**D.W. Winnicott Quotes**

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“The mother gazes at the baby in her arms, and the baby gazes at his mother's face and finds himself therein...  
  
Provided that the mother is really looking at the unique, small, helpless being and not projecting her own expectations, fears, and plans for the child. In that case, the child would find not himself in his mother's face, but rather the mother's own projections. This child would remain without a mirror, and for the rest of his life would be seeking this mirror in vain.”― Donald Winnicott  
  
“It is a joy to be hidden, and disaster not to be found.”― Donald Winnicott  
  
“Tell me what you fear and I will tell you what has happened to you.”― Donald Winnicott  
  
“Artists are people driven by the tension between the desire to communicate and the desire to hide.”― Donald Winnicott  
  
“It is in playing and only in playing that the individual child or adult is able to be creative and to use the whole personality, and it is only in being creative that the individual discovers the self.”― Donald Winnicott, Playing and Reality  
  
“What is a normal child like? Does he just eat and grow and smile sweetly? No, that is not what he is like. The normal child, if he has confidence in mother and father, pulls out all the stops. In the course of time, he tries out his power to disrupt, to destroy, to frighten, to wear down, to waste, to wangle, and to appropriate . . . At the start he absolutely needs to live in a circle of love and strength (with consequent tolerance) if he is not to be too fearful of his own thoughts and of his imaginings to make progress in his emotional development.”― Donald Winnicott  
  
“The most aggressive and therefore the most dangerous words in the languages of the world are to be found in the assertion I AM.”  
― Donald Winnicott