

Stephen Dunn

Quotes

*World, Thinking, Writing, Feelings, Worry, Alive, Taken, Trying, Moments,
Disappointment, Originality, Heart, Reality, Rain, Deny, Done, Insufficient,
Purpose, Mask, Mouths*

And the words we find are always insufficient, like love, though they are often lovely and all we have.

~Stephen Dunn

Although I know it's unfair, I reveal myself one mask at a time.

~Stephen Dunn

I've had it with all stingy-hearted sons of bitches. A heart is to be spent.

~Stephen Dunn

There are always the simple events of your life that you might try to convert into legend.

~Stephen Dunn

Better to be furious at one thing, become radiant with purpose. Better to love links and rhythms than all-embracing answers.

~Stephen Dunn

exaggerated sunsets / splashed with rain, odd collisions / of roots, animals, seeds. / I didn't like a thing I saw, / so much effort to be strange.

~Stephen Dunn

I make myself up from everything I am, or could be. For many years I was more desire than fact. When I stop becoming, that's when I worry.

~Stephen Dunn

I will try to disappoint you better than anyone ever has.

~Stephen Dunn

I'll always deny that I kissed her. I was just whispering into her mouth.

~Stephen Dunn

Oh abstractions are just abstract until they have an ache in them.

~Stephen Dunn

I think because my parents died in their early 50s, mid 50s, I always thought I would die young. And that's been both a useful thing and I suspect something that's haunted me a little bit.

~Stephen Dunn

Isn't there a curious elegance in how one moment passes into another?

~Stephen Dunn

I've tried to become someone else for a while, only to discover that he, too, was me.

~Stephen Dunn

A true inner world is often revealed by style and sensibility as much as by what appears to be confession.

~Stephen Dunn

Bring to me, it said, continual proof / you've been alive.

~Stephen Dunn

All good poems are victories over something.

~Stephen Dunn

Everything I can't see / is at least as real as what I can.

~Stephen Dunn

I love what's left after love has been tested.

~Stephen Dunn

Now and again I feel the astonishment of being alive like this, in this body.

~Stephen Dunn

When I stop becoming, that's when I worry.

~Stephen Dunn

Originality, of course, is what occurs when something new arises out of what's already been done.

~Stephen Dunn

A moment of something between acceptance and resignation of one's smallness in the world.

~Stephen Dunn

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