

Writers on Rejection

A List of Quotes

This is an extra resource to go along with the original article:

[*Tips for Dealing With Inevitable Rejection*](#)

“I would advise anyone who aspires to a writing career, that before developing his talent, he would be wise to develop a thick hide.”

-Harper Lee

“Was I bitter? Absolutely. Hurt? You bet your sweet ass I was hurt. Who doesn't feel a part of their heart break at rejection. You ask yourself every question you can think of, what, why, how come, and then your sadness turns to anger. That's my favorite part. It drives me, feeds me, and makes one hell of a story.”

-Jennifer Salaiz

“I tell writers to keep reading, reading, reading. Read widely and deeply. And I tell them not to give up even after getting rejection letters. And only write what you love.”

-Anita Diamant

“Rejected pieces aren't failures; unwritten pieces are.”

-Greg Daugherty

“Rejections slips, or form letters, however tactfully phrased, are lacerations of the soul, if not quite inventions of the devil – but there is no way around them.”

-Isaac Asimov

“You must keep sending work out; you must never let a manuscript do nothing but eat its head off in a drawer. You send that work out again and again, while you're working on another one. If you have talent, you will receive some measure of success - but only if you persist.”

-Isaac Asimov

“I love my rejection slips. They show me I try.”

-Sylvia Plath

“You have to know how to accept rejection and reject acceptance.”

-Ray Bradbury

“I discovered that rejections are not altogether a bad thing. They teach a writer to rely on his own judgment and to say in his heart of hearts, ‘To hell with you.’”

-Saul Bellow