster.

~Nick Cave

I'm unable to really write the kind of song that doesn't have a visual element, which most songs don't.

~Nick Cave

I think there is a certain perversity in my music in that I continue, you know, to eat at the same ball of vomit year after year.

~Nick Cave

I think there's a certain numbness in modern society, that accepts certain kinds of violence, but represses other kinds of violence.

~Nick Cave

You can't trust an artist that just makes good records.

~Nick Cave

At school I was an anti-magnet for women.

~Nick Cave

I've always been at war with the guitar. All vocalists are fighting a war with the electric rhythm guitar.

~Nick Cave

I don't write happy songs. Who does? I don't know anybody who writes happy songs, really.

~Nick Cave

Film seems to be a medium designed for betrayal and violence.

~Nick Cave

You're one microscopic cog in his catastrophic plan.

~Nick Cave

I love performing. I can get to be that person I always wanted to be - godlike.

~Nick Cave

I just want to leave this world with a massive catalog of songs.

~Nick Cave

I have to be able to pull you in. How can I diversify my audiences? What role do I have to play to be part of that shift? I have to take that seriously.

~Nick Cave

Texting is apocalyptic on some level. It's a reduction of things.

~Nick Cave

A rock musician's career is short-lived. To extend it, you need to do other things to keep yourself fresh.

~Nick Cave

Musicians are at the bottom of the creative pyramid and authors are at the top, and many people think it's unacceptable for someone to attempt to jump from the bottom to the top of the pyramid.

~Nick Cave

Oh, a passing, skeptical kind of interest. I'm a hammer-and-nails kind of guy.

~Nick Cave

Despite what people might think, I'm not interested in being dark all the time. I'm actually searching for some kind of light, and I'm always very happy when I can achieve that.

~Nick Cave

I don't believe in an interventionist God

~Nick Cave

I always thought my records were number one; it's just the charts didn't think so.

~Nick Cave

Stars have their moments then they die.

~Nick Cave

The rock star is dying. And it's a small tragedy. Rock stars have blogs now. I have no use for that kind of rock star.

~Nick Cave

To sustain hatred is a very difficult thing to do, year after year. It's exhausting.

~Nick Cave

Sorrow's child grieves not what has passed, but all the past still yet to come.

~Nick Cave

The problem with books, now that I've written one, is that the idea of adaptation is so much easier than sitting down to write something new.

~Nick Cave

There are times when I think I can sing it better, but usually I find that I can't.

~Nick Cave

I consider myself to be first and foremost a comic writer. The way I entertain myself - especially in those long and grim hours in the office - is to write stuff I find funny.

~Nick Cave

I've always worn suits. To me they're a very practical kind of thing to wear. You put one on and don't really have to think about what you're going to wear.

~Nick Cave

If I'm hanging around too much, my wife and kids say, 'Hey, why don't you go downstairs and start a new novel?'

~Nick Cave

Everyone wants to feel that they matter.

~Nick Cave

I just found this world a hard place to be good in,' says Bunny, then he closes his eyes and, with an expiration of breath, goes still.

~Nick Cave

Inspiration is a word used by people who aren't really doing anything. I go into my office every day that I'm in Brighton and work. Whether I feel like it or not is irrelevant.

~Nick Cave

Your limitations make you the wonderful disaster you most probably are.

~Nick Cave

My records are basically a litany of complaints against the world, and I'm quite like that in real life as well.

~Nick Cave

There's always pain around. That's one thing you can guarantee in life - there will always be a surplus of pain.

~Nick Cave

The blues is instilled in every musical cell that floats around your body.

~Nick Cave

Moving to the country is a very bold thing to do. You can have vague romantic notions about doing that, but in actuality, it can be a terrifying thing.

~Nick Cave

I'm not religious, and I'm not a Christian, but I do reserve the right to believe in the possibility of a god.

~Nick Cave

You don't meet a lot of people that you really like. I don't anyway.

~Nick Cave

I'm an Australian, and when I grew up much of my influences were American - blues music and country music, all that sort of thing.

~Nick Cave

Songwriting, I have to take myself away from everybody to do. It's an unsightly act.

~Nick Cave

What I want people to recognize is that we have to keep working together and take charge because we all have the same story.

~Nick Cave

The singing tells everybody what to do musically.

~Nick Cave

Writing is a necessary thing for me, just to keep myself level. It has beneficial effects on my life.

~Nick Cave

What you're really after when you see a film or listen to a song is a

singular vision, and I'm not sure how much of that you really get in Hollywood.

~Nick Cave

As Australians, we see the law as inherently bad. We have a real inherent distaste for authority in our makeup.

~Nick Cave

Being a parent can make you a horrible person at times, because you're pushed to the limit constantly.

~Nick Cave

It's an Australian thing to be dismissive. We find that endearing. Americans don't. They believe what you say.

~Nick Cave

Look, when I look back, from 20 onwards, I was actually having a pretty good time, I have to say.

~Nick Cave

L.A. is full of screenwriters. I don't know why. On many levels, it's such a thankless occupation.

~Nick Cave

We as visual artists need to continue to be renegades and say, "Yes I am here to do a project, but what is the social service?"

~Nick Cave

We are still struggling with people who don't feel comfortable going into museums. As a visual artist I ask how artists can be part of enacting a change.

~Nick Cave

Writing screenplays makes me a better musician because it clears my

head. After writing a movie, I go running back to music as fast as I can.

~Nick Cave

My responsibility as an artist is to turn up at the page or the piano or the microphone. The rest is up to God.

~Nick Cave

I have a very strange relationship in general with women around my music. There's some that understand it and some that think there should be a law against it.

~Nick Cave

I've got some words of wisdom.

~Nick Cave

I suspect the older you get the more invisible you become.

~Nick Cave

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