

Richard Wilbur

Quotes

*Self, Thinking, Morning, Mind, Rain, Heaven, Knows, Writing, Inspirational,
Hands, Talking, Ocean, Water, Eye, Sleep, Suffering, Summer, Casting,
Boredom, Composition*

Outside the open window The morning air is all awash with angels.

~Richard Wilbur

What is the opposite of two? A lonely me, a lonely you.

~Richard Wilbur

Most women know that sex is good for headaches.

~Richard Wilbur

All that we do is touched with ocean, and yet we remain on the shore of what we know

~Richard Wilbur

Teach me, like you, to drink creation whole/ And casting out myself, become a soul.

~Richard Wilbur

The eye is pleased when nature stoops to art.

~Richard Wilbur

There is a poignancy in all things clear, In the stare of the deer, in the ring of a hammer in the morning. Seeing a bucket of perfectly lucid water We fall to imagining prodigious honesties.

~Richard Wilbur

Step off assuredly into the blank of your mind. Something will come to you.

~Richard Wilbur

The strength of the genie comes from being in a bottle.

~Richard Wilbur

Whatever pains disease may bring Are but the tangy seasoning To Loves delicious fare.

~Richard Wilbur

Writing is?waiting for the word that may not be there until next Tuesday.

~Richard Wilbur

Oh, let there be nothing on earth but laundry, Nothing but rosy hands
in the rising steam And clear dances done in the sight of heaven.

~Richard Wilbur

Odd that a thing is most itself when likened

~Richard Wilbur

Happy in all that ragged, loose collapse of water, the fountain, its
effortless descent and flatteries of spray.

~Richard Wilbur

What is our praise or pride but to imagine excellence and try to make
it? What does it say over the door of heaven; but, homo (sapiens) fecit?

~Richard Wilbur

It is not tricks of sense But the time's fright within me which distracts
Least fancies into violence

~Richard Wilbur

Composition for me is, externally at least, scarcely distinguishable from
catatonia.

~Richard Wilbur

Writing poetry is talking to oneself; yet it is a mode of talking to oneself
in which the self disappears; and the product's something that, though it
may not be for everybody, is about everybody.

~Richard Wilbur

That's the main business of the poem!-to see if you can't make up a language that sets all your selves talking at once-all of them being fair to each other.

~Richard Wilbur

What's lightly hid is deepest understood.

~Richard Wilbur

To claim, at a dead party, to have spotted a grackle, When in fact you haven't of late, can do no harm.

~Richard Wilbur

A thrush, because I'd been wrong, Burst rightly into song In a world not vague, not lonely, Not governed by me only.

~Richard Wilbur

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