

# Alice Hoffman Quotes

*People, Thinking, Book, Dream, Writing, Men, Real, Mother, Way, Lying, Mean,  
Blood, Heart, Want, Stars, Reading, Love Is, Done, Blue, World*

My darling girl, when are you going to realize that being normal is not necessarily a virtue? It rather denotes a lack of courage." - Aunt Frances

~Alice Hoffman

Do you ever just put your arms out and just spin and spin and spin? Well, that's what love is like; everything inside of you tells you to stop before you fall, but for some reason you just keep going.

~Alice Hoffman

Others said May was best, that sweet green time when lilacs bloomed and gardens along Main Street were filled with sugary pink peonies and Dutch tulips.

~Alice Hoffman

It was a great escape for me and it was a way to take a break from what was going on in my own world, to go into another world.

~Alice Hoffman

Be careful what you wish for. I know that for a fact. Wishes are brutal, unforgiving things. They burn your tongue the moment they're spoken and you can never take them back.

~Alice Hoffman

I wonder how a lioness will manage in a dovecote. Can you put away your teeth and claws?

~Alice Hoffman

The weak are cruel. The strong have no need to be.

~Alice Hoffman

Once you know some things, you can't unknow them. It's a burden that can never be given away.

~Alice Hoffman

This was what it meant to be human, to know that time moved and all things changed.

~Alice Hoffman

The evening had turned sweet and blue.

~Alice Hoffman

No one knows you like a person with whom you've shared a childhood. No one will ever understand you in quite the same way.

~Alice Hoffman

Still anyone who trusts a serpent deserves its bite. The wise see a creature for what it is, not what it says it may be.

~Alice Hoffman

Books may well be the only true magic.

~Alice Hoffman

Sometimes, running away means you're headed in the exact right direction.

~Alice Hoffman

I'm at the point where going forward is easier than going back.

~Alice Hoffman

Sometimes the right thing feels all wrong until it is over and done with.

~Alice Hoffman

How could I have been so stupid to ignore everything I'd had in my life? The color red alone was worth kingdoms.

~Alice Hoffman

When I walk, I walk with you. Where I go, you're with me always.

~Alice Hoffman

All the characters in my books are imagined, but all have a bit of who I am in them - much like the characters in your dreams are all formed by who you are

~Alice Hoffman

At midnight the wind in the tress can sound like the ocean. The moonlight can make a road appear as endless as the sea.

~Alice Hoffman

When all is said and done, the weather and love are the two elements about which one can never be sure.

~Alice Hoffman

Some fates are guaranteed, no matter who tries to intervene.

~Alice Hoffman

When you start writing the magic comes when the characters seem to take on a life of their own and write the words for themselves.

~Alice Hoffman

I never even believed in happiness. I didn't think it existed. Now look at me. I'm ready to believe in just about anything.

~Alice Hoffman

Every problem has a solution, although it may not be the outcome that was originally hoped for or expected.

~Alice Hoffman

He has the ability to catch someone by the way that he looks at her, and make her wish he would go on looking.

~Alice Hoffman

Real love, after all, was worth the price you paid, however briefly it might last.

~Alice Hoffman

People want to ignore what they can't understand. They're looking for logic at any cost.

~Alice Hoffman

Some things, when they change, never do return to the way they once were. Butterflies for instance, and women who've been in love with the wrong man too often.

~Alice Hoffman

I feel as if when you love a book it becomes a part of you whether you have it on your shelves or not.

~Alice Hoffman

Outside, the September air was enticingly fragrant, yellow with pollen and rich, lemony sunlight.

~Alice Hoffman

I really feel like the gift is also the curse. It's always half-and-half. Whatever brings you the most joy will also probably bring you the most pain. Always a price to pay

~Alice Hoffman

I wrote to find beauty and purpose, to know that love is possible and lasting and real.... Once I got to my desk, once I started writing, I still believed anything was possible.

~Alice Hoffman

Some people say, 'Save yourself and you save your ways.' I say, 'Be yourself and you save your soul.'

~Alice Hoffman

Hawthorne has given us a tradition that some people refer to as

Yankee Magic Realism, and I do think there is a certain quality to the landscape that definitely leads into the dark woods.

~Alice Hoffman

You can be betrayed in your sleep. The whole world can tilt while you're dreaming of butterflies.

~Alice Hoffman

The sky is already purple; the first few stars have appeared, suddenly, as if someone had thrown a handful of silver across the edge of the world.

~Alice Hoffman

She didn't like being twelve. It felt like someplace between who she'd been and who she was about to be. It felt like no place at all.

~Alice Hoffman

In losing a friend, she is reminded of all she has lost and all she stands to lose again. There is nothing to be done to make it any easier. We all grieve alone.

~Alice Hoffman

Anyway, the sort of love that will not wait is probably best to pass by

~Alice Hoffman

Pride is a funny thing; it can make what is truly worthless appear to be a treasure.

~Alice Hoffman

I always felt and still feel that fairy tales have an emotional truth that is so deep that there are few things that really rival them

~Alice Hoffman

I always quit at three when my kids come home from school so I feel

pretty spoiled

~Alice Hoffman

I think growing up is difficult and it's a process that I'm always interested in, with kids and adults, they are often on two different universes.

~Alice Hoffman

I wasn't good company, that was true, and people avoided me, but that was all right. I was too busy dreaming.

~Alice Hoffman

It doesn't matter what people tell you. It doesn't matter what they might say. Sometimes you have to leave home. Sometimes, running away means you're headed in the exact right direction.

~Alice Hoffman

I wasn't quite as certain that I knew her soul. When it came right down to it, I wasn't sure she knew me either.

~Alice Hoffman

Every time I finish a book, I forget everything I learned writing it - the information just disappears out of my head

~Alice Hoffman

I dream of a love that even time will lie down and be still for.

~Alice Hoffman

Even as a small child, I understood that woman had secrets, and that some of these were only to be told to daughters. In this way we were bound together for eternity.

~Alice Hoffman

I never see a novel as a film while I'm writing it. Mostly because novels

and films are so different, and I'm such an internal novelist

~Alice Hoffman

Any institution becomes a community - whether it's a high school or a boarding school or a publishing company or a small town where everybody knows certain things about people.

~Alice Hoffman

Every time someone forgets, someone else disappears,' my brother wrote.

~Alice Hoffman

...he had a way of taking your hand which made it clear he'd have to be the one to let go." From Alice Hoffman's "Local Girls", pg.102.

~Alice Hoffman

I read Betty Smith's "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," all of Shirley Jackson's books, which I loved.

~Alice Hoffman

When I write for teens, I feel I can cut through everything and get to the bare bones. I can get straight into the emotional world of the character.

~Alice Hoffman

The adults don't know what's happening on the kids' universe and the kids don't know what's happening on the adults' universe

~Alice Hoffman

Every fairy tale had a bloody lining. Every one had teeth and claws.

~Alice Hoffman

I also like the whole idea of fairy tales and folk tales being a woman's domain, considered a lesser domain at the time they were told.

~Alice Hoffman



After a while, the characters I'm writing begin to feel real to me. That's when I know I'm heading in the right direction

~Alice Hoffman

I don't think I make much of a distinction between the 'real' and the 'fantastic.' They both seem to be threads in the same cloth as far as I'm concerned.

~Alice Hoffman

Here's the thing about luck...you don't know if it's good or bad until you have some perspective.

~Alice Hoffman

Trouble is just like love, after all; it comes in unannounced and takes over before you've had a chance to reconsider, or even to think.

~Alice Hoffman

The moon is always jealous of the heat of the day, just as the sun always longs for something dark and deep.

~Alice Hoffman

Perhaps it is possible to discover more in silence than in speech. Or perhaps it is only that those who are silent among us learn to listen.

~Alice Hoffman

Feel lucky for what you have when you have it. Isn't that the point? Happily ever after doesn't mean happy forever.

~Alice Hoffman

...and so many orchards circled the village that on some crisp October afternoons the whole world smelled like pie.

~Alice Hoffman

I knew what it was to yearn for a life so distant it seemed that it had

never been anything more than a dream.

~Alice Hoffman

I'm much faster now. When you only have a certain amount of time to write, after a while you learn to use your time well or you stop writing

~Alice Hoffman

My grief was cold. It was nothing to share. It was nothing to speak about, nothing to feel.

~Alice Hoffman

Just because something is unspoken doesn't mean that it disappears.

~Alice Hoffman

Sometimes movies really are the best medicine.

~Alice Hoffman

I just finished Colson Whitehead's "The Underground Railroad," which I think is a work of genius.

~Alice Hoffman

But what we are given is taken as well, so that we know God's glory comes to us from His will alone.

~Alice Hoffman

This day is going to be awful. It's the sort of day you wouldn't mind losing completely, even if it meant your life would be twenty-four hours shorter.

~Alice Hoffman

They were written on cheap blue notebooks bought by poor women. I'm interested in folk tales in the way that medicine and magic in women's stories are all kind of combined.

~Alice Hoffman

No one knows how to write a novel until it's been written

~Alice Hoffman

That's why there are ten gates to pass through before you reach the garden. If life were easy there would be one gate. There would be no gates at all.

~Alice Hoffman

They weren't true stories; they were better than that.

~Alice Hoffman

It was the sort of beauty you feel so deeply it becomes contagious and somehow makes you feel beautiful too.

~Alice Hoffman

Here is the riddle of love: Everything it gives to you, it takes away.

~Alice Hoffman

Do what you want, do what you will, do what you have to, do what you think you cannot.

~Alice Hoffman

You have to choose the voice you are going to trust. You can't listen to everyone.

~Alice Hoffman

If we had paid attention, we would have understood there are some things in this world you cannot outrun.

~Alice Hoffman

She can feel his blood, just beneath his skin; when he breathes, the air fills with smoke. He's like a dragon, ancient and fearless.

~Alice Hoffman

You can't dispute the ridiculous. You can't argue reasonably with evil.

~Alice Hoffman

Being human means losing everything we love best in the world," she murmured as she released me. "But would you ask to be anything else?"

~Alice Hoffman

What men yearn for they often destroy.

~Alice Hoffman

No barrier was strong enough to keep out the movement of time.

~Alice Hoffman

You don't fight for peace sister,' Nahara told me, 'You embrace it.

~Alice Hoffman

Unrequited love is so boring. Weeping under a blue-black sky is for suckers or maniacs.

~Alice Hoffman

I think secrets often come out. I spoke to a friend who is a therapist and I asked her if there were people who came to her and admitted to doing horrible things and she said, 'More than you know.'

~Alice Hoffman

Still, she knows one thing for certain: never judge a relationship unless you are the one wrapped up in its arms.

~Alice Hoffman

Never look at other people's bad fortune,' my mother said. 'If you do, it will come back to find you instead of its rightful owner.

~Alice Hoffman

I love science fiction but especially his because it's so humane.

~Alice Hoffman

And then I understood that she had no idea what she'd done to my family. She thought love and hatred were equal.

~Alice Hoffman

What did you see?' he asked then. Nothing,' I told him. 'Because nothing is what you wanted me to see, though the man on the table might disagree.

~Alice Hoffman

I loved him even now, as he took a knife to my throat, as I drowned in blood, as I whispered "Cousin, you were wrong. We were born to live.

~Alice Hoffman

The more you feel, the stronger you are.

~Alice Hoffman

I wept to think that life went on even when so much had been lost, that rain still fell and myrtle grew between the rocks.

~Alice Hoffman

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