

Asne Seierstad

Quotes

War, Writing, Book, Believe, Risk, Country, Thinking, Important, Names, Trying, Ifs, Children, Difficult, News Stories, Different, Impossible, Lasts, Afghanistan, Iraq, Glasses

As the only woman, I was able to sit with the officers in front, with a glass of vodka in one hand and a cucumber in the other. That's how I went to my first war.

~Asne Seierstad

I would like my book to give people insight to the war before and after, but I don't think anyone could read my book and suddenly make up her mind about the war. I want to write for everybody.

~Asne Seierstad

We don't grow up in vacuums. We grow up in societies.

~Asne Seierstad

I was thinking, there are 5 million people, and I am just one of those 5 million. In the build-up to the war you see children playing in the street, and you think, ah, I'm going to be okay.

~Asne Seierstad

We have believing in this innocent feeling of nothing will ever happen to us, because all catastrophes always broad and happening to anyone else.

~Asne Seierstad

When I decided to stay in Iraq, I decided to take the fear out of my body and put it into a freezer.

~Asne Seierstad

If we can't understand the Afghan family, we can't understand Afghanistan.

~Asne Seierstad

If I leave, reality will devour me. Then they will all really be dead.

~Asne Seierstad

The family is the single most important institution in Afghan culture. It is described in the countrys constitution as the fundamental pillar of society.

~Asne Seierstad

As a woman, you accept the situation, adapt to it, and do your best, whereas men would choose violence.

~Asne Seierstad

If I lose, then I have to accept that my way of writing books is not the way society says it's okay to write.

~Asne Seierstad

I always try to describe the situation just as it is. I try to find sentences that I believe tell the story best. Even my articles are more literary than ordinary news stories.

~Asne Seierstad

I will get a loan and pay the money the court asks for. But I will not lay down my writing and I still say this was an important book to write.

~Asne Seierstad

Being a war correspondent, and having covered four wars, I know that wars very seldom solve things.

~Asne Seierstad

As a war correspondent, you have to weigh the risk you run against the story you can get.

~Asne Seierstad

I think when you start to get afraid, it's time to leave.

~Asne Seierstad

If my name had not been cleared, it would have been difficult, perhaps

impossible, to continue as a journalist.

~Asne Seierstad

If you've lived in a dictatorship for thirty years, you're used to people lying to you.

~Asne Seierstad

There are personal reasons, psychological reasons, but there could also be political reasons for becoming a terrorist.

~Asne Seierstad

I'm trying to see my own country with fresh eyes.

~Asne Seierstad

It was very difficult to write about my own country, because I have always been the outsider looking in.

~Asne Seierstad

I believe the consequences of a war are so harsh that it should be always the last resort.

~Asne Seierstad

Even in a war, someone has to take care of daily life. Someone has to feed and clothe the children.

~Asne Seierstad

There is nothing I would change - to change it I would have had to write a totally different book.

~Asne Seierstad

The judgment means a lot. As a journalist being accused of invading someone's privacy, there is always a risk that it will stick to your name.

~Asne Seierstad

There is no journalist without opinions, and there's no real objectivity, but we can strive toward it.

~Asne Seierstad

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