

# Banana Yoshimoto

## Quotes

*People, Heart, Night, Mean, Thinking, Long, Eye, Dream, Feelings, Light, World,  
Nice, Feet, Memories, Way, Sky, Matter, Beautiful, Two, Adults*

Sometimes people put up walls, not to keep others out, but to see who cares enough to break them down.

~Banana Yoshimoto

What was important wasn't the fireworks, it was that we were together this evening, together in this place, looking up into the sky at the same time.

~Banana Yoshimoto

I love feeling the rhythm of other people's lives. It's like traveling.

~Banana Yoshimoto

The sky was incredibly far away, and beautiful enough to make a person wonder why our hearts are never so free.

~Banana Yoshimoto

Truly happy memories always live on, shining. Over time, one by one, they come back to life.

~Banana Yoshimoto

Everything that had happened was shockingly beautiful, enough to make you crazy.

~Banana Yoshimoto

No matter where you are, you're always a bit on your own, always an outsider.

~Banana Yoshimoto

But I have my life, I'm living it. It's twisted, exhausting, uncertain, and full of guilt, but nonetheless, there's something there.

~Banana Yoshimoto

The night glittered brilliantly then.

~Banana Yoshimoto

Over and over, we begin again.

~Banana Yoshimoto

It was so gorgeous it almost felt like sadness.

~Banana Yoshimoto

Fate is a ladder on which you cannot afford to miss a single rung. To skip out on even one step would mean you'll never make it to the top.

~Banana Yoshimoto

People aren't overcome by situations or outside forces. Defeat comes from within.

~Banana Yoshimoto

Every time I look into his eyes I just want to take the ice cream or whatever I've got in my hand and rub it into his face. That's how much I like him.

~Banana Yoshimoto

When things get really bad, you take comfort in the placeness of a place.

~Banana Yoshimoto

This is what it means to be loved... when someone wants to touch you, to be tender.

~Banana Yoshimoto

Again and again I will suffer; again and again I will get back on my feet. I will not be defeated.

~Banana Yoshimoto

You have the nicest window, you know? None of the others can even compete. It's not flashy like the others, or bleary - your window gives off this nice, quiet light.

~Banana Yoshimoto

Truly great people emit a light that warms the hearts of those around them. When that light has been put out, a heavy shadow of despair descends.

~Banana Yoshimoto

I felt how important the simplest things were, like feeling proud, finding something funny, stretching yourself, retreating into yourself.

~Banana Yoshimoto

It was at once a miracle and the most natural thing in the world.

~Banana Yoshimoto

If you don't say what you're thinking, you end up lying when you really need to speak up.

~Banana Yoshimoto

it'll be this kind of deep blue•she said. •The kind of color that somehow sucks your eyes and your ears and all your words •the color of a completely closed-in night

~Banana Yoshimoto

Recognizing how totally ignorant you are is the only honest way to deal with people who've been through something traumatic.

~Banana Yoshimoto

Why is it that everything I eat when I'm with you is so delicious?' I laughed. •Could it be that you're satisfying hunger and lust at the same time?

~Banana Yoshimoto

It didn't matter whether he was nearby or far away. His image would drift up into your mind just when you least expected it, shocking you,

making your chest pound. Making your heart ache.

~Banana Yoshimoto

Once you've recognized your own limits, you've raised yourself to a higher level of being, since you're closer to the real you.

~Banana Yoshimoto

Someday, without fail, everyone will disappear, scattered into the blackness of time.

~Banana Yoshimoto

It occurred to me that if I were a ghost, this ambiance was what I'd miss most: the ordinary, day-to-day bustle of the living. Ghosts long, I'm sure, for the stupidest, most unremarkable things.

~Banana Yoshimoto

Good tea is eloquent enough, it turns out, to change a person's mind.

~Banana Yoshimoto

I held the feeling in my heart; the urge to discuss it died out. There was all the time in the world. In the endless repetition of other nights, other mornings, this moment, too, might become a dream.

~Banana Yoshimoto

I was happy. I loved the night, I loved it so much it almost hurt. In the night everything seemed possible. I wasn't sleepy at all.

~Banana Yoshimoto

Why is it we have so little choice? We live like the lowliest worms. Always defeated - defeated we make dinner, we eat, we sleep. Everyone we love is dying. Still, to cease living is unacceptable.

~Banana Yoshimoto

Everything in life has some good in it. And when something awful

happens, the goodness stands out even more--it's sad, but that's the truth.

~Banana Yoshimoto

Nothing exists in this world but me and my bed (p. 141).

~Banana Yoshimoto

I had been walking in silence for so long, I had almost forgotten what my own voice sounded like. My knees were tired; my toes were beginning to ache.

~Banana Yoshimoto

Here in this ocean, in the midst of all this water, with the red flags on those distant buoys flapping in the sea breeze, I find myself unable to treat our house in Tokyo as anything but a dream.

~Banana Yoshimoto

No matter what, I want to continue living with the awareness that I will die. Without that, I am not alive.

~Banana Yoshimoto

In the uncertain ebb and flow of time and emotions much of one's life history is etched in the senses.

~Banana Yoshimoto

I should have told her at the time. I could have taken a deep breath, looked away, and forced myself to say it.

~Banana Yoshimoto

The ritual of our daily lives permeate our very bodies.

~Banana Yoshimoto

When someone tells you something big, it's like you're taking money from them, and there's no way it will ever go back to being the way it

was. You have to take responsibility for listening.

~Banana Yoshimoto

Although I was raised with love, I was always lonely.

~Banana Yoshimoto

I spent most of my time thinking, because I didn't have enough energy to do anything else.

~Banana Yoshimoto

She was still there inside me now, just as she always was: a life put on hold, a memory I didn't know how to handle.

~Banana Yoshimoto

You know, Chihiro, darling- all it takes is one little wrong step and you end up feeling frustrated your whole life, like me.

~Banana Yoshimoto

Everyone lives the way she knows best. What I mean by 'their happiness' is living a life untouched as much as possible by the knowledge that we are really, all of us, alone. That's not a bad thing.

~Banana Yoshimoto

Was that what it means to be an adult, to live with ugly ambiguities?

~Banana Yoshimoto

Why were we so far apart, even when we were together? It was a nice loneliness, like the sensation of washing your face in cold water.

~Banana Yoshimoto

I really believe that no matter how old people get, they tend to change in certain ways depending on how people treat them - they change their colors.

~Banana Yoshimoto

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