

# Frances Hardinge Quotes

*Want, Thinking, People, Men, Stories, Kings, Lying, Girl, World, Mother, Wish,  
Book, Mistake, Being Human, China, Hate, Distance, Locked, Hero, Quiet*

Tea is the magic key to the vault where my brain is kept.

~Frances Hardinge

If wits were pins, the man would be a veritable hedgehog.

~Frances Hardinge

Oh, painted smirk of a hopeless dawn, the girl is still wearing her breeches.

~Frances Hardinge

I want my chirfugging goose back!

~Frances Hardinge

Brand a man as a thief and no one will ever hire him for honest labor - he will be a hardened robber within weeks. The brand does not reveal a person's nature, it shapes it.

~Frances Hardinge

"You're a peach full of poison, you know that?" Mosca snapped back, but could not quite keep a hint of admiration from her tone.

~Frances Hardinge

"No." Mosca bit her lip and shook her head firmly. Books no longer seemed quite enough. I don't want a happy ending, I want more story.

~Frances Hardinge

It did seem hard to be doing something heroic while everyone was too busy to notice.

~Frances Hardinge

If you want someone to tell you what to think..." "You will never be short of people willing to do so.

~Frances Hardinge

Perhaps illnesses could be left behind, just like small, badly concealed china corpses.

~Frances Hardinge

Sometimes fear made you angry. Perhaps after years anger cooled, like a sword taken from a forge. Perhaps in the end you were left with something very cold and very sharp.

~Frances Hardinge

Push something in someone's face, and they will shove it away reflexively. Threaten to snatch it away from them, and sometimes they become convinced that it is what they want.

~Frances Hardinge

Where is your sense of patriotism?" I keep it hid away safe, along with my sense of trust, Mr. Clent. I don't use 'em much in case they get scratched.

~Frances Hardinge

That," he whispered, "is unthinkable." In Mosca's experience, such statements generally meant that a thing was perfectly thinkable, but that the speaker did not want to think it.

~Frances Hardinge

It was hopeless. She was flawless. She was a sunbeam. Mosca gave up and got on with hating her.

~Frances Hardinge

I'm never telling the truth again! It gets you hanged and locked out and starved and froze and hated . . .

~Frances Hardinge

I am anything I wish to be. The world cannot choose for me. No, it is for me to choose what the world shall be.

~Frances Hardinge

In Mosca's experience, a 'long story' was always a short story someone did not want to tell.

~Frances Hardinge

The world is like a broken wrist that healed the wrong way, and will never be the same again.

~Frances Hardinge

Everybody knew that books were dangerous. Read the wrong book, it was said, and the words crawled around your brain on black legs and drove you mad, wicked mad.

~Frances Hardinge

We always find it difficult to forgive our heroes for being human.

~Frances Hardinge

Making a wish is like saying, 'I can't deal with anything, I give up, somebody bigger come along and solve it all instead.'

~Frances Hardinge

So this was a nest of radicals. She thought a hotbed of sedition would involve more gunpowder and secret handshakes, and less shuffling of feet and passing the sugar.

~Frances Hardinge

Every time I do what you say I tumble a bit farther down this well of darkness, an' this here is a drop too deep an' too dark for me. I have to stop falling while I can still see a bit of the sky.

~Frances Hardinge

You, sir, are a romantic, and I'm afraid the condition is incurable.

-Eponymous Client

~Frances Hardinge

True stories seldom have endings. I don't want a happy ending, I want more story.

~Frances Hardinge

Revenge is a dish best served unexpectedly and from a distance - like a thrown trifle.

~Frances Hardinge

Well, you will have to do. If you had died along with your mother, I would have taught the cat to read.

~Frances Hardinge

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