

# Jane Yolen

## Quotes

*Writing, Book, Heart, Dark, Children, World, Stories, Needs, Memories, Water, Mirrors, Long, Exercise, Thinking, Fall, Numbers, May, Light, Perfect, Character*

Time may heal all wounds, but it does not erase the scars.

~Jane Yolen

Literature is a textually transmitted disease, normally contracted in childhood.

~Jane Yolen

Childrens books change lives. Stories pour into the hearts of children and help make them what they become.

~Jane Yolen

A book is a wonderful present. Though it may grow worn, it will never grow old.

~Jane Yolen

It's never perfect when I write it down the first time, or the second time, or the fifth time. But it always gets better as I go over it and over it.

~Jane Yolen

Love the writing, love the writing, love the writing... the rest will follow.

~Jane Yolen

Take a step, breathe in the world, give it out again in story, poem, song, art.

~Jane Yolen

Ideas are the cheapest part of the writing. They are free. The hard part is what you do with ideas you've gathered.

~Jane Yolen

Language helps develop life as surely as it reflects life. It is a most important part of our human condition.

~Jane Yolen

Stories," he'd said, his voice low and almost husky, "we are made up of stories. And even the one's that seem the most like lies can be our deepest hidden truths.

~Jane Yolen

Exercise the writing muscle every day.

~Jane Yolen

If you want to write, you write. Talent is simply not enough.

~Jane Yolen

Get up from your desk and wander outside occasionally. To be a good writer one needs to be a good observer, and there isn't a lot to be observed at desk level.

~Jane Yolen

What makes a good book? Scholars and critics have been debating that question for decades. I like books that touch my head and my heart at the same time.

~Jane Yolen

You know how it is: as soon as you decide to forget something, your brain comes to the conclusion that it's the most fascinating thing in the world.

~Jane Yolen

Touch magic. Pass it on.

~Jane Yolen

The thing I want to know is, if you tell your brain not to do stuff... and it keeps doing it anyway, does that mean your mind has a mind of its own? And if it does, then who's in charge here, anyway?

~Jane Yolen

You can only chase a butterfly for so long.

~Jane Yolen

The tales of Elfland do not stand or fall on their actuality but on their truthfulness, their speaking to the human condition, the longings we all have for the Faerie Other.

~Jane Yolen

Well,' the Goddess said, 'your heart didn't heal straight the last time it broke. So we'll break it again and reset it so it heals straight this time.

~Jane Yolen

The main plot line is simple: Getting your character to the foot of the tree, getting him up the tree, and then figuring out how to get him down again.

~Jane Yolen

Write, write, and write some more. Think of writing as a muscle that needs lots of exercise.

~Jane Yolen

What is a vow... but the mouth repeating what the heart has already promised?

~Jane Yolen

Aren't hidden doors the most alluring? The old stories point that out surely. Even the greatest heroes and heroines fall under the spell of a locked door.

~Jane Yolen

I believe that culture begins in the cradle . . . To do without tales and stories and books is to lose humanity's past, is to have no star map for our future.

~Jane Yolen

Wood may remain twenty years in the water, but it is still not a fish.

~Jane Yolen

A shadowless man is a monster, a devil, a thing of evil. A man without a shadow is soulless. A shadow without a man is a pitiable shred. Yet together, light and dark, they make a whole.

~Jane Yolen

Sometimes living takes more courage than dying.

~Jane Yolen

It is the last thing we learn, / listening to the creature world.

~Jane Yolen

How often is the passing of one storm only a prelude to another.

~Jane Yolen

Intuition works best when you remember that "intuition" is part of it. You need to have paid ahead of time (ie done your prep work) so as to prepare the ground for intuition.

~Jane Yolen

If you love a waist, you waste a love.

~Jane Yolen

Growth in the ability to write comes in spurts.

~Jane Yolen

You write to be read. That is the bottom line.

~Jane Yolen

Fish are not the best authority on water.

~Jane Yolen

Know, my son, that the enemy will always be with you. He will be in the shadow of your dreams and in your living flesh, for he is the other part of yourself.

~Jane Yolen

Fairy Tales always have a happy ending.' That depends... on whether you are Rumpelstiltskin or the Queen.

~Jane Yolen

You are a name, not a number. Never forget that name, whatever they tell you here. You will always be Chayaâ€™lifeâ€™to me.

~Jane Yolen

Folklore is the perfect second skin. From under its hide, we can see all the shimmering, shadowy uncertainties of the world.

~Jane Yolen

Readers re-create any story to suit their own needs. They re-clothe the story in their own shirts. Put simply: just as we write the story we need to write, they read the story they need to read.

~Jane Yolen

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