

Richard Hugo Quotes

*Writing, Thinking, Creative, Imagination, Looks, Want, Giving Up, Real, All
Things, Lucky, Heart, World, Hard Work, Selfish, Written, Feelings, Say
Anything, Rags, Communication, Nice*

You owe reality nothing and the truth about your feelings everything.

~Richard Hugo

To write a poem you must have a streak of arrogance-- not in real life I hope. In real life try to be nice. It will save you a hell of a lot of trouble and give you more time to write.

~Richard Hugo

A creative writing class may be one of the last places you can go where your life still matters.

~Richard Hugo

An act of imagination is an act of self-acceptance.

~Richard Hugo

Assuming you can write clear English sentences, give up all worry about communication. If you want to communicate, use the telephone.

~Richard Hugo

Don't write love poems when you're in love. Write them when you're not in love.

~Richard Hugo

Say nothing and just make music and you'll find plenty to say.

~Richard Hugo

Don't write with a pen. Ink tends to give the impression the words shouldn't be changed.

~Richard Hugo

A good creative-writing teacher can save a good writer a lot of time.

~Richard Hugo

Think small.... If you can't think small, try philosophy or social criticism.

~Richard Hugo

Never want to say anything so strongly that you give up the option of finding something better. If you have to say it, you will.

~Richard Hugo

Scholars look for final truths they will never find. Creative writers concern themselves with possibilities that are always there to the receptive.

~Richard Hugo

I think it's better if you write poems that look like you.

~Richard Hugo

Never write a poem about anything that ought to have a poem written about it.

~Richard Hugo

In the world of imagination, all things belong.

~Richard Hugo

You are someone and you have a right to your life.

~Richard Hugo

A poet is seldom hard up for advice. The worst part of it all is that sometimes the advice is coming from other poets, and they ought to know better.

~Richard Hugo

If you want to communicate, use the telephone

~Richard Hugo

Rub a half potato on your wart and wrap it in a damp cloth. Close your eyes and whirl three times and throw. Then bury rag and spud exactly

where they fall.

~Richard Hugo

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