

# Carol Ann Duffy

## Quotes

*Writing, Children, Thinking, Prayer, Want, Poetry, Heart, Mother, Trying, Book, Memories, Poet, Way, Feelings, Left, Better Off Dead, Being A Mother, Tongue, Heartless, Fiction*

I like to use simple words, but in a complicated way.

~Carol Ann Duffy

Poets deal in writing about feelings and trying to find the language and images for intense feelings.

~Carol Ann Duffy

For me, poetry is the music of being human. And also a time machine by which we can travel to who we are and to who we will become.

~Carol Ann Duffy

You can find poetry in your everyday life, your memory, in what people say on the bus, in the news, or just what's in your heart.

~Carol Ann Duffy

Poetry, above all is a series of intense moments - its power is not in narrative. I'm not dealing with facts, I'm dealing with emotion.

~Carol Ann Duffy

I write quite a lot of sonnets, and I think of them almost as prayers: short and memorable, something you can recite.

~Carol Ann Duffy

Poetry and prayer are very similar.

~Carol Ann Duffy

It is a moon wrapped in brown paper.

~Carol Ann Duffy

Like the sand and the oyster, it's a creative irritant. In each poem, I'm trying to reveal a truth, so it can't have a fictional beginning.

~Carol Ann Duffy

When you have a child, your previous life seems like someone else's.

It's like living in a house and suddenly finding a room you didn't know was there, full of treasure and light.

~Carol Ann Duffy

Christmas is taken very seriously in this household. I believe in Father Christmas and there's no way I'd do anything to undermine that belief.

~Carol Ann Duffy

It's always good when women win things in fiction because it tends to be more male-dominated, unlike poetry, which is more equal

~Carol Ann Duffy

What will you do now with the gift of your left life?

~Carol Ann Duffy

I see the shape of the poem before I start writing, and the writing is just the process of arriving at the shape.

~Carol Ann Duffy

I think all poets must feel this: that there is constantly something new to be discovered in the language. It's like a thrilling encounter, and you can find things.

~Carol Ann Duffy

She stood upon a continent of ice, which sparkled between sea and sky, endless and dazzling, as though the world kept all its treasure there; a scale which balanced poetry and prayer.

~Carol Ann Duffy

I like to think that I'm a sort of poet for our times.

~Carol Ann Duffy

My prose is turgid, it just hasn't got any energy

~Carol Ann Duffy

I think poetry can help children deal with the other subjects on the curriculum by enabling them to see a subject in a new way.

~Carol Ann Duffy

I think the dangers are different now. Our abuse of the planet and our resources is an anxiety.

~Carol Ann Duffy

The poem is a form of texting... it's the original text. It's a perfecting of a feeling in language - it's a way of saying more with less, just as texting is.

~Carol Ann Duffy

Poets sing our human music for us.

~Carol Ann Duffy

I am always pleased to be asked to write a poem.

~Carol Ann Duffy

I still read Donne, particularly his love poems

~Carol Ann Duffy

I'll be left writing picture books and fairy tales

~Carol Ann Duffy

I always wanted a child. Being a mother is the central thing in my life.

~Carol Ann Duffy

Auden said poetry makes nothing happen. But I wonder if the opposite could be true. It could make something happen.

~Carol Ann Duffy

If we think of what's up ahead, with climate change and wars over water, it's very frightening.

~Carol Ann Duffy

I have piles of poetry books in the bathroom, on the stairs, everywhere.  
The only way to write poetry is to read it.

~Carol Ann Duffy

Time hates love, wants love poor,/but love spins gold, gold, gold from  
straw.

~Carol Ann Duffy

The moment of inspiration can come from memory, or language, or the  
imagination, or experience - anything that makes an impression forcibly  
enough for language to form.

~Carol Ann Duffy

You have me like a drawing, erased, coloured in, untitled, signed by  
your tongue.

~Carol Ann Duffy

Better off dead than giving in; not taking what you want.

~Carol Ann Duffy

What do I have to help me, without spell or prayer, endure this hour,  
endless, heartless, anonymous, the death of love?

~Carol Ann Duffy

The stars are filming us for no one.

~Carol Ann Duffy

Between 9am and 3pm is when I work most intensely

~Carol Ann Duffy

Having a child takes you back to all those parts of your own childhood  
that you had hidden away.

~Carol Ann Duffy

I always say that I'll have a go and see whether the poem works and if it does, then fine.

~Carol Ann Duffy

Every day is a gift with a child, no matter what problems you have.

~Carol Ann Duffy

How would you prepare to die on a perfect April evening?

~Carol Ann Duffy

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