

Florida Scott-Maxwell Quotes

*Age, Doe, Solitude, Interesting, Pain, Alive, Discovery, Family, Worry, Reality,
People, Life, Love Is, Law, Intense, Book, Chiefs, Kitchen, Eye, Aging*

My kitchen linoleum is so black and shiny that I waltz while I wait for the kettle to boil. This pleasure is for the old who live alone.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

Life does not accommodate you, it shatters you. It is meant to, and it couldn't do it better. Every seed destroys its container or else there would be no fruition.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

No matter how old a mother is, she watches her middle-aged children for signs of improvement.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

Making those we love happy sounds innocent as a dove, but it can be as destructive as a lion.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

Age puzzles me. I thought it was a quiet time. My seventies were interesting and fairly serene, but my eighties are passionate. I grow more intense as I age.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

Life is a tragic mystery. We are pierced and driven by laws we only half understand, we find that the lesson we learn again and again is that of accepting heroic helplessness.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

Difficulties are what makes it honorable and interesting to be alive.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

I wonder if living alone makes one more alive. No precious energy goes in disagreement or compromise. No need to augment others, there is just yourself, just truth - a morsel - and you.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

Is life a pregnancy? That would make death a birth.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

Anger must be the energy that has not yet found its fight channel.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

We must find out for ourselves, otherwise it wouldn't be discovery.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

I grow more intense as I age.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

We who are old know that age is more than a disability. It is an intense and varied experience, almost beyond our capacity at times, but something to be carried high.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

To know another, and to be known by another--that is everything.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

The crucial task of old age is balance: keeping just well enough, just brave enough, just gay and interested and starkly honest enough to remain a sentient human being.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

Difference of opinion has never been sufficiently appreciated. It is the unexpected, the unknowable, the divine irrationality of life that saves us.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

Claim the events of your life! When you possess all you have been and done, you are fierce with reality.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

Is there any stab as deep as wondering where and how much you failed those you loved.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

Another secret we carry is that though drab outside - wreckage to the eye, mirrors a mortification - inside we flame with a wild life that is almost incommunicable.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

Admiration is one of the chief delights of living.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

In very truth the days are almost free, and if it is another way of saying that our lives are empty, well -- there are days when emptiness is spacious, and non-existence elevating . . .

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

I feel most real when alone, even most alive when alone. Better to say that the liveliness of companionship and the liveliness of solitude differ, and the latter is never as exhausting as the former.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

love at any age takes everything you've got.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

Order, cleanliness, seamliness make a structure that is half support, half ritual, and - if it does not create it - maintains decency.

~Florida Scott-Maxwell

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