

Diane Setterfield

Quotes

*Book, People, Reading, Stories, Children, Believe, Thinking, Writing, Needs,
Winter, Nice, Way, Names, Hands, Wall, Heart, Long, World, Moving, Eye*

I have always been a reader; I have read at every stage of my life, and there has never been a time when reading was not my greatest joy

~Diane Setterfield

I don't pretend reality is the same for everyone.

~Diane Setterfield

Once upon a time there was a fairy godmother, but the rest of the time there was none. This story is about one of those other times.

~Diane Setterfield

For me to see is to read. It has always been that way.

~Diane Setterfield

Boys do not leave their boyhood behind when they leave off their school uniform.

~Diane Setterfield

Of course I loved books more than people.

~Diane Setterfield

A good story is always more dazzling than a broken piece of truth.

~Diane Setterfield

But silence is not a natural environment for stories. They need words. Without them they grown pale, sicken and die. And then they haunt you.

~Diane Setterfield

A story so cherished it has to be dressed in casualness to disguise its significance in case the listener turned out to be unsympathetic.

~Diane Setterfield

When I was a child, books were everything. And so there is in me,

always, a nostalgic, yearning for the lost pleasure of books. It is not a yearning that one ever expects to be fulfilled.

~Diane Setterfield

There are too many books in the world to read in a single lifetime; you have to draw the line somewhere.

~Diane Setterfield

People with ambition don't give a damn what other people think of them.

~Diane Setterfield

As for you, you are alive. But it's not the same as living.

~Diane Setterfield

When one is nothing, one invents. It fills a void.

~Diane Setterfield

What better place to kill time than a library?

~Diane Setterfield

My mother and I were like two continents moving slowly but inexorably apart; my father, the bridge builder, constantly extending the fragile edifice he had constructed to connect us.

~Diane Setterfield

Though my appetite for food grew frail, my hunger for books was constant.

~Diane Setterfield

But there can be no secrets in a house where there are children.

~Diane Setterfield

I shall start at the beginning. Though of course, the beginning is never

where you think it is.

~Diane Setterfield

She could not read a book for fear of the feelings she might find in it.

~Diane Setterfield

The funeral was over, at last I could cry. Except that I couldn't. My tears, kept in too long, had fossilized. They would have to stay in forever now.

~Diane Setterfield

Without the past to cast its long shadow, might you see the future more clearly?

~Diane Setterfield

There was no single moment when I thought, Aha! What a great idea! Rather there was a slow and gradual accumulation of numerous small ideas.

~Diane Setterfield

I still believe in stories. I still forget myself when I am in the middle of a good book. Books are for me, it must be said, the most important thing.

~Diane Setterfield

Of course I loved books more than people. Of course I valued "Jane Eyre" over the anonymous stranger...Of course all of Shakespeare was worth more than a human life.

~Diane Setterfield

What good is truth, at midnight, in the dark, when the wind is roaring like a bear in the chimney?

~Diane Setterfield

To anyone who took the trouble to look, I was plainly visible, but when

people are expecting to see nothing, that is usually what they see.

~Diane Setterfield

One needs no particular talent to be polite. On the contrary, being nice is what's left when you've failed at everything else.

~Diane Setterfield

My genius is not so frail a thing that it cowers from the dirty fingers of newspapermen.

~Diane Setterfield

There is something about words. In expert hands, manipulated deftly, they take you prisoner.

~Diane Setterfield

I read *old* novels. The reason is simple. I prefer proper endings.

~Diane Setterfield

Prescription: 'Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, The Case Book of Sherlock Holmes. Take ten pages, twice a day, til end of course.

~Diane Setterfield

There are times when the human face and body can express the yearning of the heart so accurately that you can, as they say, read them like a book. Do not abandon me.

~Diane Setterfield

Sometimes when you open the door to the past, what you confront is your destiny.

~Diane Setterfield

I've nothing against people who love truth. Apart from the fact that they make dull companions.

~Diane Setterfield

People whose lives are not balanced by a healthy love of money suffer from an appalling obsession with personal integrity.

~Diane Setterfield

In this cruel world kindness should always be repaid.

~Diane Setterfield

Fate, at first so amenable, so reasonable, so open to negotiation, ends up by exacting a cruel revenge for happiness.

~Diane Setterfield

But she had that laugh, and the sound of it was so beautiful that when you heard it, it was as if your eyes saw her through your ears and she was transformed.

~Diane Setterfield

opening the book, i inhaled. the smell of old books, so sharp, so dry you can taste it.

~Diane Setterfield

Reading can be dangerous.

~Diane Setterfield

Our clients' faces, with the customary outward paleness and inner glow of the book lover.

~Diane Setterfield

One gets so used to one's own horrors, one forgets how they must seem to other people.

~Diane Setterfield

I know there are people who don't read fiction at all, and I find it hard to understand how they can bear to be inside the same head all the time.

~Diane Setterfield

Sometimes you can know things. Things about yourself. Things from before you can remember.

~Diane Setterfield

Emmeline didn't call me anything. She didn't need, for I was always there. You only need names for the absent.

~Diane Setterfield

She was a do-gooder, which means that all the ill she did, she did without realizing it.

~Diane Setterfield

A birth is not really a beginning. Our lives at the start are not really our own but only the continuation of someone else's story.

~Diane Setterfield

For it must be very lonely being dead.

~Diane Setterfield

What better way to get to know someone than through her choice and treatment of books?

~Diane Setterfield

Tragedy alters everything.

~Diane Setterfield

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