

Aaron Sorkin

Quotes

Writing, People, Thinking, Play, Real, Character, Television, Believe, Country, Graduation, Night, Want, America, World, Rooms, Wall, Smart, Drama, Trying, Winning

It's nice that HBO is in business with the audience and not with the advertisers. There's a difference.

~Aaron Sorkin

You're going to fall down, but the world doesn't care how many times you fall down, as long as it's one fewer than the numbers of times you get back up.

~Aaron Sorkin

Good writers borrow from other writers. Great writers steal from them outright.

~Aaron Sorkin

Stupid people surround themselves with smart people. Smart people surround themselves with smart people who disagree with them.

~Aaron Sorkin

An artist's job is to captivate! if we stumble into truth, we got lucky.

~Aaron Sorkin

Rule of storytelling: When a character is shoved against a wall, shove them against a wall harder.

~Aaron Sorkin

A friend is somebody who says the same things to your face that they would say if you're not in the room.

~Aaron Sorkin

Certainly, last year we did an episode about the census and sampling versus a direct statistic. You just said the word 'census', and people fall asleep.

~Aaron Sorkin

Socializing on the internet is to socializing what reality TV is to reality.

~Aaron Sorkin

There's a great tradition in storytelling that's thousands of years old, telling stories about kings and their palaces, and that's really what I wanted to do.

~Aaron Sorkin

Develop your own compass, and trust it. Take risks, dare to fail, remember the first person through the wall always gets hurt.

~Aaron Sorkin

Decisions are made by those who show up.

~Aaron Sorkin

There are no Asian movie stars

~Aaron Sorkin

Tell me what you think and then tell me what the really smart person in the room who disagrees with you thinks.

~Aaron Sorkin

A hero would die for his country, but he'd much rather live for it.

~Aaron Sorkin

Music is what mathematics does on a Saturday night.

~Aaron Sorkin

We live in a world that has walls, and those walls have to be guarded by men with guns.

~Aaron Sorkin

The real problem with all drugs is that they work. Fantastically. They're great, right up until the moment they kill you.

~Aaron Sorkin

You can only write, 'Somebody wants something, something else is in their way of getting it.'

~Aaron Sorkin

Perhaps something like Facebook couldn't have been invented by somebody who goes out five nights a week and has a ton of friends and makes friends really easily.

~Aaron Sorkin

My resting pulse as a writer is writing idealistically and romantically; aspirationally. My taste lies in quixotic heroes.

~Aaron Sorkin

I'm not interested in the difference between good and bad, I'm interested in the differences between good and great.

~Aaron Sorkin

If you feel that strongly about something, you have an obligation to try and change my mind.

~Aaron Sorkin

I have a lot of respect for people who are great at ad-libbing, and for writers and directors who are able to create a scene in which that works.

~Aaron Sorkin

Toby Zeigler: There's literally no one in the world I don't hate right now.

~Aaron Sorkin

Writers are opposite of athletes, they get better with age

~Aaron Sorkin

Roxy Sorkin, your father just won the Academy Award. I'm going to have to insist on some respect from your guinea pig.

~Aaron Sorkin

It's populated by people who, by and large, have terrific communication skills. Every day is an extraordinary day. For me, it was just a great area for storytelling.

~Aaron Sorkin

Toby: All right. It couldn't have gone far, right? Sam: No. Toby: Somewhere in this building...is our talent.

~Aaron Sorkin

Writing anything, it sorta starts the way you'd build a castle at the beach. You're just taking your hands and you're mounting up sand.

~Aaron Sorkin

I grew up in the theatre. It's where I got my start. Writing a television drama with theatrical dialogue about the theatre is beyond perfection.

~Aaron Sorkin

A news organization has a much different responsibility. I might not be telling you the whole story. I might not be telling you a story in a manner that is properly sophisticated.

~Aaron Sorkin

Well, I must tell you I write the scripts very close to the bone. So I'm writing episode seven now and couldn't tell you what happens in episode eight.

~Aaron Sorkin

It's important to remember that, first and foremost, if not only, this is entertainment. 'The West Wing' isn't meant to be good for you.

~Aaron Sorkin

This is a time for serious people, Bob, and your fifteen minutes are up.

~Aaron Sorkin

I consider plot a necessary intrusion on what I really want to do, which is write snappy dialogue. But when I'm writing, the way the words sound is as important to me as what they mean.

~Aaron Sorkin

I've never met anyone who has said, "My goal is to make America mediocre." That's a kind of hard-right conservative fallacy.

~Aaron Sorkin

Any time you get two people in a room who disagree about anything, the time of day, there is a scene to be written. That's what I look for.

~Aaron Sorkin

Government should be a place where people can come together, and no one gets left behind. No one gets left behind. An instrument of good.

~Aaron Sorkin

Josh: So, Toby, it's election night. What do you say about a country that goes out of its way to protect even those citizens that try to destroy it?
Toby: God bless America.

~Aaron Sorkin

It's a combination of life being unpredictable, and you being super dumb.

~Aaron Sorkin

The guy who wins the Oscar for Best Actor has a much higher bar to clear than the woman who wins best actress.

~Aaron Sorkin

Trying to guess what the (mass) audience wants and then trying to

satisfy that is usually a bad recipe for getting something good.

~Aaron Sorkin

The first step in solving any problem is recognizing there is one - America is not the greatest country in the world anymore.

~Aaron Sorkin

It wouldn't kill you to watch a film or pick up a newspaper once in a while.

~Aaron Sorkin

That's a very real feeling - that I don't have a story to tell. I'm not a pure storyteller. I have a tough time with story.

~Aaron Sorkin

What's interesting, is that I've found that the more accomplished a director is, the more secure they are in giving direction that sounds incredibly unsophisticated.

~Aaron Sorkin

With a television series, there's a hard deadline, and so you have to write even when you're not writing well.

~Aaron Sorkin

I think it's up to writers to write stuff that is compelling enough that people want to watch.

~Aaron Sorkin

I want to convey that I'm crazy about the Kardashians - but I'm not sure which is which.

~Aaron Sorkin

As a dramatist, you're looking for points of friction.

~Aaron Sorkin

There's that process of writing it - then you come out of your room into the sunlight, and you now have to complete the circuit and make the connection finally with the audience.

~Aaron Sorkin

When I was a kid, I wanted to be an actor. I was acting in all the school plays. I went to school for acting. I was really sure that that's what I wanted to do.

~Aaron Sorkin

Just to clarify the division of labor on the show, I write the show and Alan [Poul] does everything else.

~Aaron Sorkin

She's a person; the doctor pronounces her dead, not the news.

~Aaron Sorkin

I would love for people to think that I am as quick, clever, smart and heroic as the characters that I write, but those characters are characters.

~Aaron Sorkin

The stuff that I write doesn't work very well as background music. You have to watch it from beginning to end and pay attention as if you were watching a play.

~Aaron Sorkin

When I write something, I want the best director to direct it. And that's not going to be me.

~Aaron Sorkin

If I get an idea for a series that I really like, I'm sure I won't be able to resist coming back and doing it.

~Aaron Sorkin

Helen Mirren and Meryl Streep can play with the boys but there just aren't that many tour-de-force roles out there for women.

~Aaron Sorkin

I'm a playwright. All I care about is the play being good.

~Aaron Sorkin

I'll get cast occasionally as sort of the jerk version of myself, and I have fun doing that. But it's really better for everyone if I stay behind the camera.

~Aaron Sorkin

As an audience member, I like the sound of something that's been written - I like it to sound written. And then, of course, you can't do it without the musicians who can play it.

~Aaron Sorkin

The thing I know how to do most is write a play. I came up loving plays and learning about plays and writing plays. I actually feel like an outsider when I'm writing movies and television.

~Aaron Sorkin

And a wheat thin the size of Lake Tahoe.

~Aaron Sorkin

Film doesn't have to worry. Movies are awesome. There's no war going on, theaters aren't going to lose.

~Aaron Sorkin

I'm sick of girls who don't know how to high-five.

~Aaron Sorkin

Decisions are made by those who show up. Don't ever forget that you're a citizen of this world.

~Aaron Sorkin

If you can socialize from the privacy of your desk at night in a dark room, you can be a smoother, cooler, funnier, sexy, more everything person than you actually are in real life.

~Aaron Sorkin

The downside to series television is that the schedule is ferocious. It constantly feels like you have a midterm due that you haven't started yet.

~Aaron Sorkin

Elite is not a bad word, it's an aspirational one.

~Aaron Sorkin

Conflict, when used as a device, makes for good television and bad journalism.

~Aaron Sorkin

I think that if I couldn't write, I would be unemployable.

~Aaron Sorkin

My preference would have been to not go back on the air after 9\11, at all until the time felt right but that wasn't an option.

~Aaron Sorkin

Never argue with a drunk or a fool.

~Aaron Sorkin

I like workplace shows and White House was a very glamorous workplace to set a show in; it appealed to a sense of romanticism and idealism that I have.

~Aaron Sorkin

I'm a registered Republican, I only seem liberal because I believe that hurricanes are caused by high barometric pressure and not gay marriage.

~Aaron Sorkin

People who don't know anything tend to make up fake rules, the real rules being considerably more difficult to learn.

~Aaron Sorkin

Only criminals and adulterers should have to hide who they are.

~Aaron Sorkin

It seems to me that more and more we've come to expect less and less from each other, and I think that should change.

~Aaron Sorkin

I don't believe there are two sides to every argument. I think the facts are the center. And watching the news abandon the facts in favor of "fairness" is what's troubling to me.

~Aaron Sorkin

To use a basketball metaphor, West Wing cast was a group that liked to pass as much as they liked to shoot.

~Aaron Sorkin

I'm terribly afraid of failure. When your identity is wrapped up in writing and you've written something that doesn't work, it's a tough pill to swallow.

~Aaron Sorkin

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