'A good novel tells us the truth about its hero; but a bad novel tells us the truth about its author.'

G K Chesterton (1874 – 1936)

'Books are a uniquely portable magic.'

Stephen King (b.1947)

'Fantasy is hardly an escape from reality. It's a way of understanding it.'

Lloyd Alexander (1924 – 2007)

'I think books are like people, in the sense that they'll turn up in your life when you most need them.'

Emma Thompson (b.1959)

'It is my ambition to say in ten sentences what others say in a whole book'.

Friedrich Nietzsche (1844 – 1900)

'Once you learn to read, you will be forever free.'

Frederick Douglass (1818 – 1895)

'So many books, so little time.'

Frank Zappa (1940 – 1993)

'There are no faster or firmer friendships than those formed between people who love the same books.'

Irving Stone (1903 – 1989)

'To lose a passport was the least of one's worries.

To lose a notebook was a catastrophe.'

Bruce Chatwin (1940 – 1989)

'You can't get a cup of tea big enough or a book long enough to suit me.'

C S Lewis (1898 – 1963)