

# Val Kilmer

## Quotes

*Thinking, People, Art, Character, Acting, Children, Fun, Television, Firsts,  
Believe, Actors, Challenges, Real, Want, Years, Watches, School, Doe, Wells,  
Looks*

Again, in Wag the Dog, war has to be declared by an act of congress. But if you go to war, you don't have to declare war. You're just at war and we did that, which is not legal.

~Val Kilmer

I saw the horizon. It's out there. And though I may not ever be able to touch it, it's worth reaching for.

~Val Kilmer

Postman is a media analyst and his theory is that television doesn't influence our culture, but that it is our culture and the presidency and anything that relies on television.

~Val Kilmer

There is no normal life, there's just life. You live it.

~Val Kilmer

I respect people who can do both careers, like Will Smith and a couple of other people who have done it, but I just don't know when they sleep.

~Val Kilmer

I don't make any pretense about being normal. I'm not.

~Val Kilmer

I'm very wary of news on television.

~Val Kilmer

Give me the compliments. I love compliments. I was born modest, but it wore off.

~Val Kilmer

Without deadlines and restrictions I just tend to become preoccupied with other things.

~Val Kilmer

Warren Beatty once told me that if someone's really stuck on you, find them their next boyfriend. But I could never do that.

~Val Kilmer

That's the joy of art - it should be dangerous and challenging but it's just art - it's safe.

~Val Kilmer

I don't believe in death. I think it's just a state of mind.

~Val Kilmer

Do what you like to do so well that someone will pay you wages for it.

~Val Kilmer

A lot of old guys in movies are like cowboys - they talk like cowboys and they dress like cowboys.

~Val Kilmer

I have two children and they're young yet but all of the children that I know really inspire me.

~Val Kilmer

A hundred million dollars in the art world is a substantial amount of cash to do anything.

~Val Kilmer

It hurts. I miss my kids. I miss my kids in so many ways that I can't explain.

~Val Kilmer

I just don't think I've ever been comfortable at public functions and selling myself as an entity.

~Val Kilmer

I sang the songs in 'The Doors'.

~Val Kilmer

I never cultivated a personality. Almost everyone who is really famous has cultivated a personality.

~Val Kilmer

My perception is that I've never done anything but work really hard.

~Val Kilmer

Well I sure had been looking for a comedy for years without any success.

~Val Kilmer

I was thinking of the immortal words of Socrates when he said...I drank what?

~Val Kilmer

Jim Thompson understood something about the serial killer before the psychology caught up to it, which is that they are detached to it and they do want to get caught.

~Val Kilmer

Warner Bros offered me the next Batman, and the only reason that I didn't do it was because of The Saint.

~Val Kilmer

News is something that happens that matters to you, which is not most of what we watch on television.

~Val Kilmer

It sounds corny to say, but the theater is sacred; something

transcendent can occur, and when it does, everyone grows. It's a true communion.

~Val Kilmer

In order to be an artist and an actor, like tackling the classics in the theater as well as film, there's lots of discipline, lots of work, physical work put in.

~Val Kilmer

I don't think of my life as a cliché, but I'm a cliché eccentric. Complete with a strange name - I mean, who's named Val? How many Vals do you know? I mean, really?

~Val Kilmer

Once is more than generous for any lifetime.

~Val Kilmer

It's the first time that I've ever had an art show based on a film, but it's a photography collage.

~Val Kilmer

The first play I saw was a Samuel Beckett play which was great.

~Val Kilmer

Sometimes, I wonder what I'm doing back in Los Angeles, but when you look out there... How can you complain when you see a whale cresting, matter-of-factly, as you make your breakfast?

~Val Kilmer

So it's always helped me to have a foundation, an ideal to strive for and goals. It's hard for me to be disciplined and plan things.

~Val Kilmer

I love acting, and doing it well matters to me.

~Val Kilmer

I love that Bob Dylan asked me to be in the first movie he wrote.

~Val Kilmer

I'm a better person when I'm preparing for a role, when I'm studying a role.

~Val Kilmer

I think part of my reputation has to do with the difficult roles I've played. Actors do tend to get identified with their characters.

~Val Kilmer

If you look up the definition of news in the dictionary, it isn't what you watch on TV.

~Val Kilmer

Hollywood's like a warehouse. It's just a place that you go. What's interesting in the warehouse has to do with the creative people.

~Val Kilmer

Everything in high school was reversed. If marijuana was supposed to make you mellow, I would be like, "The cops, the cops, the cops..." I was what you call the buzz kill.

~Val Kilmer

My only "business plan" was to get lucky.

~Val Kilmer

You never quiet the love message. Never.

~Val Kilmer

My first girlfriend in high school, I had a girlfriend in grade school, but my first girlfriend in high school was Mare Winningham, very fine

actress.

~Val Kilmer

I'm fairly sure I didn't show enough gratitude to my employers, and I'm sorry for that.

~Val Kilmer

I live on a ranch that's larger than Manhattan. That's a weird circumstance.

~Val Kilmer

It is a weird thing that actors have people applaud when they're done working. I still find that entertaining.

~Val Kilmer

The audience and I have an intimacy that is, I believe, rare, most times out.

~Val Kilmer

Performing in a live theater is absolutely unbeatable. It is something I have done my entire life and have a gift, it seems, for sharing thoughts live.

~Val Kilmer

I think death is just a transition to another state of consciousness.

~Val Kilmer

If you're in a hit movie, it's good to be in another hit movie straight away.

~Val Kilmer

Mark Twain is a universe, and he is also a kind of American authority figure. He can say things to America that other people can't say, in a way that can truly be heard.

~Val Kilmer

It's a really weird thing, modern divorce. I found out I was getting divorced on television. That was kind of weird.

~Val Kilmer

Art is a way to get strength from something that is life-affirming. It can be quite violent and still be life-affirming.

~Val Kilmer

Big movies are fun and it's great to fly on private jets and make a lot of money and all the things that are connected with Hollywood, but they take a lot of your own life.

~Val Kilmer

I'm not just an actor born in L.A. I was born in the Griffith Park Hospital. You can't get any more clichéd than that.

~Val Kilmer

Where [a] can you trust your own thoughts and your own intentions? Everywhere, hopefully, but it isn't always that easy. Sometimes, you have to help yourself along.

~Val Kilmer

Peter Sellers was just a brilliant actor, and also comedic.

~Val Kilmer

Mark Twain is a voice of truth and a voice of equality and a voice of tolerance. Which means he is a voice of love.

~Val Kilmer

I can safely say that no one who has ever won an Oscar didn't want to win an Oscar.

~Val Kilmer



I'm a character actor, but I look like a leading man.

~Val Kilmer

I have never taken my career seriously. My only ambition was to grow as an actor.

~Val Kilmer

I learned a long time ago that place matters to me, on many levels, and maybe more than it should, but it is generally counter-productive for me to resist it.

~Val Kilmer

I fell in love with the land and with the very old fashioned idea of leaving a physical legacy for my children. A stunning place, with a magnificent forest of trees, and a magnificent river.

~Val Kilmer

I went to public school in L.A., so I felt like I'd been in a coma for three years. I woke up, and moved to New York.

~Val Kilmer

YouTube is a new experience for me-someone threw a laptop in front of me and showed me Nic Cage going mad, which has got to be the funniest thing on YouTube. He's so courageous.

~Val Kilmer

If you know where your spiritual center is, and you neglect it, peace will always allude you.

~Val Kilmer

There was no one around called 'Val' when I was young, so I wanted to be John or Bill. Now I like it.

~Val Kilmer

It was very serious and I wanted to do something really different so there was this comedy called TOP SECRET.

~Val Kilmer

I never had a business plan. I did, actually - I'm lying. My business plan was to get lucky, and I did; that was great. And then my second business plan was to get lucky again, and there, I faltered.

~Val Kilmer

Mark Twain created a new type of literature and not a lot of people can say that. Not a lot of people can say they're absolutely original and completely self-made.

~Val Kilmer

Most films made about the future acquiesce toward death, and I don't want to be told how to define my future.

~Val Kilmer

Hollywood is wonderful, but it does eat its young.

~Val Kilmer

Daryl Hannah likes to goof around with fashion, but she does have pretty impeccable taste.

~Val Kilmer

I was in love with Tina Goodman since I was three and her parents came popping out of the trash cans. I think it made a big impression on me.

~Val Kilmer

Acting is very immediate.

~Val Kilmer

The Secret Service is a strange group. They don't really have a leader.

It's not set up like a military. Each one is supposed to be able to act like a leader when something comes up.

~Val Kilmer

Being creative and making money in the theater is very challenging.

~Val Kilmer

Why do women get paid less money? It doesn't make any sense.

~Val Kilmer

You just don't understand humility until you have children and get divorced.

~Val Kilmer

Mark Twain had a way of telling stories that shifts your consciousness away from labels.

~Val Kilmer

Mark Twain is as big as America. He really is.

~Val Kilmer

My father was raised in the mountains of New Mexico, and he picked cotton for a dollar a day. He was working for the family from the time he was 7.

~Val Kilmer

It's the persona that makes you a leading actor. A leading actor has something extra that's fun to watch. But it isn't usually about acting.

~Val Kilmer

There are lots of actors who are awful people, but nobody talks about them being awful because they've made billions.

~Val Kilmer

There's nothing good about divorce.

~Val Kilmer

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