

Jerry Spinelli Quotes

*Eye, Heart, Writing, Stargirl, People, Stars, Names, Feelings, Years, Thinking,
Night, Mind, Kids, Mean, Children, Fall, Angel, Life, Said, Morning*

Her smile put the sunflower to shame.

~Jerry Spinelli

She was elusive. She was today. She was tomorrow.

~Jerry Spinelli

if you learn to hate one or two persons... you'll soon hate millions of people.

~Jerry Spinelli

Live today. Not yesterday. Not tomorrow. Just today. Inhabit your moments. Don't rent them out to tomorrow.

~Jerry Spinelli

Everybody has an angel hiding inside. When you die, your angel comes out. You can die, but not your angel. Your angel never dies.

~Jerry Spinelli

When you own nothing, it's easy to let things go.

~Jerry Spinelli

Life is populated with scarecrowsâ€”all those people and things that seem so scary and trouble our sleep. Isn't it nice to know that most of them turn out to be made of nothing but straw?

~Jerry Spinelli

'Who are you?' I didn't understand the question. 'I'm Uri', he said. 'What's your name?' I gave him my name. 'Stopthief.'

~Jerry Spinelli

How much better might human communication be if words were as precious as diamonds? If each of us were allotted only 100 words per day?

~Jerry Spinelli

We long to be found, hoping our searchers have not given up and gone home.

~Jerry Spinelli

A strong relationship is an honest relationship, and no honest relationship is all peaches and cream. Love is the key. Where love abides, anger is but a passing visitor.

~Jerry Spinelli

I faced the gaudy sunflower on her canvas bag -- it looked hand-painted and at last my eyes fell into hers. I said, 'Thanks for the card.' Her smile put the sunflower to shame. She walked off.

~Jerry Spinelli

Because life doesn't always happen according to a timetable or calendar. And feelings can't be scheduled.

~Jerry Spinelli

Beware of solipsism Funny word. Sounds like it means "love of melons" or something. I looked it up. It means believing that "the self is the only reality." Am I solipsist?

~Jerry Spinelli

Many girls have been romanced under the moon, and I don't mean to say moonlight is overrated, but few I think have known the magic of a sunrise kiss.

~Jerry Spinelli

In our minds we tried to pin her to a corkboard like a butterfly, but the pin merely went through and away she flew

~Jerry Spinelli

Whom do I write for? I write for the story. Each story, it seems to me, knows best how it should be told. As I once put my ear to the railroad

track, I listen now for the voice of my story.

~Jerry Spinelli

She was bendable light: she shone around every corner of my day.

~Jerry Spinelli

We wanted to define her, to wrap her up as we did each other, but we could not seem to get past "weird" and "strange" and "goofy." Her ways knocked us off balance.

~Jerry Spinelli

When a stargirl cries, she sheds not tears but light.

~Jerry Spinelli

You haven't lived until you've basked in the adoration of people.

~Jerry Spinelli

Home is everything you can walk to.

~Jerry Spinelli

Peer pressure is just that: pressure.

~Jerry Spinelli

Write what you care about. If you do that, you stand the best chance of doing your best writing.

~Jerry Spinelli

I'm not my name. My name is something I wear, like a shirt. It gets worn. I outgrow it, I change it.

~Jerry Spinelli

Why fit in when you're born to stand out?

~Jerry Spinelli

I had never realized how much I needed the attention of others to confirm my own presence.

~Jerry Spinelli

I feel like I'm playing chess underwater. The pieces keep floating away. I don't know where things are. I can't figure out tomorrow.

~Jerry Spinelli

You'll know her more by your questions than by her answers. Keep looking at her long enough. One day you might see someone you know.

~Jerry Spinelli

No one's hurt is too small, no worry too removed, no blessing so elusive that it cannot be seen by the eyes in the back of the human heart.

~Jerry Spinelli

This was the ghetto: where children grow down instead of up.

~Jerry Spinelli

'She's in tenth grade,' he said. 'I hear she's been homeschooled till now.' Maybe that explains it,' I said.

~Jerry Spinelli

Nothing's more fun than being carried away.

~Jerry Spinelli

I have to tell you I love living in a world without clocks. The shackles are gone. I'm a puppy unleashed in a meadow of time. -- Stargirl

~Jerry Spinelli

Every name is real. That's the nature of names.

~Jerry Spinelli

It (enchantment) started when the earth was born. It never stops. It is, always. It's just here.

~Jerry Spinelli

When bad things turn good, the reason can usually be found in the human heartâ€”sometimes in the hearts of great masses of people, sometimes in the heart of a solitary soul.

~Jerry Spinelli

Let's just be fabulously where we are and who we are. You be you and I'll be me, today and today and today, and let's trust the future to tomorrow.

~Jerry Spinelli

Who are you if you lose your favorite person? Can you lose your favorite person without losing yourself? I reach for Stargirl and she's gone. I'm not me anymore.

~Jerry Spinelli

Nobody told me how hard it was going to be to get published. I wrote four novels that nobody wanted, sent them out all over, collected hundreds and hundreds of rejection slips.

~Jerry Spinelli

Every child's bedroom is as important as a telescope orbiting the planet earth or a philosopher's study.

~Jerry Spinelli

It's really hard to do nothing totally. Even just sitting here, like this, our bodies are churning, our minds are chattering. There's a whole commotion going on inside us.

~Jerry Spinelli

Friendship isn't always sunnyside up.

~Jerry Spinelli

Hey, this is itâ€”right now!â€”the time when you find out who you are and what you can do. And how will you ever know if you don't try new stuff?

~Jerry Spinelli

In every age there are plenty of people around to remind you what you cannot possibly do. Thank goodness, for these naysayers provide a priceless service: They spur...us to achieve great things.

~Jerry Spinelli

I think of the flower in the bud: huddled, compressed, dark. Yet somehow it feels the night, knows moon from sun. It waits...waits.

~Jerry Spinelli

Cross the creek on the stepping stones of your failures.

~Jerry Spinelli

His smile was so wide he'd have had to break it into sections to fit it through a doorway

~Jerry Spinelli

Whos love do you cherrish more? Hers or theirs? when you deside that, it's all downhill from there.

~Jerry Spinelli

The trouble with miracles is, they don't last long.

~Jerry Spinelli

Star people are rare.

~Jerry Spinelli

The blanket was there, but it was the boy's embrace that covered and

warmed him.

~Jerry Spinelli

She might be pointing to a doorway, or a person, or the sky. But such things were so common to my eyes, so undistinguished, that they would register as "nothing" I walked in a gray world of nothing.

~Jerry Spinelli

The kids who leave their favorite authors behind do not in fact leave us utterly abandoned, but in due time drive children of their own to the bookstore and the post office.

~Jerry Spinelli

Nobody knows who said it first, but somebody must have: 'Kid's gotta be a maniac.

~Jerry Spinelli

Be very, very careful not to let the facts get mixed up with the truth.

~Jerry Spinelli

He said even if it's too cloudy to see, the sun will still rise, it will still be there. "But that's the whole point," I said. "Seeing it." "Is it?" he said.

~Jerry Spinelli

If we are destined to be together again, be happy to know you'll be getting the real me, not some blubbering half me.

~Jerry Spinelli

She laughed when there was no joke. She danced when there was no music. She had no friends, yet she was the friendliest person in school.

~Jerry Spinelli

She laughed, and the desert sang.

~Jerry Spinelli

Each night I lie down in a graveyard of memories. Moonlight spins a shroud about me.

~Jerry Spinelli

No one on earth is so boring and insignificant that he or she is not worth writing or reading about...One thing's for sureâ€”no one but you can be the hero of your story.

~Jerry Spinelli

You are truly focused when you're so focused that you don't know you're focused.

~Jerry Spinelli

Maybe it was the angle, but her fawn's eyes, looking up at me, seemed larger than ever. I had to make an effort to keep my balance lest I fall into them.

~Jerry Spinelli

I didn't realize we were being watched. We were all being watched

~Jerry Spinelli

Now I don't really write for adults or kids - I don't write for kids, I write about them. I think you need to do that, otherwise you end up preaching down.

~Jerry Spinelli

Events become feelings, feelings become events

~Jerry Spinelli

I went to Gettysburg College, where the famous Civil War battle was fought. I majored in English. I would've liked to major in writing, but they didn't offer a major in that.

~Jerry Spinelli

I seem to have a natural tendency to want to share my own observations and feelings with other people, and writing seems to be the way I'm best equipped to do that.

~Jerry Spinelli

Usually it takes me about nine to 12 months to write a book.

~Jerry Spinelli

And the more you love someone, the safer it is to be mad at them. Love can handle mad, no problem.

~Jerry Spinelli

I felt alone on the planet, drifting through the cosmos. With both hands I reached out to the night. There was no answer. Or maybe I just couldn't hear it.

~Jerry Spinelli

It was different with you, Leo. In the eyes and ears of my heart, you and the magic are one and the same.

~Jerry Spinelli

In my mind, I'm writing for everybody.

~Jerry Spinelli

Or maybe you're merely uncomfortable with uncertainty. Like the rest of the human race.

~Jerry Spinelli

I have a curious background for someone who turns out to be a writer.

~Jerry Spinelli

Of course, all of their words for a thousand years could not fill the hole left by his mother, but they could raise a loving fence around it so he didn't keep falling in.

~Jerry Spinelli

I became a children's author by accident.

~Jerry Spinelli

And smiles to go before I weep, And Smiles to go before I weep.

~Jerry Spinelli

Amanda took the torn page from Maniac. To her, it was the broken wing of a bird, a pet out in the rain.

~Jerry Spinelli

Live today like there's no tomorrow!

~Jerry Spinelli

This was the start of a period that blurs as I try to recall it. Incidents seem to cascade and merge. Events become feelings, feelings become events. Head and heart are contrary historians.

~Jerry Spinelli

You occupied my space. But because you were not in my present, when I looked into my future I saw . . . nothing. Isn't that sad? And stupid?

~Jerry Spinelli

Today the mockingbird does not sound very happy. It sounds if it is coming apart. As of the very heart of itself-its song-is breaking into pieces and flying off in a hundred directions.

~Jerry Spinelli

So," he said, "we ourselves will be the candle flames." He put his hands on his chest. "Feel your hearts, how warm they are.

~Jerry Spinelli

He was the Grand Marshall of our Everyday Parade

~Jerry Spinelli

Love is big. Love makes room for conflicting feelings.

~Jerry Spinelli

If I get a new idea todayâ€™or any dayâ€™I won't run from it. I won't trash it. If it's something I really want to doâ€™I'll do it.

~Jerry Spinelli

They say talk is cheap. Maybe so. But kindness is even betterâ€™it's free! Free to give. Free to receive. Makes you wonder why there's not more of it, huh?

~Jerry Spinelli

He's so cute, I can't help myself.

~Jerry Spinelli

I love surprises! That's what is great about reading. When you open a book, you never know what you'll find.

~Jerry Spinelli

He doesn't think. He just does. A nonthinking doer.

~Jerry Spinelli

The golden rule of writing is to write what you care about. If you care about your topic, you'll do your best writing, and then you stand the best chance of really touching a reader in some way.

~Jerry Spinelli

Letter from Mr. B: Why does a back scratch feel better coming from somebody else than if you do it yourself?

~Jerry Spinelli

Angels and crows passed each other, one leaving, the other coming.

~Jerry Spinelli

A baseball bat could not have hit me harder than that smile did. I was sixteen years old. In that time, how many thousands of smiles had been aimed at me? so why did this one feel like the first?

~Jerry Spinelli

Heart and head are contrary historians.

~Jerry Spinelli

Nobody has the time, the time cannot be owned. The time is free to everyone

~Jerry Spinelli

We were awash in tiny attentions. Small gestures, words, empathies thought to be extinct came to life... We discovered the color of each other's eyes.

~Jerry Spinelli

We live in a silent explosion, Everything is flying away from everything else... flying away... flying away...

~Jerry Spinelli

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