

Jess Walter Quotes

*Thinking, Writing, People, Stories, Life, Two, Together, Coffee, Block, Knows,
Real, Imagination, Men, Self, Memories, Doe, Regret, Years, Crazy, Kind*

If a police officer arrests a mime, does he need to tell him he has the right to remain silent.

~Jess Walter

I come from a newspaper background, so maybe I'm attuned to current events.

~Jess Walter

Sometimes what we want to do and what we must do are not the same. Pasquino, the smaller the space between your desire and what is right, the happier you will be.

~Jess Walter

His life was two lives now: the life he would have and the life he would forever wonder about.

~Jess Walter

Life, he thought, is a blatant act of imagination.

~Jess Walter

And even if they don't find what they're looking for, isn't it enough to be out walking together in the sunlight?

~Jess Walter

The form is so malleable and can do so many things.

~Jess Walter

I'm certainly eclectic in my writing.

~Jess Walter

If you come from money and you become an addict, you go to the Betty Ford Clinic, you get treatment. If you're living on the street and you're an addict, it's much harder to find your way out.

~Jess Walter

No one gets to tell you what your life means!

~Jess Walter

Because I'm a novelist, I think in terms of structure. The way I keep going is through structure. It's what inspires me and pushes me through.

~Jess Walter

There was a time when self-promotion was considered so verboten, especially for authors.

~Jess Walter

The stories tend to be what I work on when I'm stuck. Something will just pop into my head and I'll think that's more of a story.

~Jess Walter

You probably have to trust that your work is following certain themes and certain movements, but then the rest is a kind of piecing together so that the whole becomes larger than the parts.

~Jess Walter

At peace? Who but the insane would ever be at peace? What person who has enjoyed life could possibly think one is enough? Who could live even a day and not feel the sweet ache of regret?

~Jess Walter

He thought it might be the most intimate thing possible, to fall asleep next to someone in the afternoon.

~Jess Walter

You have to do disappointment twice.

~Jess Walter

All we have is the story we tell.

~Jess Walter

What kind of wife would I be if I left your father simply because he was dead?

~Jess Walter

I'm a professional. So before I published any novels, I'd always been writing stories.

~Jess Walter

I think the path to becoming a writer has become more through the novel. It's easier to get a novel published than a book of stories, obviously, especially through big publishers.

~Jess Walter

I realized the structure in a collection is how they're put together. Structuring the collection became the art of it for me. Because the stories had all been written.

~Jess Walter

A writer needs four things to achieve greatness, Pasquale: desire, disappointment, and the sea. • That's only three. • Alvis finished his wine. • You have to do disappointment twice.

~Jess Walter

I don't know a family that isn't touched by some sort of addiction.

~Jess Walter

He wished he could reassure his mother: a man wants many things in life, but when one of them is also the right thing, he would be a fool not to choose it.

~Jess Walter

What business does memory have with time?

~Jess Walter

The first fiction I ever wrote was short stories. I was writing short stories in my late teens and early twenties, and I think it's how you teach yourself to write.

~Jess Walter

He found himself in habiting the vast, empty plateau where most people live, between boredom and contentment.

~Jess Walter

You take something from your past that you're somewhat ashamed about and you write about it from another character's point of view.

~Jess Walter

The first seven years that I wrote fiction, I sent out stories and a novel and made a total of \$25.

~Jess Walter

I've been a dad since I was nineteen, so I think a lot about fatherhood and the power of that sacrifice in your life.

~Jess Walter

He considered it a shame when people couldn't grasp the infinite-a failure not just of imagination but of simple vision.

~Jess Walter

This is what happens when you live in dreams, he thought: you dream this and you dream that and you sleep right through your life.

~Jess Walter

And if a moment exists only in one's perception anyway, then perhaps the rush of feeling he has now is **THE MOMENT**, and not merely its shadow.

~Jess Walter

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