Girl, Mother, Children, Daughter, Teenage, Female, Self, Doors, Dog, Culture,
Deeper, Divorce, Interest, Mean, Reading, Smell, Family Life, Becoming A
Woman, Diaries, Boys

I was really influenced by Joan Didion and Pauline Kael; they were both at the height of their influence when I was coming into my own as a reader.

~Caitlin Flanagan

I miss my mother very much, and I feel closest to her when I have dinner in the oven and the children are nearby playing and I'm reading a book or doing some little project.

~Caitlin Flanagan

It can be demonstrated from history that no society has ever survived after its family life deteriorated.

~Caitlin Flanagan

Girls are really looking to places that have limits and boundaries: where adults are the adults and there are rules, and where they feel safe.

~Caitlin Flanagan

Marriage remains the most efficient engine of disenchantment yet invented.

~Caitlin Flanagan

Keeping a diary is like closing your bedroom door and refusing to come out until dinnertime: it is a declaration of self.

~Caitlin Flanagan

Girls are the best readers in the world. Reading is really a way of kind of escaping so deeply into yourself and pursuing your own thoughts within the construct of a story.

~Caitlin Flanagan

If you're a writer, you just keep following the path - keep going deeper and deeper into the things that interest you.

~Caitlin Flanagan

I come from an immigrant culture. I'm only a couple of generations away from having been a servant girl myself.

~Caitlin Flanagan

My mother was very involved with Cesar Chavez's work on behalf of the migrant farm workers in California.

~Caitlin Flanagan

Becoming a woman is an act partly of nature and partly of self-invention.

~Caitlin Flanagan

To really love Joan Didionâ€"to have been blown over by things like the smell of jasmine and the packing list she kept by her suitcaseâ€"you have to be female.

~Caitlin Flanagan

Divorce in a young-adult novel means what being orphaned meant in a fairy tale: vulnerability, danger, unwanted independence.

~Caitlin Flanagan

Every great culture has cared a lot, one way or another, about the fate of its girls.

~Caitlin Flanagan

Female adolescence is - universally - an emotionally and psychologically intense period.

~Caitlin Flanagan

Pubescent girls, it seems, are manifestly more likely to exhibit extreme and bizarre psychological symptoms than are teenage boys.

~Caitlin Flanagan

My father was a writer; I've known a lot of children of writers -

| ~Caitlin Flanagan |  |  |
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