

# Jenny Offill

## Quotes

*Married, Fun, Years, Sleep, Monsters, Art, People, Tired, Bits, Like Love,  
Father, Getting Older, Birth, Notes, Coats, Tunnels, Home, Looks, Odd Things,  
Buddhist*

And that phrase - 'sleeping like a baby.' Some blonde said it blithely on the subway the other day. I wanted to lie down next to her and scream for five hours in her ear.

~Jenny Offill

You think you want the blue skies, the open road, but really you want the tunnel, you want to know how the story ends.

~Jenny Offill

But now it seems possible that the truth about getting older is that there are fewer and fewer things to make fun of until finally there is nothing you are sure you will never be.

~Jenny Offill

One of the odd things about being a writer is that you never reach a point of certainty, a point of mastery where you can say, Right. Now I understand how this is done.

~Jenny Offill

The reason to have a home is to keep certain people in and everyone else out.

~Jenny Offill

A thought experiment courtesy of the Stoics. If you are tired of everything you possess, imagine that you have lost all these things.

~Jenny Offill

The Buddhists say there are 121 states of consciousness. Of these, only three involve misery or suffering. Most of us spend our time moving back and forth between these three.

~Jenny Offill

Also she signed away the right to self-destruct years ago. The fine print on the birth certificate, her friends call it.

~Jenny Offill

The only love that feels like love is the doomed kind. (Fun fact.)

~Jenny Offill

These bits of poetry that stick to her like burrs.

~Jenny Offill

I had thought loving two people so much would straighten it.

~Jenny Offill

My plan was to never get married. I was going to be an art monster instead.

~Jenny Offill

To live in a city is to be forever flinching.

~Jenny Offill

A few nights later, I secretly hope that I might be a genius. Why else can no amount of sleeping pills fell my brain? But in the morning my daughter asks me what a cloud is and I cannot say.

~Jenny Offill

Some women make it look so easy, the way they cast ambition off like an expensive coat that no longer fits.

~Jenny Offill

For years, I kept a Post-it note above my desk. WORK NOT LOVE! was what it said. It seemed a sturdier kind of happiness.

~Jenny Offill

When God is a father, he is said to be elsewhere. When God is a mother, she is said to be everywhere.

~Jenny Offill

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