

# Stephen Vizinczey

## Quotes

*People, Character, Consistency, Art, Book, Men, Greatness, Trying, Thinking,  
Real, Silly, Writing, Powerful, Novelists, Stupid, Assumption, Train, Tragedy,  
Fingers, Health*

When you close your eyes to tragedy, you close your eyes to greatness.

~Stephen Vizinczey

Strange as it may seem, no amount of learning can cure stupidity, and formal education positively fortifies it.

~Stephen Vizinczey

We now have a whole culture based on the assumption that people know nothing and so anything can be said to them.

~Stephen Vizinczey

All great power has to do to destroy itself is persist in trying to do the impossible.

~Stephen Vizinczey

Thou shalt not let a day pass without rereading something great.

~Stephen Vizinczey

As a rule, the most dangerous ideas are not the ones that divide people but those on which they agree.

~Stephen Vizinczey

Like all wage slaves, he had two crosses to bear: the people he worked for and the people he worked with

~Stephen Vizinczey

To state a lie firmly, categorically and with great authority, undeterred by the fact that all concerned know it to be a lie, is one of the principal activities defined by the term practising law.

~Stephen Vizinczey

Consistency is a virtue for trains: what we want from a philosopher is insights, whether he comes by them consistently or not.

~Stephen Vizinczey

Is it possible that I am not alone in believing that in the dispute between Galileo and the Church, the Church was right and the centre of man's universe is the earth?

~Stephen Vizinczey

The only virtue a character needs to possess between hardcovers, even if he bears a real person's name, is vitality: if he comes to life in our imaginations, he passes the test.

~Stephen Vizinczey

Great writers are not those who tell us we shouldn't play with fire, but those who make our fingers burn.

~Stephen Vizinczey

Art experts are unfailingly opposed to Art for the simple reason that they are interested in Art - but Art is not interested in Art. Art is interested in life.

~Stephen Vizinczey

The truth is that our race survived ignorance; it is our scientific genius that will do us in.

~Stephen Vizinczey

Whenever you hear the word "inevitable", watch out! An enemy of humanity has identified himself.

~Stephen Vizinczey

To be great is to assume great concerns.

~Stephen Vizinczey

Consistency is a virtue for trains.

~Stephen Vizinczey

You tell me your favorite novelists and I'll tell you whom you vote for, or whether you vote at all.

~Stephen Vizinczey

Perhaps in a book review it is not out of place to note that the safety of the state depends on cultivating the imagination.

~Stephen Vizinczey

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