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Quotes by Pasternak, Boris

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Boris Leonidovich Pasternak () (February 10, 1890 – May 30, 1960) was a Russian poet and writer best known in the West for his monumental tragic novel on Soviet Russia, *Doctor Zhivago* (1957). It is as a poet, however, that he is most celebrated in Russia. *My Sister Life*, written by Pasternak in 1917, is arguably the most influential collection of poetry published in Russian in the 20th century.

I don't like people who have never fallen or stumbled. Their virtue is lifeless and it isn't of much value. Life hasn't revealed its beauty to them.

- Pasternak, Boris

Man is born to live and not to prepare to live.

- Pasternak, Boris

That's metaphysics, my dear fellow. It's forbidden me by my doctor, my stomach won't take it.

- Pasternak, Boris

What you don't understand is that it is possible to be an atheist, it is possible not to know if God exists or why He should, and yet to believe that man does not live in a state of nature but in history, and that history as we know it now began with Christ, it was founded by Him

on the Gospels.

- Pasternak, Boris

As far as modern writing is concerned, it is rarely rewarding to translate it, although it might be easy. Translation is very much like copying paintings.

- Pasternak, Boris

No deep and strong feeling, such as we may come across here and there in the world, is unmixed with compassion. The more we love, the more the object of our love seems to us to be a victim.

- Pasternak, Boris



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