

# Graham Swift

## Quotes

*People, Children, Memories, Writing, Book, Thinking, Years, Curiosity, London, Ordinary, Mean, Real, Doe, Fall, Air, Long, Trust, Animal, Mad, Becoming*

All nature's creatures join to express nature's purpose. Somewhere in their mounting and mating, rutting and butting is the very secret of nature itself.

~Graham Swift

The real art is not to come up with extraordinary clever words but to make ordinary simple words do extraordinary things. To use the language that we all use and to make amazing things occur.

~Graham Swift

Happiness quells thought. And work quells thought.

~Graham Swift

I can do hieroglyphics in the margin. There are days when I really enjoy the flow of ink. I mean, nice pen, ink straight on to the page.

~Graham Swift

Literature is the voice of the human heart.

~Graham Swift

People die when curiosity goes.

~Graham Swift

What we wish upon the future is very often the image of some lost, imagined past.

~Graham Swift

When anything goes digital, let alone something as immaterial as a book, there is a tendency to see it as just in the air to be taken, and to lose the sense that somebody once made it.

~Graham Swift

I like the world we've got. If there is anything special and magical, I have to find it in the ordinary stuff.

~Graham Swift

Possibly he knew, as he wrote this, that he was mad - because inside every madman sits a little sane man saying 'You're mad, you're mad.'

~Graham Swift

I share my name with an aerobatic bird that can whiz across a whole summer sky in seconds. A swift is so equipped for speed that it can scarcely cope with being stationary.

~Graham Swift

Of course there are times when I hate London, but equally there are times when I can walk 'round a corner and I really feel that this is my place.

~Graham Swift

I do my thinking while I walk. It just loosens up the mind in the way that you don't get when you are sitting at a desk.

~Graham Swift

Novels, in my experience, are slow in coming, and once I've begun them I know I have years rather than months of work ahead of me.

~Graham Swift

People die when curiosity goes. People have to find out, people have to know. How can there be any true revolution till we know what we're made of? 830

~Graham Swift

My mother was a great bringer-up of children. My memories are of a sense of security and comfort.

~Graham Swift

Today's news, which may be yesterday's anyway, will be eclipsed

tomorrow.

~Graham Swift

If people read 'Tomorrow' and feel that it is offering them some view of my own household, they would be very, very wrong.

~Graham Swift

I don't reread my books.

~Graham Swift

And I didn't know I loved her till I'd dreamt of her. I didn't know it was the real thing until an illusion had signalled it.

~Graham Swift

What does education do, what does it have to offer, when deprived of its necessary partner, the future, and face instead with - no future at all?

~Graham Swift

I respond to the sound of London being spoken - to the sound of London.

~Graham Swift

London is like no other city I know in its ability to become beautiful. You can suddenly turn a corner and there are odd moments - of light, of weather.

~Graham Swift

There has always been, for me, this other world, this second world to fall back on--a more reliable world in so far as it does not hide that its premise is illusion.

~Graham Swift

My upbringing was absolutely not the archetypal writer's upbringing.

Even, arguably, the opposite.

~Graham Swift

When I am writing, I'm very much on the ground, on the same ground my characters are treading.

~Graham Swift

I think what I like to do is to begin with the ordinary and find the extraordinary in it.

~Graham Swift

When people aren't expecting to be seen, they look their truest.

~Graham Swift

Part of the very impulse of writing for me is actually wanting to get away from myself.

~Graham Swift

How quick and rushing life can sometimes seem, when at the same time it's so slow and sweet and everlasting.

~Graham Swift

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