

Betty Smith Quotes

*Children, People, Book, Beautiful, Thinking, Suffering, Reading, Mother, Lonely,
Pain, Two, Want, Girl, Long, Dream, Struggle, Tree, Years, Firsts, Growing Up*

I wrote about people who liked fake fireplaces in their parlor, who thought a brass horse with a clock embedded in its flank was wonderful.

~Betty Smith

Look at everything always as though you were seeing it either for the first or last time: Thus is your time on earth filled with glory.

~Betty Smith

Oh, magic hour, when a child first knows she can read printed words.

~Betty Smith

The world was hers for the reading.

~Betty Smith

There are very few bad people. There are just a lot of people that are unlucky.

~Betty Smith

In teaching your child, do not forget that suffering is good too. It makes a person rich in character.

~Betty Smith

It is a good thing to learn the truth one's self. To first believe with all your heart, and then not to believe, is good too. It fattens the emotions and makes them to stretch.

~Betty Smith

People always think that happiness is a faraway thing â€” something complicated and hard to get. Yet, what little things can make it up.

~Betty Smith

From that time on, the world was hers for the reading. She would never be lonely again, never miss the lack of intimate friends. Books became

her friends and there was one for every mood.

~Betty Smith

Let me be something every minute of every hour of my life...And when I sleep, let me dream all the time so that not one little piece of living is ever lost.

~Betty Smith

Forgiveness is a gift of high value. Yet its cost is nothing.

~Betty Smith

I want to live for something. I don't want to live to get charity food to give me enough strength to go back to get more charity food.

~Betty Smith

I need someone. I need to hold somebody close. And I need more than this holding. I need someone to understand how I feel at a time like now. And the understanding must be part of the holding.

~Betty Smith

Look at everything as though you are seeing it for the first time.

~Betty Smith

She had become accustomed to being lonely. She was used to walking alone and to being considered 'different.' She did not suffer too much.

~Betty Smith

But this tree in the yard-this tree that men chopped down...this tree that they built a bonfire around, trying to burn up it's stump-this tree lived! It lived! And nothing could destroy it.

~Betty Smith

People looking up at her--at her smooth pretty vivacious face--had no way of knowing about the painfully articulated resolves formulating in

her mind.

~Betty Smith

'Dear God,' she prayed, 'let me be something every minute of every hour of my life.'

~Betty Smith

If you love someone, you'd rather suffer the pain alone to spare them.

~Betty Smith

And always, there was the magic of learning things.

~Betty Smith

Brooklyn was a dream. All the things that happened there just couldn't happen. It was all dream stuff. Or was it all real and true and was it that she, Francie, was the dreamer?

~Betty Smith

You won't die, Francie. You were born to lick this rotten life.

~Betty Smith

Well, there's a little bit of man in every woman and a little bit of woman in every man.

~Betty Smith

The neighborhood stores are an important part of a city child's life.

~Betty Smith

It doesn't take long to write things of which you know nothing. When you write of actual things, it takes longer, because you have to live them first.

~Betty Smith

Sometimes I think it's better to suffer bitter unhappiness and to fight

and to scream out, and even to suffer that terrible pain, than to just be... safe. At least she knows she's living.

~Betty Smith

They learned no compassion from their own anguish. thus their suffering was wasted.

~Betty Smith

From that moment on, the world was hers for the reading. She would never be lonely again.

~Betty Smith

It's come at last", she thought, "the time when you can no longer stand between your children and heartache.

~Betty Smith

How much do they be paying you?" he asked mellowly. "The usual salary. A little more than they think I'm worth and a little less than I think I'm worth.

~Betty Smith

I'll not punish you for having an imagination.

~Betty Smith

Bad quarrels come when two people are wrong. Worse quarrels come when two people are right.

~Betty Smith

Oh, I wish I was young again when everything seemed so wonderful!

~Betty Smith

A child forgets a time of hunger but never forgets the aching want of other things.

~Betty Smith

No. I don't want to need anybody. I want someone to need me ... I want someone to need me.

~Betty Smith

It takes a lot of doing to die.

~Betty Smith

We'll leave now, so that this moment will remain a perfect memory...let it be our song and think of me every time you hear it.

~Betty Smith

Well' Francie decided, 'I guess the thing that is giving me this headache is life - and nothing else but'.

~Betty Smith

Books became her friends, and there was one for every mood.

~Betty Smith

Everything, decided Francie after that first lecture, was vibrant with life and there was no death in chemistry. She was puzzled as to why learned people didn't adopt chemistry as a religion.

~Betty Smith

I can never give a 'yes' or a 'no.' I don't believe everything in life can be settled by a monosyllable.

~Betty Smith

Suffering is also good, it makes a person rich in character.

~Betty Smith

Oh time...time, pass so that I forget! Oh time, Great Healer, pass over me and let me forget.

~Betty Smith

There had to be dark and muddy waters so that the sun could have something to background it's flashing glory.

~Betty Smith

She was surprised at how tiny it seemed now. She supposed the school was just as big as it had ever been only her eyes had grown used to looking at bigger things.

~Betty Smith

It was a good thing that she got herself into this other school. It showed her that there were other worlds beside the world she had been born into and that these other worlds were not unattainable.

~Betty Smith

But she needs me more than she needs him and I guess being needed is almost as good as being loved. Maybe better.

~Betty Smith

She had had the pain; it had been like being boiled alive in scalding oil and not being able to die to get free of it

~Betty Smith

If there was only one tree like that in the world, you would think it was beautiful. But because there are so many, you just can't see how beautiful it really is.

~Betty Smith

New York! I've always wanted to see it and now I've see it. It's true what they say-- it's the most wonderful city in the world.

~Betty Smith

The difference between rich and poor", said Francie, "is that the poor do everything with thier own hands and the rich hire hands to do things.

~Betty Smith

She told Papa about it. He made her stick out her tongue and he felt her wrist. He shook his head sadly and said, "You have a bad case, a very bad case." "Of what?" "Growing up.

~Betty Smith

As long as one can suffer, one is living....live and suffer until life is gone.

~Betty Smith

It meant that she belonged some place. She was a Brooklyn girl with a Brooklyn name and a Brooklyn accent. She didn't want to change into a bit of this and a bit of that.

~Betty Smith

Some people do crossword puzzles. I do books.

~Betty Smith

There's a tree that grows in Brooklyn. Some people call it the Tree of Heaven. No matter where its seed falls, it makes a tree which struggles to reach the sky.

~Betty Smith

I never listen to what people tell me and I can't read. The only way I know what is right and wrong is the way I feel about things. If I feel bad, it's wrong. If I feel good, it's right.

~Betty Smith

All of us are what we have to be and everyone lives the kind of life its in him to live.

~Betty Smith

And that's where the whole trouble is. We're too much alike to

understand each other because we don't even understand our own selves.

~Betty Smith

Is it not so that a son what is bad to his mother is bad to his wife?

~Betty Smith

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