

Jill Lepore

Quotes

*Past, World, Epidemics, Book, Way, Personality, Imagination, Kindergarten,
Grass, Viruses, Tree, Boys, Patterns, Argument, Epidemiology, Hard Work,
Different, Stories, Long, Mouths*

Nineteenth-century grass-roots populism made twentieth-century progressivism possible.

~Jill Lepore

The study of history requires investigation, imagination, empathy, and respect. Reverence just doesn't enter into it.

~Jill Lepore

History is a long and endlessly interesting argument, where evidence is everything and storytelling is everything else.

~Jill Lepore

Why do beautiful women love ugly men?

~Jill Lepore

Mainly, the more faddish and newer stages of life are really just marketing schemes. Tweenhood. The young old. The quarter-life crisis.

~Jill Lepore

Germ theory, which secularized infectious disease, had a side effect: it sacralized epidemiology.

~Jill Lepore

Stages of life are artifacts. Adolescence is a useful contrivance, midlife is a moving target, senior citizens are an interest group, and tweenhood is just plain made up.

~Jill Lepore

In kindergarten, you can learn how to be a citizen of the world.

~Jill Lepore

Folklore used to be passed by word of mouth, from one generation to the next; that's what makes it folklore, as opposed to, say, history, which

is written down and stored in an archive.

~Jill Lepore

Old reference books are like tree rings. Without them, there'd be no way to know what a tree had lived through.

~Jill Lepore

Conservatism cherishes tradition; innovation fetishizes novelty. They tug in different directions, the one toward the past, the other toward the future.

~Jill Lepore

You can be strong as any boy if you'll work hard and train yourself in athletics, the way boys do.

~Jill Lepore

Epidemics follow patterns because diseases follow patterns. Viruses spread; they reproduce; they die.

~Jill Lepore

Reviewing a book written by someone you're living with and sleeping with is, needless to say, wrong.

~Jill Lepore

Republicans were more pro-choice than Democrats up until the late 1980s.

~Jill Lepore

We have hands that must work, brains that must think, and personalities that must be developed.

~Jill Lepore

Disrupt, and you will be saved.

~Jill Lepore

My mother married my father in 1956. She was twenty-eight, and he was thirty-one. She loved him with a fierce steadiness borne of loyalty, determination, and an unyielding dignity.

~Jill Lepore

The world may not be getting better and better, but our devices are getting newer and newer.

~Jill Lepore

In antihistory, time is an illusion.

~Jill Lepore

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