

# Ayad Akhtar Quotes

*Thinking, Simple, People, Artist, Being Human, Political, Self, Important, Trying,  
Levels, Rupture, Religious, Childhood, World, Kids, Who We Are, Happy Life,  
Old Testament, Jobs, Believe*

The secret of a happy life is respect. Respect for yourself and respect for others.

~Ayad Akhtar

If you want to really deeply touch the viewer or the reader, the theater might be the most powerful way to do it.

~Ayad Akhtar

Here's the problem: we are living in a time when the act of reading is changing. The nature of a reader's attention is changing. The capacity for deep literary engagement is changing.

~Ayad Akhtar

I don't have an ideal reader. I'm trying to reach something simple and, I believe, universal, in every single person.

~Ayad Akhtar

I see the American experience as being defined by the immigrant paradigm of rupture and renewal: rupture with the old world, the old ways, and renewal of the self in a bright but difficult New World.

~Ayad Akhtar

I think that literary forms are losing their capacity to connect people to issues, to the experiences that feel most meaningful to them.

~Ayad Akhtar

I have no interest in problematizing things. So what I am writing to is that simple sense of being human in myself.

~Ayad Akhtar

I don't want to test that simple sense of being human. I don't want to transform it.

~Ayad Akhtar

The Quran is many different things, and we also have to see the Quran almost as a secondary source commenting on the Old Testament.

~Ayad Akhtar

I don't know what it's like to be Jewish, but I suspect there is some aspect of that: being Jewish is the thing that bonds you as opposed to being Jewish from Poland, or Jewish from Hungary.

~Ayad Akhtar

I consider myself to have been formed by a lot of the locutions and aesthetics and principles of the Muslim way of life, and those are an important part of my childhood and my identity.

~Ayad Akhtar

In my early 30s, I started to realise I was avoiding something on a personal level, but also as a writer. I was in denial about who I was, and was trying to be someone who I was not.

~Ayad Akhtar

I feel like that religions generally ask the biggest questions. They may not always have the best answers, but they're the zone of human activity that regularly asks the biggest questions.

~Ayad Akhtar

Religion has been an important part of my understanding, my inquiry into what it means to be human.

~Ayad Akhtar

I'm a storyteller. I feel like the issue of discourse is an important one because there's a lot of political and ideological discourse that goes around, and we relate to that on an intellectual level.

~Ayad Akhtar

I don't feel that as an artist my job is to offer PR propaganda, whether

for the good or for the bad.

~Ayad Akhtar

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