

J. J. Abrams

Quotes

*Thinking, Stars, War, Kids, People, Ideas, Mean, Writing, Want, Trying, Stories,
Important, Character, Real, Grateful, Age, Long, Looks, Jobs, Actors*

We used to have more references to things that we pulled out because they almost felt like they were trying too hard to allude to something.

~J. J. Abrams

Mystery is more important than knowledge.

~J. J. Abrams

I try to push ideas away, and the ones that will not leave me alone are the ones that ultimately end up happening.

~J. J. Abrams

Robotics are beginning to cross that line from absolutely primitive motion to motion that resembles animal or human behavior.

~J. J. Abrams

It's more important you learn what to make movies about than how to make movies

~J. J. Abrams

I feel like in telling stories, there are the things the audience thinks are important, and then there are the things that are actually important.

~J. J. Abrams

When I was a kid, it was a huge insult to be a geek. Now it's a point of pride in a weird way.

~J. J. Abrams

I've always liked working on stories that combine people who are relatable with something insane.

~J. J. Abrams

What's a bigger mystery box than a movie theater? You go to the theater, you're just so excited to see anything - the moment the lights go down is often the best part.

~J. J. Abrams

I work with really hard-working people who are really good at what they do.

~J. J. Abrams

I'm obsessed with things that are distinctly analogue.

~J. J. Abrams

It's not a bad way to live once you let go of the idea that you deserve more.

~J. J. Abrams

I find that it's hard to fully examine one's life and not have faith be part of the discussion.

~J. J. Abrams

I may be even more grateful to George Lucas now than I was as a kid.

~J. J. Abrams

I was more of a Star Wars kid, actually. I always thought Star Trek was a lot of talk, and it felt a little self-important. It was hard for me to get into it.

~J. J. Abrams

When there's an authentic mystery, as opposed to just a question being asked, that's what makes you lean forward.

~J. J. Abrams

You can never guess or assume what anyone is going to think.

~J. J. Abrams

I hate to look at the stuff I've written and consider what it means or why I do it.

~J. J. Abrams

I've had the same friends since I was in kindergarten.

~J. J. Abrams

As a director/writer/producer, all you ever want is to work with actors who make you look better, who make the work you do seem as good as it can be and even better than it is.

~J. J. Abrams

All I know is that I've made some big screw-ups, and I've done some things that have done all right. I just keep trying to learn from the mistakes I've made.

~J. J. Abrams

I'm not trying to be coy or manipulative or Machiavellian, I want to spark people's imaginations.

~J. J. Abrams

I mean, my dad's a television producer, and I knew I could get a job as an assistant or a reader with one of his friends, but it wasn't exactly what I wanted to do.

~J. J. Abrams

I think that the success of the film is as much about it being something that families could share as anything else.

~J. J. Abrams

To me the interesting main character is never the one without flaws.

~J. J. Abrams

I think that even if you're wondering if two characters are ever going to kiss, drawing out the inevitability is part of the fun. Whatever the genre happens to be.

~J. J. Abrams

Ratings have changed, viewer habits have changed and the options for the audience have grown enormously, but I don't think how you tell a story is fundamentally different.

~J. J. Abrams

But I'm grateful for everyone who would want to read a spoiler because it means that they care and want to see the movie. I know what it feels like, as an enormous Star Wars fan myself.

~J. J. Abrams

I think admitting you're an addict is the first step towards recovery.

~J. J. Abrams

It's what happens. You love, then you lose, then you die. Even if you survive, you die.

~J. J. Abrams

I do think there's something about the digital age that is increasingly dehumanising us. We're in this very weird place where we're being pulled into experiences that aren't really experiences at all.

~J. J. Abrams

My work isn't any more important than anything else in the family

~J. J. Abrams

Approaching any movie with a three in the title you know you are not going to get a political polemic. You are not going to get some sort of political statement or ultra-deep message.

~J. J. Abrams

It's a leap of faith doing any serialised storytelling.

~J. J. Abrams

On movies like Star Trek and Star Wars, you have so much that will be created or extended digitally, and it's a slippery slope where you can get lost in a world of synthetic.

~J. J. Abrams

I'm not as optimistic as Gene Roddenberry was. I fall somewhere in the middle. But as a romantic, I like to think things are going to get bigger rather than worse.

~J. J. Abrams

The magic that works, to me, is the magic that feels completely grounded and real and tangible.

~J. J. Abrams

Stories in which the destruction of society occurs are explorations of social fears and issues that filmmakers, novelists, playwrights, painters have been examining for a long time.

~J. J. Abrams

I've just been lucky to work on things that I felt would be cool to see. It's not that I had a strategy or anything.

~J. J. Abrams

All the times I've been lucky enough to be a part of a show that's actually gotten on the air, it's always that same mixture of excitement and utter fear.

~J. J. Abrams

Whenever a toddler sees a pile of blocks, he wants to tear it down.

~J. J. Abrams

I love recording music.

~J. J. Abrams

I try to work on shows that I would want to watch.

~J. J. Abrams

I was just like, "I want to make a decent 2-D movie." I was so worried that, instead of being a decent 2-D movie, it would have been a bad 3-D one.

~J. J. Abrams

I love movies with spectacle but spectacle can be a performance, it doesn't have to be a creature.

~J. J. Abrams

I don't try and write strong female characters or strong male characters, I just try and write, hopefully, strong characters and sometimes they happen to be female.

~J. J. Abrams

I love the idea of anthropomorphizing machines. I love the idea of taking technology and giving it a personality.

~J. J. Abrams

People never know what they want, though everyone says they do. If they did, nobody would ever be surprised.

~J. J. Abrams

When I was a kid going into the movies, you weren't force-fed information everywhere you looked about what the movie was going to be.

~J. J. Abrams

My mother is the coolest, most amazing person I know.

~J. J. Abrams

When you go to commercial, you want something to call the viewers

back, and if you don't have a decent act out, the audience probably won't be there in the numbers you want when the show returns.

~J. J. Abrams

Every hour that you spend doing something, even if you love it more than anything, you're not with your family. Every project that you take on, that's another choice.

~J. J. Abrams

I'd like to use IMAX. The problem with IMAX is that it's a very loud camera. It's a very unreliable camera. Only so much film can be in the camera. You can't really do intimate scenes with it.

~J. J. Abrams

I don't think anyone wants a movie on time that's not worth your time.

~J. J. Abrams

The idea to put episodes out weekly in theory makes as much sense as putting them all out at once.

~J. J. Abrams

I feel blessed that I get to be part of entertaining people in any capacity.

~J. J. Abrams

I sort of love the idea of, you know, watching something and then having to wait for the next episode.

~J. J. Abrams

Whenever you're playing sports with people who are better than you are, it makes you rise to the occasion.

~J. J. Abrams

I don't want to do something that is so inside that only die-hard fans will

appreciate.

~J. J. Abrams

I think when you're 10 years old, it's too much to see something with the threat of death in every episode. Kids are better left naive about certain things.

~J. J. Abrams

Withholding things in a story is no good if you aren't building to something substantial. It becomes foreplay without the main event, and no one wants that.

~J. J. Abrams

Whenever I've directed something, there's this feeling of demand and focus that I like.

~J. J. Abrams

I was never really a comic-book fanatic.

~J. J. Abrams

I think you have a passion and an obsession for something when it's not necessarily ubiquitous.

~J. J. Abrams

I love working with the right actor, and if the right actor happens to be unknown, that should be allowed, too, I think.

~J. J. Abrams

I have nothing against 3-D in theory. But I've also never run to the movies because something's in 3-D.

~J. J. Abrams

I'm literally open to any medium that will have me.

~J. J. Abrams

We live in an age of instant knowledge. And there's almost a sense of entitlement to that.

~J. J. Abrams

As a kid, 'Star Wars' was much more my thing than 'Star Trek' was.

~J. J. Abrams

I am lucky, I'm the first to admit that.

~J. J. Abrams

I feel like obviously the standard for what TV looks like changes all the time.

~J. J. Abrams

Don't sell your story, just tell your story.

~J. J. Abrams

I don't think I have a signature.

~J. J. Abrams

I believe in anything that will engage the audience and make the story more effective.

~J. J. Abrams

I'd love to do a movie where the monster is human, where the issue is not otherworldly, or horror or science fiction.

~J. J. Abrams

Obviously with the Internet and increased access to other means of watching shows, the audience has dispersed and is all over the place and that is a challenge.

~J. J. Abrams

What I'm still grappling with and learning how to do is to be looking and

thinking cinematically, having come from television.

~J. J. Abrams

There's nothing wrong with doing sequels, they're just easier to sell.

~J. J. Abrams

With three kids you are just trying to survive. You can't be fastidious.

~J. J. Abrams

I hope to make movies that are so small they don't need to make anything to be profitable.

~J. J. Abrams

Pitching is always a weird, difficult thing.

~J. J. Abrams

The ability of a television series to make adjustments is something you've got to take advantage of.

~J. J. Abrams

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