

William Styron

Quotes

*Writing, Thinking, Pain, Depression, Book, People, Suffering, Mean, Self,
Morning, Past, Reading, Hands, Sleep, Mind, Age, Suicide, Struggle, Men,
Crush*

Most books, like their authors, are born to die; of only a few books can it be said that death has no dominion over them; they live, and their influence lives forever.

~William Styron

A great book should leave you with many experiences, and slightly exhausted at the end. You live several lives while reading.

~William Styron

It's fine therapy for people who are perpetually scared of nameless threats as I am most of the time â€” for jittery people.

~William Styron

Mysteriously and in ways that are totally remote from natural experience, the gray drizzle of horror induced by depression takes on the quality of physical pain.

~William Styron

The writer's duty is to keep on writing.

~William Styron

I get a fine warm feeling when I'm doing well, but that pleasure is pretty much negated by the pain of getting started each day. Let's face it, writing is hell.

~William Styron

The pain of severe depression is quite unimaginable to those who have not suffered it.

~William Styron

A great book should leave you with many experiences.

~William Styron

Reading - the best state yet to keep absolute loneliness at bay.

~William Styron

The pain is unrelenting; one does not abandon, even briefly, one's bed of nails, but is attached to it wherever one goes.

~William Styron

It is hopelessness even more than pain that crushes the soul.

~William Styron

Which is worse, past or future? Neither. I will fold up my mind like a leaf and drift on this stream over the brink.

~William Styron

Let your love flow out on all living things.

~William Styron

Writing is a form of self-flagellation.

~William Styron

The good writing of any age has always been the product of someone's neurosis, and we'd have a mighty dull literature if all the writers that came along were a bunch of happy chuckleheads.

~William Styron

I have learned to cry again and I think perhaps that means I am a human being again. Perhaps that at least. A piece of human being but, yes, a human being.

~William Styron

For a person whose sole burning ambition is to write - like myself - college is useless beyond the Sophomore year.

~William Styron

The good writing of any age has always been the product of someone's

neurosis.

~William Styron

Let's face it, writing is hell.

~William Styron

we each devise our means of escape from the intolerable.

~William Styron

I felt the exultancy of a man just released from slavery and ready to set the universe on fire.

~William Styron

In Vineyard Haven, on Martha's Vineyard, mostly I love the soft collision here of harbor and shore, the subtly haunting briny quality that all small towns have when they are situated on the sea

~William Styron

I think that one of the compelling themes of fiction is this confrontation between good and evil.

~William Styron

Wickedly funny to read and morally bracing as only good satire can be.

~William Styron

Depression...so mysteriously painful and elusive.

~William Styron

I think it's unfortunate to have critics for friends.

~William Styron

What I really mean is that a great book should leave you with many experiences, and slightly exhausted at the end. You live several lives while reading it.

~William Styron

We would have to settle for the elegant goal of becoming ourselves.

~William Styron

This was not judgment day - only morning. Morning: excellent and fair.

~William Styron

Every writer since the beginning of time, just like other people, has been afflicted by what a friend of mine calls

~William Styron

The weather of Depression is unmodulated, its light a brownout.

~William Styron

The stigma of self-inflicted death is for some people a hateful blot that demands erasure at all costs.

~William Styron

In the absence of hope we must still struggle to survive, and so we do-by the skin of our teeth.

~William Styron

Writers ever since writing began have had problems, and the main problem narrows down to just one word - life.

~William Styron

My life and work have been far from free of blemish, and so I think it would be unpardonable for a biographer not to dish up the dirt.

~William Styron

Nonfiction writers are second-class citizens, the Ellis Island of literature. We just can't quite get in. And yes, it pisses me off.

~William Styron

Style comes only have long, hard practice and writing.

~William Styron

When, in the autumn of 1947, I was fired from the first and only job I have ever held, I wanted one thing out of life: to become a writer.

~William Styron

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