

Steven Erikson

Quotes

Children, War, Men, World, Soldier, Fists, One Day, Memories, Fire, Soul, Virtue, Compassion, Hatred, Dying, Heart, Self, Lying, Grief, Art, Promise

The heart of wisdom is tolerance.

~Steven Erikson

Ambition is not a dirty word. Piss on compromise. Go for the throat.

~Steven Erikson

You must dismantle your sources, lest you do nothing but ape the prejudices of others

~Steven Erikson

And over it all, the butterflies swarmed, like a million yellow-pettalled flowers dancing on swirling winds.

~Steven Erikson

Your brain works with all the subtlety of a malicious child.

~Steven Erikson

Children are dying." Lull nodded. "That's a succinct summary of humankind, I'd say. Who needs tomes and volumes of history? Children are dying. The injustices of the world hide in those three words.

~Steven Erikson

And in the city on all sides, the howling of the Hounds rose in an ear-shattering, soul-flailing crescendo. The Lord of Death had arrived, to walk the streets in the City of Blue Fire.

~Steven Erikson

For we are all bound in stories, and as the years pile up they turn to stone, layer upon layer, building our lives.

~Steven Erikson

You are very easily exasperated, my dear. If you're a leaf trembling on a wide, deep river, relax and ride the current. It's always worked for me,

I assure you.

~Steven Erikson

No purer artist exists or has ever existed than a child freed to imagine.

~Steven Erikson

The soul knows no greater anguish than to take a breath that begins with love and ends with grief.

~Steven Erikson

Any reasonable ruler would have the expectation and the demand the other way round.

~Steven Erikson

The harder the world, the fiercer the honour.

~Steven Erikson

There is no struggle too vast, no odds too overwhelming, for even should we fail - should we fall - we will know that we have lived.

~Steven Erikson

When you've burned the bridges behind you, don't go starting a fire on the one in front of you.

~Steven Erikson

One day, perhaps, you will see for yourself that regrets are as nothing. The value lies in how they are answered.

~Steven Erikson

The idea that an author can extricate her or his own ongoing life experience from the tale being written is a conceit of very little worth.

~Steven Erikson

The only death I fear is dying ignorant.

~Steven Erikson

I was needed, but I myself did not need. I had followers, but not allies, and only now do I understand the difference. And it is vast.

~Steven Erikson

The lesson of history is that no one learns.

~Steven Erikson

I warn you all, hatred is finding fertile soil within me. And in your compassion, in your every good intention, you nurture it.

~Steven Erikson

He was not a modest man. Contemplating suicide, he summoned a dragon.' Gothos' Folly

~Steven Erikson

First in , Last out. Motto of the bridgeburners

~Steven Erikson

It is an extraordinary act of courage,' said Tulas Shorn, 'to come to know a stranger's pain.

~Steven Erikson

The notion of evil for its own sake strikes me as boring -- all these Dark Lords intent on creating wastelands packed with enslaved victims... for what?

~Steven Erikson

The art of illusion is grace itself.

~Steven Erikson

Paradise belonged to the innocent. Which was why it was and would ever remain empty. And that is what makes it a paradise.

~Steven Erikson

Such is the vastness of his genius that he can outwit even himself.

~Steven Erikson

Children were meant to be gifts. The physical manifestation of love between a man and a woman. And for that love all manner of sacrifice could be borne.

~Steven Erikson

What makes a Malazan soldier so dangerous? They're allowed to think.

~Steven Erikson

All that we were has led us to where we are, but tells us little of where we're going. Memories are a weight you can never shrug off.

~Steven Erikson

Ah, Fist, it's the curse of history that those who should read them, never do.

~Steven Erikson

"Every decision you make can change the world. The best life is the one the gods don't notice. You want to live free, boy, live quietly." "I want to be a soldier. A hero." "You'll grow out of it."

~Steven Erikson

Ah, Meese has brought us her finest goblets! A moment, whilst Kruppe sweeps out cobwebs, insect husks and other assorted proofs of said goblets' treasured value.

~Steven Erikson

It is one thing to lead by example with half a dozen soldiers at your back. It is wholly another with ten thousand.

~Steven Erikson

Desires should never be justified,' Tehol said, wagging a finger. 'All you end up doing is illuminating the hidden reasons by virtue of their obvious absence.

~Steven Erikson

Believe it or not, friendships are difficult to write in fiction. They can easily come across as forced, particularly if they involve too much explication and too many overt gestures of affection.

~Steven Erikson

I hear Seven Cities natives grow fruit just so they can eat the larvae in them.

~Steven Erikson

The stars, they are as the sun. Each star. Every star. And those spheres- they are worlds, realms, each one different yet the same.

~Steven Erikson

You're loitering, citizen.â€• â€œActually, I was hesitating.

~Steven Erikson

A celebration of insignificance, Is that all we are in the end? And one day I'll just be one more of those faces, frozen in death and wonder

~Steven Erikson

You always fashioned yourself as the Empire's harshest Fist, didn't you, Korbolo Dom? As if cruelty's a virtue.

~Steven Erikson

We are all lone souls. It pays to know humility, lest the delusion of control, of mastery, overwhelms. And, indeed, we seem a species prone to that delusion, again and ever again." ~Fiddler, pg. 558

~Steven Erikson

Soldiers are issued armour for their flesh and bones, but they must fashion their own for their souls. Piece by piece.

~Steven Erikson

Shake your fist all you want but dead is dead

~Steven Erikson

A story invites both writer and reader into a kind of superficial ease: we want to slide along, pleasingly entertained, lost in the fictional dream.

~Steven Erikson

What matter the colour of the collar around a man's neck, if the chains linked to them were identical?

~Steven Erikson

All art is an intensely vulnerable gesture, and it is made with no small amounts of risk, and fear. So, I have plenty of sympathy for self-defense mechanisms, especially among artists.

~Steven Erikson

If all we seek is an escape, what does that say about the world we live in? That village, that city, that life? We are desperate with our dreams. What - oh, what - does that say?

~Steven Erikson

Chaos needs no allies, for it dwells like a poison in every one of us.

~Steven Erikson

Never, dear gods. Never mess with mortals.

~Steven Erikson

Detachment is a flaw, not a virtue-don't you realize that?

~Steven Erikson

The only consistent narrative we possess is one that we share with every other life-form: we are born, we live, and then we die.

~Steven Erikson

I mean the only thing us dead soldiers got in common is that none of us was good enough or lucky enough to survive the fight. We're a host of failures.

~Steven Erikson

I have to feel what I'm writing, right down to the core.

~Steven Erikson

Fear bespeaks of wisdom. Recognition of responsibility.

~Steven Erikson

The tiger is humbled by memories of prey.

~Steven Erikson

The future can ever promise but one thing and one thing only: surprises.

~Steven Erikson

Wise words are like arrows flung at your forehead. What do you do? Why, you duck of course.

~Steven Erikson

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