

Robert McKee

Quotes

*Stories, Writing, Character, Art, Powerful, Two, Giving, Creativity, Action,
Reality, Heart, Profound, Lying, Universal, Decision, Use, Reason, Mean,
Inspiration, Thinking*

Storytelling is the most powerful way to put ideas into the world today.

~Robert McKee

All writing is discipline, but screenwriting is a drill sergeant.

~Robert McKee

Life is chaotic and meaningless, and you have to find your meaning. You must find the answer, you can't just live. That's the point of story: helping you find your meaning in life.

~Robert McKee

Stories are the creative conversion of life itself into a more powerful, clearer, more meaningful experience. They are the currency of human contact.

~Robert McKee

Writing is a marathon, not a sprint.

~Robert McKee

Influence is just persuasion in slow motion.

~Robert McKee

God help you if you use voice-over in your work, my friends. God help you. That's flaccid, sloppy writing. Any idiot can write a voice-over narration to explain the thoughts of a character.

~Robert McKee

A fine work of art - music, dance, painting, story - has the power to silence the chatter in the mind and lift us to another place.

~Robert McKee

When we want mood experiences, we go to concerts or museums. When we want meaningful emotional experience, we go to the storyteller.

~Robert McKee

Stories are the currency of human relationships.

~Robert McKee

Do research. Feed your talent. Research not only wins the war on cliché, it's the key to victory over fear and its cousin, depression.

~Robert McKee

In a world of lies and liars, an honest work of art is always an act of social responsibility.

~Robert McKee

Story isn't a flight from reality but a vehicle that carries us on our search for reality.

~Robert McKee

To connect to people at the deepest level, you need stories.

~Robert McKee

The mark of a master is to select only a few moments, but give us a lifetime.

~Robert McKee

Of all the reasons for wanting to write, the only one that nurtures us through time is love of the work itself.

~Robert McKee

Stories build cultures by answering the big questions.

~Robert McKee

Talent without craft is like fuel without an engine, it burns wildly but accomplishes nothing.

~Robert McKee

Leaders use story to author the future.

~Robert McKee

What happens is fact, not truth. Truth is what we think about what happens.

~Robert McKee

Given the choice between trivial material brilliantly told versus profound material badly told, an audience will always choose the trivial told brilliantly.

~Robert McKee

The dirty secret of art is you don't have to show people your bad writing. That's what we have the delete key for.

~Robert McKee

In comedy laughter settles all arguments.

~Robert McKee

No matter our talent, we all know in the midnight of our souls that 90 percent of what we do is less than our best.

~Robert McKee

The Business story is designed to trigger the listener to take an effective action. If it doesn't, the story fails.

~Robert McKee

There is no screenplay-writing recipe that guarantees your cake will rise.

~Robert McKee

When you do enough research, the story almost writes itself. Lines of development spring loose and you'll have choices galore.

~Robert McKee

Boredom is the inner conflict we suffer when we lose desire, when we lack a lacking.

~Robert McKee

The Law of Diminishing Returns is true of everything in life, except sex, which seems endlessly repeatable with effect.

~Robert McKee

Story is about originality, not duplication

~Robert McKee

Stories are how we remember; we tend to forget lists and bullet points.

~Robert McKee

The universal erosion of values has lead to the universal erosion of story.

~Robert McKee

In life two negatives don't make a positive. Double negatives turn positive only in math and formal logic. In life things just get worse and worse and worse.

~Robert McKee

Story is metaphor for life and life is lived in time.

~Robert McKee

Never sleep with anybody who has more problems than you do.

~Robert McKee

If you can't play all the instruments in the orchestra of story, no matter what music may be in your imagination, you're condemned to hum the same old tune.

~Robert McKee

Classical design is a mirror of the human mind. It's how we see the world.

~Robert McKee

The material of literary talent is words; the material of story talent is life itself.

~Robert McKee

To get the truth, you want to get your own heart to pound while you write.

~Robert McKee

Anxious, inexperienced writers obey rules. Rebellious, unschooled writers break rules. Artists master the form.

~Robert McKee

Oh, by the way, I tend to use a lot of profanities. I do that for a reason: I like it.

~Robert McKee

Politics is the name we give to the orchestration of power in any society.

~Robert McKee

No civilization, including Plato's, has ever been destroyed because its citizens learned too much.

~Robert McKee

Ninety percent of what we create is not our best work.

~Robert McKee

I cannot be a character in a bad movie. I can't be.

~Robert McKee

The students realize that it's their life I'm talking about: it's out of balance, they're struggling to put it into balance. How are they going to do it?

~Robert McKee

It seems to me that the civilized human being is a skeptic someone who believes nothing at face value.

~Robert McKee

Most of life's actions are within our reach, but decisions take willpower.

~Robert McKee

Story is about eternal, universal forms, not formulas.

~Robert McKee

We rarely know where we are going; writing is a discovery.

~Robert McKee

Related Links:

- Stories Quotes
- Writing Quotes
- Character Quotes
- Art Quotes
- Powerful Quotes
- Two Quotes
- Giving Quotes
- Creativity Quotes
- Action Quotes
- Reality Quotes
- Heart Quotes
- Profound Quotes
- Lying Quotes
- Universal Quotes
- Decision Quotes
- Use Quotes
- Reason Quotes
- Mean Quotes
- Inspiration Quotes
- Thinking Quotes