

Robert Cormier

Quotes

*Writing, Book, Thinking, People, Mean, Kids, Ideas, Mother, Reading, Heart,
Beach, Tired, Years, Sadness, Mind, Believe, Boys, World, Brother, Worry*

I've had aunts and uncles who not only haven't read my books but could hardly believe that I was a writer.

~Robert Cormier

I had my bully, and it was excruciating. Not only the bully, but the intimidation I felt.

~Robert Cormier

It's amazing that the heart makes no noise when it cracks.

~Robert Cormier

The beautiful part of writing is that you don't have to get it right the first time, unlike, say, a brain surgeon. You can always do it better, find the exact word, the apt phrase, the leaping simile.

~Robert Cormier

Everybody sins, Francis. The terrible thing is that we love our sins. We love the thing that makes us evil.

~Robert Cormier

And he did see--that life was rotten, that there were no heroes, really, and that you couldn't trust anybody, not even yourself.

~Robert Cormier

Why did the wise guys always accuse other people of being wise guys?

~Robert Cormier

I have lived a thousand lives lost within the pages of a book.

~Robert Cormier

They don't actually want you to do your own thing, not unless it's their thing too.

~Robert Cormier

The possibility that hope comes out of hopelessness and that the opposite of things carry the seeds of birth - love out of hate, good out of evil. Didn't flowers grow out of dirt?

~Robert Cormier

Affection is one of the most neglected words in the English language, that people throw the word love around like confetti when they mean affection.

~Robert Cormier

He hated to think of his own life stretching ahead of him that way, a long succession of days and nights that were fine - not good, not bad, not great, not lousy, not exciting, not anything.

~Robert Cormier

I'm always telling myself as I write that I'm not really writing a novel; I'm just going to fool around with a character or an idea.

~Robert Cormier

I'm weary of the battle. But a tired fighter can still be a fighter.

~Robert Cormier

I have always had a sense that we are all pretty much alone in life, particularly in adolescence.

~Robert Cormier

You bring up your children to be self-reliant and independent and they double-cross you and become self-reliant and independent.

~Robert Cormier

Family life was wonderful. The streets were bleak. The playgrounds were bleak. But home was always warm. My mother and father had a great relationship. I always felt 'safe' there.

~Robert Cormier

He was swept with a sadness, a sadness deep and penetrating, leaving him desolate like someone washed up on a beach, a lone survivor in a world full of strangers.

~Robert Cormier

You seldom get a censorship attempt from a 14-year-old boy. It's the adults who get upset.

~Robert Cormier

I simply write with an intelligent reader in mind. I don't think about how old they are.

~Robert Cormier

It came to me that hell would not be fire and smoke after all but arctic, everything white and frigid. Hell would be not anger but indifference.

~Robert Cormier

I take real people and put them in extraordinary situations.

~Robert Cormier

A writer must take risks, defy the odds, be a bit obsessed and a little mad.

~Robert Cormier

You could reason with someone who was halfway educated and appeal to his intelligence, but I felt helpless in the face of utter stupidity.

~Robert Cormier

It doesn't matter how big the body, it's what you do with it.

~Robert Cormier

It would be nice to avoid the world, to leave it and all its threats and unhappiness. Not to die or anything like that, but to find a place of solitude and solace.

~Robert Cormier

We often think that tragedies happen because of great earthquakes in people's lives. I think they sometimes occur because of small things that become obsessive to a particular person.

~Robert Cormier

When people say they write for themselves, that's probably what they do. I will admit that I don't write for myself; I write to be read. I've got the reader in my mind all the time.

~Robert Cormier

I don't think I began to be a professional writer until I learned my weaknesses and what I couldn't do. This forced me to compensate.

~Robert Cormier

I'm not a reader of young adult fiction for the simple reason that these novelists are writing for adolescents, so they are not writing for me.

~Robert Cormier

I find that most books that I don't like are those in which the authors have indulged themselves. I can almost sense when they're writing something for themselves.

~Robert Cormier

I write very tightly, and my big fear is boring people. I want them to read quickly, stopped in their tracks. I resist indulging myself.

~Robert Cormier

Don't miss the bus, boy. You're missing a lot of things in the world, better not miss that bus.

~Robert Cormier

Cities fell. Earth opened. Planets tilted. Stars plummeted. And the awful

silence.

~Robert Cormier

I can't remember a time when I wasn't trying to get something down on paper.

~Robert Cormier

That's what Archie did - built a house nobody could anticipate a need for, except himself, a house that was invisible to everyone else.

~Robert Cormier

...pain reaches a certain point and does not get worse but remains in all its intensity and you can survive it.

~Robert Cormier

A terrific sadness swept over Jerry. As if somebody had died. The way he felt standing in the cemetery that day they buried his mother. And nothing you could do about it.

~Robert Cormier

I sometimes get tired because I can seldom read a book for pleasure. I'm like the play reviewer who happens to go to a play on an off day and can't help but view it critically.

~Robert Cormier

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