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Quotes about Plagiarism

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About the most originality that any writer can hope to achieve honestly is to steal with good judgment.

- Billings, Josh

They lard their lean books with the fat of others work.

- Burton, Sir Richard

And for the citation of so many authors, 'tis the easiest thing in nature. Find out one of these books with an alphabetical index, and without any farther ceremony, remove it verbatim into your own... there are fools enough to be thus drawn into an opinion of the work; at least, such a flourishing train of attendants will give your book a fashionable air, and recommend it for sale.

- Cervantes, Miguel De

Plagiarists are always suspicious of being stolen from.

- Coleridge, Samuel Taylor

Ideas improve. The meaning of words participates in the improvement. Plagiarism is necessary. Progress implies it. It embraces an author's phrase, makes use of his expressions, erases a false idea, and replaces it with the right idea.

- Debord, Guy

Plagiarists at least have the quality of preservation.

- Disraeli, Benjamin

Perish those who said our good things before we did.

- Donatus

He invades authors like a monarch; and what would be theft in other poets is only victory in him.

- Dryden, John

Nothing is new except arrangement.

- Durant, William J.

Genius Borrows nobly.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

When a thing has been said and said well, have no scruple. Take it and copy it.

- France, Anatole

There is much difference between imitating a man and counterfeiting him.

- Franklin, Benjamin

What is originality? Undetected plagiarism.

- Inge, Dean William R.

They castrate the books of other men in order that with the fat of their works they may lard their own lean volumes.

- Jovius

I don't think anybody steals anything; all of us borrow.

- King, B. B.

Stealing things is a glorious occupation, particularly in the art world.

- McLaren, Malcolm

If you steal from one author, it's plagiarism; if you steal from many, it's research.

- Mizner, Wilson

Copy from one, it's plagiarism; copy from two, it's research.

- Mizner, Wilson

Taking something from one man and making it worse is plagiarism.

- Moore, George

Most writers steal a good thing when they can, and when 'Tis safely got 'Tis worth the winning. The worst of 't is we now and then detect em, they ever dream that we suspect em.

- Proctor, Bryan Waller

The human plagiarism which is most difficult to avoid, for individuals... is the plagiarism of ourselves.

- Proust, Marcel

Nothing is said which has not been said before.

- Terence

So much of what I am I got from you. I had no idea how much of it was secondhand.

- Townsend, Peter

The immature artist imitates. The mature artist steals.

- Trilling, Lionel

Immature artists imitate. Mature artists steal.

- Trilling, Lionel

What a good thing Adam had. When he said a good thing, he knew nobody had said it

before.

- Twain, Mark



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