Writing, Art, Poet, Dream, Heart, Alive, Needs, Poetry, Ears, Thinking, Garden, Perfection, Men, Mind, Knows, Poetry Is, Break, Wilderness, Memories, Vision

The universe is a continuous web. Touch it at any point and the whole web quivers.

~Stanley Kunitz

I can hardly wait for tomorrow, it means a new life for me each and every day.

~Stanley Kunitz

Be what you are. Give What is yours to give. Have Style. Dare.

~Stanley Kunitz

We have to learn how to live with our frailties. The best people I know are inadequate and unashamed.

~Stanley Kunitz

The poem comes in the form of a blessing, like rapture breaking on the mind.

~Stanley Kunitz

You must be careful not to deprive the poem of its wild origin.

~Stanley Kunitz

I have walked through many lives, some of them my own, and I am not who I was, though some principle of being abides, from which I struggle not to stray.

~Stanley Kunitz

What makes the engine go? Desire, desire, desire.

~Stanley Kunitz

The poem in the head is always perfect. Resistance begins when you try to convert it into language.

~Stanley Kunitz

Deftly they opened the brain of a child, and it was full of flying dreams.

~Stanley Kunitz

Rhythm to me is essentially what Hopkins called the taste of self. I taste myself as rhythm.

~Stanley Kunitz

I want to write poems that are natural, luminous, deep, spare. I dream of an art so transparent that you can look through and see the world.

~Stanley Kunitz

End with an image and don't explain.

~Stanley Kunitz

I dance/for the joy of surviving, at the edge of the road.

~Stanley Kunitz

In every house of marriage there's room for an interpreter.

~Stanley Kunitz

In a murderous time/the heart breaks and breaks/and lives by breaking.

~Stanley Kunitz

The unconscious creates, the ego edits.

~Stanley Kunitz

We have all been expelled from the Garden, but the ones who suffer most in exile are those who are still permitted to dream of perfection.

~Stanley Kunitz

When they shall paint our sockets gray And light us like a stinking fuse, Remember that we once could say, Yesterday we had a world to lose.

~Stanley Kunitz

Darling, do you remember the man you married? Touch me, remind me who I am.

~Stanley Kunitz

Poetry is language surprised in the act of changing into meaning.

~Stanley Kunitz

Poetry is the enemy of the poem.

~Stanley Kunitz

The supreme morality of art is to endure.

~Stanley Kunitz

How shall the heart be reconciled / To its feast of losses?

~Stanley Kunitz

One critic wrote . . . that my poems sounded as though they had been translated from the Hungarian. I don't know why, but somehow that made me feel quite lighthearted.

~Stanley Kunitz

A poem has secrets that the poet knows nothing of.

~Stanley Kunitz

The heart breaks and breaks and lives by breaking it is necessary to go through dark and deeper dark and not to turn

~Stanley Kunitz

Not that you need to be a saint to have visions worth talking about. The most effective prescription, I suspect, is to be a disciplined sinner. Perfection, as Valery noted, is work.

~Stanley Kunitz

Certainly the modern poets I cherish most are disturbing spirits; they do

#### not come to coo.

~Stanley Kunitz

Poetry today is easier to write but harder to remember.

~Stanley Kunitz

Memory is each man's poet-in-residence.

~Stanley Kunitz

## Forward my mail to Mars.

~Stanley Kunitz

A longing for the dance stirs in the buried life.

~Stanley Kunitz

I like an ending that's both a door and a window.

~Stanley Kunitz

Live in the layers, not on the litter.

~Stanley Kunitz

The ear writes my poems, not the mind.

~Stanley Kunitz

It is my heart that's late, it is my song that's flown.

~Stanley Kunitz

An old poet ought never to be caught with his technique showing.

~Stanley Kunitz

My mother never forgave my father

~Stanley Kunitz

The first task of the poet is to create the person who will write the

### poems.

~Stanley Kunitz

A poet needs to keep his wilderness alive inside him.

~Stanley Kunitz

...few young poets [are] testing their poems against the ear. They're writing for the page, and the page, let me tell you, is a cold bed.

~Stanley Kunitz

A poet needs to keep his wilderness alive inside him. To remain a poet after forty requires an awareness of your darkest Africa, that part of yourself that will never be tamed.

~Stanley Kunitz

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