

# Terry Southern Quotes

*Writing, Film, World, Directors, People, Mets, Credit, Loved Ones, Collectors,  
United States, Memories, Beard, Believe, Hypocrisy, Contracts, Country, Abuse,  
Anthology, Christian, Together*

I met The Beatles and Stones at the same time, because Michael Cooper was doing several of their album covers.

~Terry Southern

When Kubrick decided to go the black comedy route with his movie, he thought of me to give it that flavor.

~Terry Southern

The important thing in writing is the capacity to astonish. Not shock - shock is a worn-out word - but astonish.

~Terry Southern

I'm not interested in attacking, I'm interested in astonishing.

~Terry Southern

Someone wrote a piece about Henry Green in The Partisan Review that was so intriguing that I got one of his novels, Loving, I believe, which was the first that came to attention in the United States.

~Terry Southern

There is no power on earth that can loosen a man's grip on his own throat

~Terry Southern

In that sense, film is superior, but the difficulty is your lack of control as a writer.

~Terry Southern

You can't do the end of the world in a conventionally dramatic way or Boy Meets Girl way.

~Terry Southern

When I finally made it to the set, I spent a lot of time doing damage control on The Magic Christian.

~Terry Southern

Peter Beard is one of those people I've known a long time. We have an affinity. We share certain values.

~Terry Southern

After *Strangelove* I also started work on an adaptation of *The Collector*.

~Terry Southern

An angel has no memory.

~Terry Southern

*The Loved One* has been the most underrated film I've worked on.

~Terry Southern

David Burnett was the son of Martha Foley, who edited the *Best American Short Stories* series. She hired me to work with David and her to read stories for the anthology.

~Terry Southern

For a director and a producer to be named on the writing credits is practically unheard of.

~Terry Southern

Sometimes we would be staked out in the middle of the river, several barges tied together. So we could party.

~Terry Southern

*Grossing Out* dealt with the western nations selling arms to the Third World and exploiting these countries.

~Terry Southern

Writing on a contract for a major studio you get the very best.

~Terry Southern

I learned not to care ... and to write for an imaginary reader whose tastes were similar to my own.

~Terry Southern

It's often the case with directors that they don't like to share credit, which is the case of Stanley. He would prefer just A Film By Stanley Kubrick including music and everything.

~Terry Southern

It was a good experience working with Roger Vadim and Jane Fonda.

~Terry Southern

I met Claxton on the set of The Cincinnati Kid.

~Terry Southern

In the case of The Loved One, I was hired to collaborate on an updated version of the book.

~Terry Southern

I like to work at night.

~Terry Southern

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