

# Denise Mina

## Quotes

*People, Writing, Thinking, Book, Fiction, Brother, Crime, Children, Law, Men,  
Real, Reading, School, Jobs, Want, London, Shoes, Dad, Gay, Default*

People are interested in crime fiction when they're quite distanced from crime. People in Darfur are not reading murder mysteries.

~Denise Mina

To have a very strong opinion all the time is corrosive to a person's intellect. It becomes your default position.

~Denise Mina

I think graphic novels are closer to prose than film, which is a really different form.

~Denise Mina

I'd read so much right-wing crime fiction where they find the evidence and shoot the bad guy - I thought there must be another approach.

~Denise Mina

Crime fiction is the fiction of social history. Societies get the crimes they deserve.

~Denise Mina

None of us know what is going to sell or what people want to read.

~Denise Mina

I think the negative traits are what makes us love other human beings, the foibles and the flaws.

~Denise Mina

In my heart I'm just a lucky waitress.

~Denise Mina

Journalism is a Darwinian process.

~Denise Mina

There's a real emphasis on being witty in Scotland, even in crime

novels.

~Denise Mina

I have two children. They are more fun than anything in the world, and it's more immediate fun than the hard slog of writing.

~Denise Mina

Usually when I'm trying to establish character, I try and find out where they live.

~Denise Mina

If you went for a job interview in a Glasgow law firm, they used to ask you what school you went to. And that was a way of finding out what religion you were.

~Denise Mina

Novelisation doesn't imply the truth. Readers are sophisticated enough to know that.

~Denise Mina

I came from this very traditional background and I benefited hugely from feminism. I felt privileged going to university and doing a PhD. Most people of my background don't get to do that.

~Denise Mina

I just got an honorary degree from Glasgow University, and I had to wear around very painful shoes so that I didn't laugh all the way through the ceremony because I felt like an outlaw.

~Denise Mina

Because I write a book a year, I always want to do one other project every year that's stimulating in a different way. It means you can be working but not using up your prose juice, you know?

~Denise Mina

I love Mikhail Bulgakov. He is very original and takes the story to unexpected places. I didn't realise political writing could be so funny.

~Denise Mina

Most of the people who write to me are really clever, really engaged. They just want to say that they have read my book and liked it.

~Denise Mina

I grew up in London under Thatcher and that really was disgusting. A feeding frenzy.

~Denise Mina

A man who thinks he has a higher purpose can do terrible things, even to those he professes to love.

~Denise Mina

My upbringing was middle-class but my parents' families were both working-class so I had this odd combination of working-class background but in a privileged position.

~Denise Mina

I'm terrified to get married. I'm not getting married till my gay friends can.

~Denise Mina

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