

John Hodgman Quotes

*People, Book, Thinking, Writing, Mean, Believe, Real, Jobs, Media, Ideas, Men,
Children, Play, Memories, Reality, Earth, Fiction, Interesting, Sports, Doe*

Generally speaking, I think it is fair to say that I am a friend to the creatures of the Earth when I am not busy eating them or wearing them.

~John Hodgman

A stopped clock is correct twice a day, but a sundial can be used to stab someone, even at nighttime.

~John Hodgman

Specificity is the soul of narrative.

~John Hodgman

I am not beautiful, so I don't know why I'm making myself ugly. But the mustache stays.

~John Hodgman

All I can ask from society is that it please stop telling me why I should like sports.

~John Hodgman

I actually own a copy of my own book; that's how dedicated I am as an author.

~John Hodgman

There is no ritual that enhances creativity other than just starting.

~John Hodgman

My career as a magazine writer was largely prefaced on the idea of curiosity, to go on adventures and weasel my way into the lives of people that I admire.

~John Hodgman

A literary agent is nothing but a cheap salesman (or woman); while a writer is a cheap salesman (or woman) who also has to actually write

the books.

~John Hodgman

The villain of any story is often the most compelling character.

~John Hodgman

I say, if you're going to eat a creature alive, you have to expect some screaming. That is the carnivore's burden.

~John Hodgman

I would definitely make eggs for the rest of my life if I could.

~John Hodgman

I don't really collect anything. I mean, if I see a piece of Moxie soda memorabilia, I'll probably buy it. I'm a sucker for regional soda brands and forgotten histories and that sort of thing.

~John Hodgman

Just a small-scale cult of personality, maybe raise a geodetic dome out in western Massachusetts and make people wear jumpsuits and give all their possessions to me.

~John Hodgman

You know the old saying: "History is written by the winners. And also, the team of hand-picked historians that the winner keeps hidden away in an underground bunker".

~John Hodgman

My type of humor is me not caring whether people know what I'm talking about or not.

~John Hodgman

John Wilkes Booth and Lee Harvey Oswald meet in hell and team up to assassinate Satan.

~John Hodgman

Do not listen to the killjoys who tell you never to eat oysters in months that do not contain the letter R: May, June, July, August, Octoba. You know.

~John Hodgman

I would say aside from Moxie soda bottles and Masonic artifacts, there's nothing I really collect.

~John Hodgman

I am not a villain. I'm an only-child narcissist monster, but I wish no ill, nor do I wish for world domination; what a hassle that would be!

~John Hodgman

Truth may be stranger than fiction, goes the old saw, but it is never as strange as lies.

~John Hodgman

I suspect that when the truth ceases to be heartbreakingly funny, we will be in a better place and a happier society over all.

~John Hodgman

My biggest superhero of writing is Jorge Luis Borges, the Argentine fabulist. He's an amazingly perceptive writer, but also willing to make a joke.

~John Hodgman

A lot of my time is spent reading antique or out-of-print books of reference.

~John Hodgman

Just because you see an iceberg does not mean that there isn't global warming.

~John Hodgman

My hope when I wrote the first book was that I would get to do it again. But it was not entirely clear that that would happen.

~John Hodgman

I have learned that newborn infants roll their eyes around and move their heads and their arms in short jerky spasms. And if you homeschool them, they will stay this way forever.

~John Hodgman

All books should be trilogies; I mean I think we all agree on that.

~John Hodgman

That which is hard to do is best done bitterly.

~John Hodgman

Generally speaking, I, like anyone else who does anything publicly, like it when people like what I do, and would like to hear as much.

~John Hodgman

I am not an Internet superstar.

~John Hodgman

A lot of media that that I want to consume, I don't want to have to own forever and ever. It's not like real estate.

~John Hodgman

Americans don't need a metaphor for war. We have war. If anything, we use war as a metaphor for sports.

~John Hodgman

I have a lot of cultural references that have amassed in my brain like shrapnel over the years that are meaningful to me.

~John Hodgman

First of all, I wish I could grow a beard.

~John Hodgman

Well, I always had this desire to celebrate and somehow be a part of things that I thought were really great.

~John Hodgman

People like what they like. They're gonna do what they're gonna do.

~John Hodgman

I am someone who values knowledge, actual knowledge. I also value stories and fiction a whole lot, and that's where the fake knowledge comes in.

~John Hodgman

I was always fascinated with the way that things pop on the Internet - the ways you build communities and create little stories and ideas that people play around with and send back to you.

~John Hodgman

I would be good for maybe not the center square but an upper square on 'Hollywood Squares.'

~John Hodgman

This is one of the defining sorrows of books: that we cannot see one another.

~John Hodgman

Hosting a TV show is a full-time job in which success is defined by it never ending.

~John Hodgman

For a long time, I would write without music, because I thought it was distracting until I appreciated that it actually unlocks a certain unconscious productivity vault in my mind.

~John Hodgman

Most people presume my mustache is not real because it's much darker than my regular hair.

~John Hodgman

It would be rather naive to imagine that Oprah doesn't have an Earth Evacuation Plan. You know Richard Branson does - his is in plain sight.

~John Hodgman

I am someone who values truth - actual truth as opposed to 'truthiness.'

~John Hodgman

Reality, while generally probable, is not always interesting.

~John Hodgman

The reality is that there is an enormous value to gut-check instinctive decision-making in the world that is not hampered by reams and reams of research and complexity.

~John Hodgman

You are only pretentious if you are not sincere.

~John Hodgman

I have an unfortunate compulsion. I really would rather not do it, as it is very nerve-wracking and un-fun. But when it works, there is nothing like it.

~John Hodgman

Terry Gross. I would rush home from high school to listen to Terry Gross.

~John Hodgman

I naturally own a lot of very old magazines. And I enjoy going to old magazines because the advertisements in those magazines tended to have thousands of words of copy in them.

~John Hodgman

Anyone of conscience could come look at my book and see it as an esoteric oddity or be intrigued by it. It could happen either way on a thousand different little decisions each individual might make.

~John Hodgman

To want to become the President is, I think, such a bizarre ambition that it is automatically deranging.

~John Hodgman

I am not an Internet superstar. I am, ironically perhaps, the most old media superstar of all time. My fame is due to broadcast television.

~John Hodgman

I think for the foreseeable future, the truth is going to be awful and funny all at the same time.

~John Hodgman

My candidacy is a compelling argument for my candidacy. I want to be President.

~John Hodgman

I don't watch television. And certainly not ads; I loathe advertising.

~John Hodgman

I don't wish to brag, but I'm very intelligent.

~John Hodgman

Only the nerds will save the earth.

~John Hodgman

When a good friend gives you his or her book, you don't want to read it, because you're afraid that it's not going to be what you hope it can be.

~John Hodgman

I had the pleasure of listening to Rickie Lee Jones' Flying Cowboys album on audio cassette, which had just come out at that time because I am an elderly man.

~John Hodgman

Everything we make in life, eventually, is sold for a dollar or a penny or given away.

~John Hodgman

My memories of literary agenting are of a very happy time and there are surprising reminders of it coming back now.

~John Hodgman

Unfortunately for humanity, I've gotten into the habit of providing my own closing music for shows by singing a song and playing the ukulele.

~John Hodgman

As a live stand-up comedy performer, I have the benefit of choosing real entrance music.

~John Hodgman

Elwyn Brooks White was a very Maine personality which is, "I hate everyone and everyone stay away from me."

~John Hodgman

Maine's motto is "Vacationland," but as far as I'm concerned, it should be, "Maine: Putting the 'spite' in hospitality since 1820."

~John Hodgman

Terry Gross has never had me on her show and you know, it's her show; she sets the agenda and that's not Hodgman. But I'll still listen to it.

~John Hodgman

I am a marginally employed person who can escape with my school teacher wife to the waters of Maine for much of the summer.

~John Hodgman

I have no skills. I mean, I can make jokes, I'm pretty good at talking to people on the Judge John Hodgman podcast. I can figure out what makes a pretty good story, and I can make eggs really well.

~John Hodgman

The fact is I'm very self-similar.

~John Hodgman

I used to enjoy the anonymity of being a literary figure and occasionally a public radio figure.

~John Hodgman

So I am a product of the Internet, and to some degree a product of this sensibility of constant cultural reference.

~John Hodgman

I'm not a particularly religious person, but that feeling of getting transmissions from someplace else, even if it's from your own consciousness, is very, very real. To me, at least.

~John Hodgman

So much of creativity is the feeling that you're either getting a gift from some other dimension or some other part of yourself.

~John Hodgman

I'm not sure if that answers the question and I have absolutely no problem with any major world religion on Earth.

~John Hodgman

You wouldn't want to live a life in which you are loved or approved by all people on Earth or even within your own geodetic dome full of your jumpsuited followers.

~John Hodgman

I think, as we all learn as a child, you have to learn to tolerate ambiguity better and I'm still terrible at it and I hate it; even the word ambiguity makes me sick to me stomach.

~John Hodgman

It's not a secret family like I have a beautiful, gorgeous wife in Tokyo; I have another mom and dad. I'm the kid and I have another mom and dad in Atwater Village, Los Angeles.

~John Hodgman

I think in American culture, we put value on economic success but tell people you don't have to be economically successful to be happy.

~John Hodgman

I made an impulse buy of a house in Maine to make my wife happy and now have gone back into debt and it's all started over for me.

~John Hodgman

People who run for president seriously and people who become president enter a bizarre secret society in which they have had an experience that none of us will ever have.

~John Hodgman

Life may be miraculous in its unlikelihood in the universe, but it would be a fallacy to suggest that its rareness makes it inextinguishable.

~John Hodgman

By the way, if I have my own cult of personality with my own geodetic dome in western Massachusetts, I will have a hurt yurt for anyone who crosses me.

~John Hodgman

It seems that every generation needs its public, tweedy, literary personality to sell its consumer electronics. To whatever degree I can live up to the Plimptonian legacy, I am humble and proud.

~John Hodgman

I know nothing about letting go.

~John Hodgman

When you think about it, the end of the world is a little bit like death: We all know it's going to come eventually, and as we get older, we feel we see the signs more and more distinctly.

~John Hodgman

I'm a personality - like a George Plimpton who effectively plays himself in a bunch of different roles, or a Paul Lynde-type character.

~John Hodgman

The few people who ask to have their photographs with me, I almost always say yes, except for a few circumstances, like when my family is around.

~John Hodgman

I know electric knives are excellent for carving turkeys that have had

their bones removed and been forced into a mold to shape them. Please note that those turkeys are called hams.

~John Hodgman

My fame is due to broadcast television.

~John Hodgman

Panic is an incredibly catalyzing creative force. And almost out of sheer necessity, I found I had to talk about myself and my real life as it is effectively lived by me.

~John Hodgman

What would I put in a museum? Probably a museum! That's an amusing relic of our past.

~John Hodgman

I believe that the federal government should be laying down broadband like Eisenhower laid down interstates.

~John Hodgman

There's a tradition in American fiction that is deadly serious and earnest - like the Steinbeckian social novel.

~John Hodgman

Part of the transaction between writer and reader is the pleasure of building a community and encouraging people to play along.

~John Hodgman

Sports is a bloodless rehearsal of confrontation, and everyone shakes hands or high fives or fist bumps at the end to show that everything is okay.

~John Hodgman

Everyone wants to write a book. Very few people are able to do it.

~John Hodgman

Creating fake facts does require a measure of haphazard research, insofar as they need to not just be possible, but also interesting.

~John Hodgman

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