

John Boyne Quotes

*Children, Book, Writing, People, Boys, Heart, War, Self, Night, Fighting, Past,
Thinking, Memories, Life, Men, Pajamas, Years, Distance, Way, Trying*

Bruno: "Why do you wear pajamas all day?" Shmuel: "The soldiers. They took all our clothes away." Bruno: "My dad's a soldier, but not the sort that takes people's clothes away."

~John Boyne

...Despite the mayhem that followed, Bruno found that he was still holding Shmuel's hand in his own and nothing in the world would have persuaded him to let go.

~John Boyne

You're my best friend, Shmuel,' he said. "My best friend for life.

~John Boyne

He looked down and did something quite out of character for him: he took hold of Shmuel's tiny hand in his and squeezed it tightly. "You're my best friend, Shmuel," he said. "My best friend for life.

~John Boyne

What exactly was the difference? he wondered to himself. And who decided which people wore the striped pajamas and which people wore the uniforms?

~John Boyne

There's things that happen in a person's life that are so scorched in the memory and burned into the heart that there's no forgetting them.

~John Boyne

Bruno: We're not supposed to be friends, you and me. We're meant to be enemies. Did you know that?

~John Boyne

I think i'm just breathing, that's all. And there's a difference between breathing and being alive.

~John Boyne

Sitting around miserable all day won't make you any happier.

~John Boyne

Their lost voices must continue to be heard.

~John Boyne

Don't make it worse by thinking it's more painful than it actually is.

~John Boyne

He looked the boy up and down as if he had never seen a child before and wasn't quite sure what he was supposed to do with one: eat it, ignore it or kick it down the stairs.

~John Boyne

(J)ust because your version of normal isn't the same as someone else's version doesn't mean that there's anything wrong with you.

~John Boyne

In his heart, he knew that there was no reason to be impolite to someone, even if they did work for you. There was such a thing as manners after all.

~John Boyne

The dot that became a speck that became a blob that became a figure that became a boy

~John Boyne

Well you've been brought here against your will, just like I have. If you ask me, we're all in the same boat. And it's leaking.

~John Boyne

But still there are moments when a brother and sister can lay down their instruments of torture for a moment and speak as civilized human beings and Bruno decided to make this one of those moments.

~John Boyne

... Nine-year-old boys usually turn ten at some point. It's the nineteen-year-olds who have difficulty turning twenty.

~John Boyne

There is cruelty in the world Eliza, you can see that, can't you? It surrounds us. It breathes on us. We spend our life trying to escape it.

~John Boyne

It's not easy making a living as a writer, and for many years I worked at a Waterstones in Dublin. It was a good environment for an aspiring writer, with lots of events and authors appearing.

~John Boyne

I was dropped by my publisher after my first two books. But I always believed in myself.

~John Boyne

War today is such a more visible thing. We see it on television, on CNN. In 1914, war was a concept.

~John Boyne

I can't bear to be on a train without a book", she announced. " It's a form of self-defence in a way" .

~John Boyne

Just because a man glances up at the sky at night does not make him an astronomer, you know.

~John Boyne

It is possible, you know, to drift off to an unknown world and find happiness there. Maybe even more happiness than you've ever known before.

~John Boyne

It reminds me of how grandmother always had the right costume for me to wear. You wear the right outfit and you feel like the person you're pretending to be.

~John Boyne

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