**David Baldacci Sentences**

1. Success hasn’t dulled the appeal of the act of writing for Baldacci.
2. He still writes prolifically, protecting time in his schedule to make sure he gets a chance to work on new novels.
3. He believes novelists need to have “an incredible motor.”
4. “Writing is not a job or a hobby or even a career for me,” Baldacci said.
   1. “It’s more of a lifestyle.
   2. “I’m constantly sitting down to write because I just can’t not do it.
   3. “If I’m not doing it, something feels very off with my world.
   4. “Words have been my life for as long as I can remember.
   5. “If I’m not playing with them every day, then I’m not happy at all.”
5. Baldacci said he continues to read widely with a focus on news.
6. He has always infused his novels with current events and issues of the moment.
   1. He believes this helps give a story a sense of relevance and stakes that make it more compelling for readers.
7. “I look at fiction as a means to entertain and inform people,” Baldacci said.
   1. “Writing about contemporary issues that I feel are very relevant to people’s lives is a way for me to fulfill that ambition.”
8. Baldacci has been a diligent advocate for literacy through the Wish You Well Foundation.
   1. He and his wife started this foundation.
9. Baldacci said, “The Wish You Well Foundation’s mission is to eradicate illiteracy in the US.
   1. “Reading is the most fundamental skill anyone could ever have.
   2. “It drives pretty much all that we do.
   3. “If you can’t read, or can’t read at an adequate level, there’s no way for you to be a full participant in democracy.
   4. “Instead, someone will tell you how to vote and what to believe in.
   5. “This is never a good thing.
   6. “And I’ve found that readers are more open and tolerant and reasonable in their views.
   7. “In sum, if more people read, we’d have a far better world.
   8. “That should be a worthy goal for everyone.”

Source: <https://news.vcu.edu/article/DavidBaldacci_once_wrote_stories_in_secret_at_VCU_Now_he_has>; <https://www.thebookseller.com/news/seven-questions-david-baldacci-1040566?fbclid=IwAR2byOUG7LcR176FJxH50cBMH4SocYcrmsKlITbTXV3va6WpfuZAFiAYfWM>