

Jack Gilbert Quotes

*Heart, Thinking, Dream, Long, Silence, Lying, Moon, Angel, Names, People,
Night, Rain, Whispering, Wind, Stars, Summer, Doe, Six Months, Greedy, Fun*

I dream of lost vocabularies that might express some of what we no longer can.

~Jack Gilbert

The heart lies to itself because it must.

~Jack Gilbert

We must unlearn the constellations to see the stars.

~Jack Gilbert

We must have the stubbornness to accept our gladness in the ruthless furnace of this world.

~Jack Gilbert

Everyone forgets Icarus also flew.

~Jack Gilbert

I believe that Icarus was not failing as he fell, but just coming to the end of his triumph.

~Jack Gilbert

Our heart wanders lost in the dark woods. Our dream wrestles in the castle of doubt. But there's music in us. Hope is pushed down but the angel flies up again taking us with her.

~Jack Gilbert

When I was walking in the mountains with the Japanese man and began to hear the water, he said, 'What is the sound of the waterfall?' 'Silence,' he finally told me.

~Jack Gilbert

Why do so many settle for so little? I don't understand why they're not greedy for what's inside them.

~Jack Gilbert

WAKING AT NIGHT The blue river is grey at morning and evening. There is twilight at dawn and dusk. I lie in the dark wondering if this quiet in me now is a beginning or an end.

~Jack Gilbert

We are all burning in time, but each is consumed at his own speed.

~Jack Gilbert

We exist with a wind whispering inside and our moon flexing. Amid the ducts, inside the basilica of bones.

~Jack Gilbert

How astonishing it is that language can almost mean, and frightening that it does not quite.

~Jack Gilbert

Fame is a lot of fun, but it's not interesting. I loved being noticed and praised, even the banquets. But they didn't have anything that I wanted. After about six months, I found it boring.

~Jack Gilbert

What we feel most has no name but amber, archers, cinnamon, horses and birds.

~Jack Gilbert

I'm vain enough to think that I've made a successful life. I've had everything I've ever wanted. You can't beat that.

~Jack Gilbert

To hear the faint sound of oars in the silence as a rowboat comes slowly out and then goes back is truly worth all the years of sorrow that are to come.

~Jack Gilbert

Question the bravery. Say it's not courage. Call it a passion.

~Jack Gilbert

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- Night Quotes
- Rain Quotes
- Whispering Quotes
- Wind Quotes
- Stars Quotes
- Summer Quotes
- Doe Quotes
- Six Months Quotes
- Greedy Quotes
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