

# Andrew Lam

## Quotes

*Stories, Years, Fiction, Character, Writing, Leader, Dream, Voice, America,  
Waiting, Pressure, Floating, Teenager, Hopeful, Order, Home, Eden,  
Misunderstood, Turkeys, Speak English*

America's story is largely an immigrant story. That hasn't changed since the Pilgrims ate their first turkey some four hundred years ago, and they were the original boat people.

~Andrew Lam

Today, more people are crossing various borders in order to survive, thrive, change their lives. Even if you don't cross the border, with demographic shifts, the border sometimes crosses you.

~Andrew Lam

I think in a larger sense, immigrant narrative is comprehensive and speaks to the core of human experience.

~Andrew Lam

I am glad to see the wheels are moving at last toward comprehensive immigration reform after last year's election. I am glad that immigrants are speaking up.

~Andrew Lam

Art is the lesser sister to medicine. It aims to heal.

~Andrew Lam

In the war on terrorism, the immigrant is often the scapegoat.

~Andrew Lam

That experience of losing home, longing for home, that yearning for meaning and rootedness and identity in a floating world, it's what often makes an immigrant story into an American story .

~Andrew Lam

Precious things lost are transmutable. They refuse oblivion. They simply wait to be rendered into testimonies, into stories and songs.

~Andrew Lam

It's unfortunate that the country of immigrants has turned its back on immigrants. The atmosphere after 9/11 is toxic.

~Andrew Lam

In non-fiction you have to stay true to historical events, be they personal or national .

~Andrew Lam

I am hopeful that the pendulum swings toward seeing immigrants in favorable terms once more.

~Andrew Lam

I always say that writing non-fiction versus writing fiction is a bit like architecture versus abstract painting.

~Andrew Lam

Missing from the national conversation are voices of pro-immigration reformers and civil rights leaders, who can speak on behalf of those who have no voice.

~Andrew Lam

Isn't the first story told in the West about the Fall? Adam and Eve were immigrants too from somewhere, a lost Eden, a paradise lost. We all now are so mobile, so nomadic .

~Andrew Lam

Though I later found a career as a journalist and an essayist, fiction is my first love and I never left it, even though there was no easy way to make a living from it.

~Andrew Lam

I've been writing short stories for twenty years now, on and off ever since I was in the creative writing program at San Francisco State University.

~Andrew Lam

**Related Links:**

- Stories Quotes
- Years Quotes
- Fiction Quotes
- Character Quotes
- Writing Quotes
- Leader Quotes
- Dream Quotes
- Voice Quotes
- America Quotes
- Waiting Quotes
- Pressure Quotes
- Floating Quotes
- Teenager Quotes
- Hopeful Quotes
- Order Quotes
- Home Quotes
- Eden Quotes
- Misunderstood Quotes
- Turkeys Quotes
- Speak English Quotes