

Steven Knight Quotes

*Thinking, People, Character, War, Writing, Stories, Two, Long, Years, Real,
London, India, Waiting, Looks, Different, Actors, Believe, Screenplays, East,
Age*

I think that helps because there has been no formality of friendship, the politeness of friendship, so we can just work directly on the work that's ahead of us [with Tom Hardey].

~Steven Knight

The story [of Allied] stayed with me, like a stray dog outside the office, waiting.

~Steven Knight

If you've read something brilliant, it's good. It's good to look out the window and see what's going on in the world.

~Steven Knight

In terms of how [Allied] looks, it's fantastic and much better than I had hoped because it's so lush and so beautifully executed.

~Steven Knight

True stories are always good because they're so odd, and so unlikely.

~Steven Knight

There was an unbelievable amount of animosity in that war [for America Independence] which people have forgotten, which was still around 50 years later.

~Steven Knight

I think the East India Company represents what we would think of as a very modern approach to the world where everything was counted, every penny was counted.

~Steven Knight

East India Company weren't an evil organization that went around deliberately oppressing people, but they were driven by profit, and how familiar is that now?

~Steven Knight

There [in Allied] were things that were written that were cut, and things that were shot that were cut, but if the film works, they are erased from memory.

~Steven Knight

[Allied] meant to be a film that's a bit different. It's roots are in the '40s and '50s, and that sort of filmmaking style.

~Steven Knight

Expect the unexpected, is what I'd say about Taboo. It's different. I don't think you've seen anything like it. It's getting incredible responses, so fingers crossed.

~Steven Knight

What I wanted to do [in Allied] was get two characters who fall in love for real, across the barricade, and then it transcends the war.

~Steven Knight

It's great that the story [Allied] is set in the '40s because the '40s feel to it is completely appropriate.

~Steven Knight

It felt [at the Allied set] like, "At last, I'm in Hollywood," even though I was in West London. It was like, "This is how a film should be made." It was beautiful.

~Steven Knight

The sandstorm, which I think is an absolute triumph, could have been awkward. It's sex in a car, so who knows. And I think the rooftops look fantastic [in Allied].

~Steven Knight

Snoop [Dog] said [Peaky Blinders] reminded him of how he got involved with gang culture. It's always fantastically flattering when I see people

dress like that and take on the look.

~Steven Knight

I think it creates so many more opportunities and pitfalls in that you are treading on fresh snow, so you're in a new place.

~Steven Knight

I must have been about 11 when I read the book *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*, which I read, over and over again.

~Steven Knight

[*Woman Walks Ahead*] is from me being a very bizarre child. From the age of about 8 to the age of about 15, I was obsessed with Native Americans.

~Steven Knight

[The film *Woman Walks Ahead*] is from a long time ago. I wrote that ages ago. It looks gorgeous and Jessica [Chastain] is so good that I've got high hopes.

~Steven Knight

It was great fun to do because of the central character. With *The Girl in the Spider's Web*, the girl is really the central character. She's the whole thing.

~Steven Knight

[*Taboo*] has been exactly the same as working with the BBC in that creatively they do that precious thing which is to only make a comment when a comment needs to be made.

~Steven Knight

I am someone who thinks that if you've got an actor like that who wants to perform your work, then you should do it, and hopefully Tom [Hardey] likes to do the work that I do, so long may it continue.

~Steven Knight

I wouldn't put myself in that bracket, but it's one of those things. I think what helps is that we [with Tom Hardey] don't socialize, we don't really know each other, we purely work together.

~Steven Knight

I don't think that jealousy and love and hate and anger and all those things have changed in the past 200 years - people just express themselves differently.

~Steven Knight

With any period piece I think the thing to do is forget that it's not contemporary when you're writing and to have the characters feel as much as possible like characters that you would know.

~Steven Knight

I'm not suggesting that ours [series] is unique in that, but they can begin to have that depth, that gravity, they can spend some time, so it's a bit more like reading a good novel, if you like.

~Steven Knight

I didn't direct [the Taboo episodes]. I wrote all of them.

~Steven Knight

You know that when you suggest something on the page, it's going to be there, plus more. It's a great luxury to know that you don't have to push it. You just lay it out, and it will be there.

~Steven Knight

It's such a gift when you know who you're writing for and you know that that actor is capable of so much that you can relax a bit.

~Steven Knight

I'm very bad at watching anything. I'm bad at going to theaters; I can't watch my own stuff; I watch a lot of sports.

~Steven Knight

Sometimes if you're a director, you want to believe that you're great and capable at all aspects - the technical side, the lights, everything - but I'm not.

~Steven Knight

It's always good to have a world that people don't know about - a world that hasn't yet been done. It's like treading on fresh snow. You're the first one there.

~Steven Knight

No screenplay is possible, unless you get some attachment from somebody who's going to get it made.

~Steven Knight

Sometimes you take something because it's an offer and it's big and it's good money and you have to absolutely respect that process, because it's not easier.

~Steven Knight

I've realized that the only thing I'm interested in is the performance. If the performance is right, then I'm happy. You offer up the dialogue and then the performance comes around.

~Steven Knight

There's lots of different ways of writing stuff and lots of different mindsets to have, but I think when it's your own creation, it's more pleasurable because you have total control.

~Steven Knight

With FX in particular, they've been fantastic and were really hands off. I

mean, it helps that you've got Ridley Scott on your side.

~Steven Knight

I always thought it would never happen. And then, it became possible. In between commissions, I wrote it as an original screenplay [Allied].

~Steven Knight

Whenever I see a cut of a film and something is gone, I don't notice it unless it obviously should have been kept.

~Steven Knight

I think that it's not a bad thing to not be too versed in the vocabulary of cinema, because you start to think that certain things are allowed and not allowed.

~Steven Knight

I was 21, when I heard the story that inspired this [thriller Allied], and I wasn't even a screenwriter then.

~Steven Knight

I relish the eight-hour format of a single season because it gives you time to do that.

~Steven Knight

I read more and more and I came across this character, Caroline Weldon. Sometimes in history, you find these people that no one would dare create. They're too mad.

~Steven Knight

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