

# John Osborne Quotes

*Writing, Thinking, Years, British, Voice, Men, Atheism, Heaven, Emotional,  
Grace, Sacrifice, World, Humans, Death, Order, Refined, Age, Betrayal,  
Scandal, Fear*

Royalty is the gold filling in a mouthful of decay

~John Osborne

Don't clap too hard - it's a very old building.

~John Osborne

Go on - but don't think you can kill my confidence. I've had experts doing it for years.

~John Osborne

Writers don't need love; all they require is money.

~John Osborne

I must be the luckiest man in the world. Not only am I bisexual, I am also Welsh.

~John Osborne

They spend their time looking forward to the past.

~John Osborne

A refined sort of butcher, a woman is.

~John Osborne

We all of us waited for him to die. The family sent him a check every month, and hoped he'd get on with it quietly, without too much vulgar fuss.

~John Osborne

Don't be afraid of being emotional. You won't die of it.

~John Osborne

Asking a writer what he thinks about criticism is like asking a lamppost what it feels about dogs.

~John Osborne

Let's pretend that we're human beings and that we're actually alive.

~John Osborne

The schoolteacher is certainly underpaid as a childminder, but ludicrously overpaid as an educator.

~John Osborne

Censorship is the commonest social blasphemy because it is mostly concealed, built into us by indolence, self-interest and cowardice.

~John Osborne

In London, love and scandal are considered the best sweeteners of tea.

~John Osborne

Oh heavens, how I long for a little ordinary human enthusiasm. Just enthusiasm - that's all. I want to hear a warm, thrilling voice cry out Hallelujah! Hallelujah! I'm alive!

~John Osborne

And even in the hatred of the majority, there's a kind of triumph because I know that, although they'd never admit it, they secretly respect me.

~John Osborne

It is easy to answer the ultimate questions - it saves you bothering with the immediate ones.

~John Osborne

George Bernard Shaw writes like a Pakistani who has learned English when he was twelve years old in order to become an accountant.

~John Osborne

It is not true that drink changes a man's character. It may reveal it more

clearly.

~John Osborne

There's no such thing as failure - just waiting for success.

~John Osborne

The British public has always had an unerring taste for ungifted amateurs.

~John Osborne

There will be a quick rash of hairy American filth, but it shouldn't threaten the existence of decent, serious British filth.

~John Osborne

Marriage is rather a silly habit.

~John Osborne

Heroes, whatever high ideas we may have of them, are mortal and not divine. We are all as God made us and many of us much worse.

~John Osborne

I must say it's pretty dreary living in the American Age - unless you're an American of course. Perhaps all our children will be Americans.

~John Osborne

Laughter's the nearest we ever get, or should get, to sainthood. It's the state of grace that saves most of us from contempt.

~John Osborne

I never deliberately set out to shock, but when people don't walk out of my plays I think there is something wrong.

~John Osborne

That voice that cries out doesn't have to be a weakling's does it?

~John Osborne

**Related Links:**

- Writing Quotes
- Thinking Quotes
- Years Quotes
- British Quotes
- Voice Quotes
- Men Quotes
- Atheism Quotes
- Heaven Quotes
- Emotional Quotes
- Grace Quotes
- Sacrifice Quotes
- World Quotes
- Humans Quotes
- Death Quotes
- Order Quotes
- Refined Quotes
- Age Quotes
- Betrayal Quotes
- Scandal Quotes
- Fear Quotes