

# William Trevor

## Quotes

*Writing, People, Fiction, Knowing, Thinking, Pain, Ifs, Imagination, Believe,  
Distance, Pieces, America, Needs, Running Away, Home, Motherhood,  
Beautiful, Inspiring, Artist, May*

I get melancholy if I don't [write]. I need the company of people who don't exist.

~William Trevor

I read hungrily and delightedly, and have realized since that you can't write unless you read.

~William Trevor

Memories can be everything if we choose to make them so. But you are right: you mustn't do that. That is for me, and I shall do it.

~William Trevor

I believe in not quite knowing. A writer needs to be doubtful, questioning. I write out of curiosity and bewilderment.

~William Trevor

My fiction may, now and again, illuminate aspects of the human condition, but I do not consciously set out to do so: I am a storyteller.

~William Trevor

Only love matters in the bits and pieces of a person's life.

~William Trevor

The capacity you're thinking of is imagination; without it there can be no understanding, indeed no fiction.

~William Trevor

He traveled in order to come home.

~William Trevor

People like me write because otherwise we are pretty inarticulate. Our articulation is our writing.

~William Trevor

I value mothers and motherhood enormously. For every inattentive or abusive mother in my fiction I think you'll find a dozen or so who are neither.

~William Trevor

There is an element of autobiography in all fiction in that pain or distress, or pleasure, is based on the author's own. But in my case that is as far as it goes.

~William Trevor

The same applies to any artist; we are the tools and instruments of our talent. We are outsiders; we have no place in society because society is what we're watching, and dealing with.

~William Trevor

People run away to be alone,' he said. Some people had to be alone.

~William Trevor

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