

# Robin McKinley

## Quotes

*Thinking, Writing, Wish, Looks, Night, Needs, Stories, Kings, Love You, Names,  
Children, Running, Choices, World, Water, Giving, Littles, Way, Eye, People*

The story is always better than your ability to write it. My belief about this is that if you ever get to the point that you think you've done a story justice, you're in the wrong business.

~Robin McKinley

When they finished laughing they were on their way to being not just friends, but the dearest of friends, the sort of friends whose lives are shaped by the friendship.

~Robin McKinley

Because she was a princess she had a pegasus.

~Robin McKinley

I advise those who want to become writers to study veterinary medicine, which is easier. You don't want to be a writer unless you have no choice - and if you have no choice, good luck to you.

~Robin McKinley

The story is always better than your ability to write it.

~Robin McKinley

There are things you don't want to know you can do

~Robin McKinley

My capacity for invention is flash hot stark, I thought. Sucker sunshade. Disembodied radar-reconnaissance. Not to mention Bitter Chocolate Death and Killer Zebras. Pity about the rest of me.

~Robin McKinley

Perhaps it is a human thing, to look upon such beauty and fail to encompass it.

~Robin McKinley

It is a much more straightforward thing to be a dog, and a dog's love,

once given, is not reconsidered.

~Robin McKinley

[Harry] had always suffered from a vague restlessness, a longing for adventure that she told herself severely was the result of reading too many novels when she was a small child.

~Robin McKinley

And if my choice is to sit graciously in my best robes and accept the inevitable or to bail a sea with a bucket, give me the bucket.

~Robin McKinley

With the knowledge of her aloneness came a rush of self-declaration: "I will not be nothing."

~Robin McKinley

I almost wish I'd had the forethought to eat a tree myself.

~Robin McKinley

The train is roaring toward you and the villain is twirling his moustache and you're fussing that he's tied you to the tracks with the wrong kind of rope.

~Robin McKinley

One doesn't generally look into mirrors when one is especially angry; one has better things to do, like pace the floor or throw things.

~Robin McKinley

He didn't look insane or inhuman. He did look uncooperative.

~Robin McKinley

The insides of our own minds are the scariest things there are.

~Robin McKinley

Vampire. Dangerous. Unknowable. Seriously creepy. This one's name was Constantine. We'd met before.

~Robin McKinley

...like a grain of sand that gets into an oyster's shell. What if the grain doesn't want to become a pearl? Is it ever asked to climb out quietly and take up its old position as a bit of ocean floor?

~Robin McKinley

Then marry me. For I love you, and I do not believe there is anything so wrong with you. You are fair in my eyes and you lie fair on my heart.

~Robin McKinley

You are attempting to be logical, I suspect, and logic has little to do with government, and nothing at all to do with military administration.

~Robin McKinley

the touch of evil poisons by the idea of it. Reject the idea, and you've rejected the evil

~Robin McKinley

Yes, I am letting my own experience color my answer, which is what experience is for.

~Robin McKinley

It seems to me further, that it is very odd that fate should leave so careful a trail, and spend so little time preparing the one that must follow it.

~Robin McKinley

Say yes, babe, or I'll spill you off over the Wall next time - got it?

~Robin McKinley

All you did was sit there, he said. Why are you so tired? I sat very

diligently, she said.

~Robin McKinley

But the world turns, and even legends change; and somewhere there is a border, and sometime, perhaps, someone will decide to cross it, however well guarded its thorns may be.

~Robin McKinley

He looked at her rather as a man looks at a problem that he would very much prefer to do without. She supposed it was a distinction of a sort to be a harassment to a king.

~Robin McKinley

Can't all beasts be tamed?

~Robin McKinley

I love you. I will love you till the stars crumble, which is a less idle threat than is usual to lovers on parting.

~Robin McKinley

It's hard to look too grand when you're led by someone who looks like a pudding with legs.

~Robin McKinley

I didn't want to know that the monster that lived under your bed when you were a kid not only really is there but used to have a few beers with your dad.

~Robin McKinley

Everything was an adventure, at night, when you were where you shouldn't be, even if it was somewhere you could go perfectly well in daylight, and it was then only ordinary.

~Robin McKinley

Can you trust me, he said. Not will you. Can you. Can I trust him? What do I have to lose?

~Robin McKinley

Sometimes it is better not to know. Sometimes when you do know you just fold up.

~Robin McKinley

Charlie is one of the big good guys in my universe.

~Robin McKinley

Cigars should be like onions," she said, unfastening the catch and pushing back the pane. "Either the whole company does, or the whole company does not.

~Robin McKinley

He laughed, tried to make it into a cough, inhaled at exactly the wrong moment, and then really did cough.

~Robin McKinley

...My friend, there are some things that I cannot tell you. Some I will tell you in time; some, others will tell you; some you may never know, or you may be the first to find the answers.

~Robin McKinley

I've always been fascinated by the grassroots folktale level of a culture, and as a storyteller, I have to follow what seems to be leading me on.

~Robin McKinley

What I write, if you have to label it, is crossover, and I think that much of the stuff that is called children's or YA is in fact crossover and is equally valid for anyone who likes to read fantasy.

~Robin McKinley

But it was equally clear to her that this was her fate, that she had called its name and it had come to her, and she could do nothing now but own it.

~Robin McKinley

Your attitude is perhaps a little unnecessarily rigorous," suggested Jack.

~Robin McKinley

Tiny fists can hurt quite a lot when they hit you in the face.

~Robin McKinley

If you try to breathe water, you will not turn into a fish, you will drown; but water is still good to drink.

~Robin McKinley

Mice are terribly chatty. They will chat about anything, and if there is nothing to chat about, they will chat about having nothing to chat about. Compared to mice, robins are reserved.

~Robin McKinley

But I'm going to try to tell the truth. Except for the parts I'm leavÂ-ing out, because there's still stuff I'm just not going to tell you. Get used to it.

~Robin McKinley

One keeps searching for ease, she did not say, and not finding it, till the memories of no-pain seem only like daydreams.

~Robin McKinley

it goes something like 'There are a lot of ways to be yourself.

~Robin McKinley

[Gonturan] is a true friend, but a friend with thoughts of her own, and

the thoughts of others are dangerous.

~Robin McKinley

She fell asleep, leaning on his chest, and he edged her a little off a particularly painful bruise, leaned his head back against the tree he had propped them up against, and closed his own eyes.

~Robin McKinley

If you wish, I shall go personally to your City and knock together the heads of Perlith and Galooney.

~Robin McKinley

The Lone Ranger of vampires. Did that make me Tonto?

~Robin McKinley

He will apologize, or I'll give him a lesson in swordplay he will not like at all.

~Robin McKinley

And none at all has ridden at the king's side since Aerinha, goddess of honor and flame, first taught men to forge their blades. You'd think Aerinha would have had better sense.

~Robin McKinley

We kings do develop a certain ability to recognize objects under our noses.

~Robin McKinley

I found that the only way I could control this sorrow was not to think of [it] at all, which was almost as painful as the loss itself.

~Robin McKinley

Laughter went on and on, like sunlight and stone, even if the human beings who laughed did not.



~Robin McKinley

I wondered what you'd have on the side with a plate of Deep Fried Anxiety. Pickles? Coleslaw? Potato-strychnine mash?

~Robin McKinley

Those single-track military minds never think to ask their cleaning staff for help in giant lethal marauding creature matters.

~Robin McKinley

I said with perfect honest, "I have no intention of trying to take these suckers out by myself, no.

~Robin McKinley

Tell me who you are. You need not tell me your name. Names have power, even human ones. Tell me where you live and what you do with your living.

~Robin McKinley

...there remained a strange formality between them, and her pleasure in his presence felt too much like missing him had felt during the last week.

~Robin McKinley

As I have said, you have no reason to trust me, and an excellent reason not to.

~Robin McKinley

Tsornin's nostrils showed red, but his ears were as alert as ever, and occasionally he would rub his nose gently against the nape of her neck, just in case she was momentarily not thinking about him.

~Robin McKinley

I don't differentiate in the way that the genre creators want

differentiation to be made. I feel that I have never written children's or YA stories particularly.

~Robin McKinley

I long for another human face just as I fear it.

~Robin McKinley

It was too important a matter, this talking to people, and listening to them, to do it lightly or often.

~Robin McKinley

the bus timetable sites are all run by an inbred cabal of malicious gnomes. Who don't speak English. And who don't count very well either. Or tell time. And they certainly can't read maps.

~Robin McKinley

Betrayal would be a different sort of sick.

~Robin McKinley

What was new was the fact that, despite my heart doing its fight-or-flight, help-we're-prey-and-HEY-STUPID-THAT'S-A-VAMPIRE number, I was glad to see him. Ridiculous but true. Scary but true.

~Robin McKinley

I said: "He cannot be so bad if he loves roses so much." "But he is a Beast," said Father helplessly. I saw that he was weakening, and wishing only to comfort him I said, "Cannot a Beast be tamed?"

~Robin McKinley

**Related Links:**

- Thinking Quotes
- Writing Quotes
- Wish Quotes
- Looks Quotes
- Night Quotes
- Needs Quotes
- Stories Quotes
- Kings Quotes
- Love You Quotes
- Names Quotes
- Children Quotes
- Running Quotes
- Choices Quotes
- World Quotes
- Water Quotes
- Giving Quotes
- Littles Quotes
- Way Quotes
- Eye Quotes
- People Quotes