

# Robert Pinsky

## Quotes

*Art, Voice, Air, Thinking, Mean, Language, Memorable, Heart, Reading, Autobiography, Death, Who We Are, Jazz, Individual, Problem, Breathing, Audacity, Poetry Is, Brightness, Style*

Poetry's medium is not merely light as air, it is air: vital and deep as ordinary breath.

~Robert Pinsky

When I had no roof I made audacity my roof.

~Robert Pinsky

Deciding to remember, and what to remember, is how we decide who we are.

~Robert Pinsky

Whatever makes a child want to glue macaroni on a paper plate and paint the assemblage and see it on the refrigerator - that has always been strong in me.

~Robert Pinsky

If what you want to do is make good art, decide what's good and try to imitate it.

~Robert Pinsky

The heart grows brutal feeding on fantasies.

~Robert Pinsky

There is something cathartic about having absolute loss articulated.

~Robert Pinsky

In jazz, as in poetry, there is always that play between what's regular and what's wild. That has always appealed to me.

~Robert Pinsky

Sometimes the ideas that mean the most to you will feel true long before you can quite formulate them or justify them.

~Robert Pinsky

I have always been thinking about the sounds and shades and aromas of words - fitting them together or disrupting their customary march - more or less every second of my life, waking and sleeping.

~Robert Pinsky

Poetry's medium is the individual chest and throat and mouth of whoever undertakes to say the poem.

~Robert Pinsky

An artist needs not so much an audience, as to feel a need to answer, a promise to respond... a good feeling about his art.

~Robert Pinsky

Art will not solve your problems. It will not enable you to live merrily.

~Robert Pinsky

In the particular presence of memorable language we can find a reminder of our ability to know and retain knowledge itself: the brightness wherein all things come to see.

~Robert Pinsky

Poetic language is singularly appropriate for recounting the life of the king who is traditionally accepted as the author of the poetic psalms, some of which are included in the narrative.

~Robert Pinsky

To talk about the reality of life here and the work that you do here at the university.

~Robert Pinsky

Poetry is the most bodily of the arts.

~Robert Pinsky

Autobiography is a genre notorious for falsehood.

~Robert Pinsky

For Alike Barnstone, poetry seems a natural medium. The vision and cadences of these poems suggest a sensibility for which poetry is as inevitable as breathing or eating.

~Robert Pinsky

Even in the scorched and frozen world of the dead after the holocaust  
The wheel as it turns goes on accreting ornaments.

~Robert Pinsky

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