

# Franny Billingsley

## Quotes

*Girl, Mind, Rose, Said, People, Mean, World, Thinking, Witch, Father, Eye,  
Want, Persons, Practice, Strange, Giving, Way, Ifs, Wine, Tongue*

It's the picnic principle. Things taste better outdoors. And if it's a forbidden thing, so much the better.

~Franny Billingsley

Witches don't look like anything. Witches are. Witches do.

~Franny Billingsley

Even a witch wants sympathy.

~Franny Billingsley

Let's hope she's like the others, who look only at the surface. Let's hope she'd never think that a girl with black-velvet eyes and cut-glass cheekbones could be a witch.

~Franny Billingsley

Eavesdropping is such a regular-person activity.

~Franny Billingsley

If you say a word, it leaps out and becomes the truth. I love you. I believe it. I believe I am loveable. How can something as fragile as a word build a whole world?

~Franny Billingsley

I like rain and mist. I've never understood why people exclaim over bright skies and bushels of glaring sunshine.

~Franny Billingsley

I still can't understand how Cecil and my old tutor, Fitz, got along so well, when we often called Fitz 'the Genius' and avoided calling Cecil anything at all, so as not to be rude.

~Franny Billingsley

Our English monarchs are so unimaginative,â€• said Eldric. â€œThey execute people in such tediously conventional ways.

~Franny Billingsley

People think me a sort of Florence Nightingale, but I have no heroic qualities. I simply don't feel very much.

~Franny Billingsley

Yes, I'm shallow, I don't mind admitting it. Perhaps I should admit that there's no end to the depths of my shallowness.

~Franny Billingsley

How can something as fragile as a word build the whole world?

~Franny Billingsley

I hated myself, but I also loved myself in a hateful way.

~Franny Billingsley

I've confessed to everything and I's liked to be hanged. Now, if you please

~Franny Billingsley

You mind your tongue!â€• â€œOh, I do,â€• I said. â€œI sharpen it every evening on your name.

~Franny Billingsley

Should I ever again sink into illness, I'm sure I'll remember Eldric. I'll remember he cared for me. I'll remember that someone had at least taken the time to touch my face.

~Franny Billingsley

The boy shall have a proper beating,' said Cecil. 'But I beat him already,' I said, 'and don't tell me I didn't do it properly. I'm touchy about these things.

~Franny Billingsley

I don't know what it is, but I ache for it each day. It's as though I have eyes, but there are colors I cannot see. As though I have ears, but there's a range of notes I cannot hear.

~Franny Billingsley

That's where proper stories begin, don't they, when the handsome stranger arrives and everything goes wrong?

~Franny Billingsley

You could at least complain,â€• I say. â€œI adore complaining. It calms the nerves.

~Franny Billingsley

I hope you don't mind my joining you,â€• said Leanne. I minded. After all, she'd tried to kill me. A girl in a novel would say it was hard to believe, but it wasn't.

~Franny Billingsley

Thoughts are strange creatures. They lead you from one thing to another. Sometimes you don't know how you got from one to the next.

~Franny Billingsley

Blast Cecil!â€• said Eldric. â€œYou have my permission,â€• I said.

~Franny Billingsley

Perhaps you should put your head down.â€• I knew this was the thing to do, although I've never fainted and I don't intend to.

~Franny Billingsley

Boxing's not that straightforward,â€• said Eldric. â€œYou can practice and practice, but the real experience will always be different. Lots of things are like that, actually.

~Franny Billingsley

But witchy magic doesn't listen to please and pretty please, and anyway, I didn't really care. I only pretended to care because not caring makes me a monster.

~Franny Billingsley

It wasn't quite a question. It was more of an invitation to tell him whatever I chose. Eldric gave me a choice, and it was this that made me want to tell him everything.

~Franny Billingsley

It's strange how a person can have a distinct distaste for herself, but still she clutches on to life.

~Franny Billingsley

I was asking about lust, wasn't I? I was fairly certain of it. But isn't love supposed to come before lust? It does in the dictionary.

~Franny Billingsley

A poem doesn't come out and tell you what it has to say. It circles back on itself, eating its own tail and making you guess what it means.

~Franny Billingsley

It's one thing to keep secrets. It's quite another to lie.

~Franny Billingsley

I don't mean to be ungrateful but if someone's out there answering prayers, mine's not at the top of the list

~Franny Billingsley

Imagine a world without shadows. You cannot touch a shadow, but a world without them is a hard world, and flat.

~Franny Billingsley

If you don't argue, you can't give in.

~Franny Billingsley

Death had no lips, but it was smiling

~Franny Billingsley

Actually, it would be assumed that the young lady had no such impulses at all, but I'll tell you something: Chocolate melts on my tongue too.

~Franny Billingsley

I might be a wicked girl who'd think nothing of eating a baby for breakfast, but I'd never allow myself to get expelled. It's far too public.

~Franny Billingsley

Did I kill him?â€• I said. â€œNo, miss,â€• said Robert. â€œPity.

~Franny Billingsley

You don't mind when he stares at you.â€• Cecil jerked his head toward Eldric. "He doesn't stare,â€• I said. â€œHe looks.

~Franny Billingsley

My own mask stayed just where it ought. I've had lots of practice.

~Franny Billingsley

Father sighed. â€œPlease spare me these arguments of yours.â€•  
â€œWhose arguments should I use?

~Franny Billingsley

Secrets press inside a person. They press the way water presses at a dam. The secrets and the water, they both want to get out.

~Franny Billingsley

I'm not really the sacrificing type.

~Franny Billingsley

Poor Petey. I'd like to say I could almost feel a tender spot for poor Petey, but the truth is I'd rather feel at the tender spot on his head and give it a poke.

~Franny Billingsley

He's harmless, poor thing. That's what everyone said. It was true, but who cares? Lots of people are harmless, but that doesn't mean I have to like them.

~Franny Billingsley

Now that's true poetic irony. I rush into battle to defend the fair name of Rose Larkin, and what does she do but fetch Robert to stop me.

~Franny Billingsley

Meaning. If you're going to die, you want to find meaning in life. You want to connect the dots.

~Franny Billingsley

A girl can have the face of an angel but have a horrid sort of heart.

~Franny Billingsley

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