

Jonathan Safran Foer Quotes

*People, Thinking, Animal, Book, Writing, Mean, Children, Want, World, Doe, Ifs,
Memories, Beautiful, Trying, Way, Dream, Long, Hurt, Dog, Believe*

If the thrill of hunting were in the hunt, or even in the marksmanship, a camera would do just as well.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

You cannot protect yourself from sadness without protecting yourself from happiness.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Sometimes I can hear my bones straining under the weight of all the lives I'm not living.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

The sky slowly pulled up its blue dress to reveal night.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

The more you love someone, the harder it is to tell them. It surprised him that strangers didn't stop each other on the street to say I love you.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

His voice was handsome and broken, like a cobblestone street.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

To feel alone is to be alone.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Words are capable of making experience more vivid, and also of organizing it. They can scare us, and they can comfort us.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

There were things I wanted to tell him. But I knew they would hurt him. So I buried them, and let them hurt me.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

When we eat factory-farmed meat we live, literally, on tortured flesh. Increasingly, that tortured flesh is becoming our own.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

It has shown me that everything is illuminated in the light of the past. It is always along the side of us...on the inside, looking out.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

It took me as long as I had known him to get rid of all of his words. Like turning an hourglass over.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Is there really anyone, besides Rudy Giuliani, who prefers the new Times Square?

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I think and think and think, I've thought myself out of happiness one million times, but never once into it.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

They learned to hate her unknowability, her untouchability, the collage of her.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I hope that one day you will have the experience of doing something you do not understand for someone you love.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I will describe my eyes and then begin the story. My eyes are blue and resplendent. Now I will begin the story.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I love sushi, I love fried chicken, I love steak. But there is a limit to my love.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Our love was the affliction for which only our love was the cure.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

There's nothing wrong with not understanding yourself.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Everything that's born has to die, which means our lives are like skyscrapers. The smoke rises at different speeds, but they're all on fire, and we're all trapped.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I am not a bad person. I am a good person who has lived in a bad time." Alex's grandfather..Everything is Illuminated

~Jonathan Safran Foer

So many people enter and leave your life! Hundreds of thousands of people! You have to keep the door open so they can come in! But it also means you have to let them go!

~Jonathan Safran Foer

It was not the feeling of completeness I so needed, but the feeling of not being empty.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

What were we spending so much time doing if not getting to know each other?

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Shyness is when you turn your head away from something you want.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Not responding is a response - we are equally responsible for what we

don't do.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

It's the tragedy of loving, you can't love anything more than something you miss.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

The only way to overcome sadness is to consume it.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

She laughed enough to migrate an entire flock of birds. That was how she said yes

~Jonathan Safran Foer

One day you will do things for me that you hate. That is what it means to be family.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Imagine being served a plate of sushi. But this plate also holds all of the animals that were killed for your serving of sushi. The plate might have to be five feet across.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Maybe I'll try to be more patient with morons.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Every factory-farmed animal is, as a practice, treated in ways that would be illegal if it were a dog or a cat.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

The mistakes I've made are dead to me. But I can't take back the things I never did.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

We shared the smile of recognizing ourselves in each other.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Why didn't I learn to treat everything like it was the last time. My greatest regret was how much I believed in the future.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I can forgive you for leaving, but not for coming back.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

We had everything to say to each other, but no ways to say it

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Songs are as sad as the listener.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Whether we change our lives or do nothing, we have responded. To do nothing is to do something.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I missed you even when I was with you. That's been my problem. I miss what I already have, and I surround myself with things that are missing.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

How did her life live itself without her.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Why do beautiful songs make you sad?' 'Because they aren't true.'
'Never?' 'Nothing is beautiful and true.'

~Jonathan Safran Foer

With writing, we have second chances.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

You are the only one who has understood even a whisper of me, and I will tell you that I am the only person who has understood even a whisper of you.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

The more exposure people have to the realities of factory farming, the more we will see people rejecting it. It's already happening.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I'm so afraid of losing something I love that I refuse to love anything

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Thanksgiving is the holiday that encompasses all others. All of them, from Martin Luther King Day to Arbor Day to Christmas to Valentine's Day, are in one way or another about being thankful.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

One of the greatest opportunities to live our values-or betray them-lies in the food we put on our plates.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Sometimes people who seem good end up being not as good as you might have hoped, you know?

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Love me, because love doesn't exist, and I have tried everything that does.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I felt suddenly shy. I was not used to shy. I was used to shame. Shyness is when you turn your head away from something you want. Shame is when you turn your head away from something you do not want.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I don't think that there are any limits to how excellent we could make life seem.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

It was one of the best days of my life, a day during which I lived my life and didn't think about my life at all.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I regret that it takes a life to learn how to live.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

But come. No explaining or mending. Be beside me somewhere.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

We live in a world made up more of story than stuff. We are creatures of memory more than reminders, of love more than likes.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Words never mean what we want them to mean.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I imagine a line, a white line, painted on the sand and on the ocean, from me to you.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Highs and lows make you feel that things matter, but they're nothing." "So what's something?" "Being reliable is something. Being good.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I spent my life learning to feel less.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I looked at everyone and wondered where they came from, and who they missed, and what they were sorry for.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Do you eat chicken because you are familiar with the scientific literature on them and have decided that their suffering doesn't matter, or do you do it because it tastes good?

~Jonathan Safran Foer

He promised us that everything would be okay. I was a child, but I knew that everything would not be okay. That did not make my father a liar. It made him my father.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

We spent our lives making livings.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

The French, who love their dogs, sometimes eat their horses. The Spanish, who love their horses, sometimes eat their cows. The Indians, who love their cows, sometimes eat their dogs.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

She was like a drowning person, flailing, reaching for anything that might save her. Her life was an urgent, desperate struggle to justify her life.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Profound, bottomless self-doubt - it has no value - what's the point? In a way, it takes up as much time as anything else.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Factory farming, of course, does not cause all the world's problems, but it is remarkable just how many of them intersect there.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

...people with nothing to declare carry the most.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

It broke my heart into more pieces than my heart was made of, why can't people say what they mean at the time?

~Jonathan Safran Foer

We believed in our grandmother's cooking more fervently than we believed in God.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

The writing itself is no big deal. The editing, and even more than that, the self-doubt, is excruciatingly impossible.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

She let out a laugh, and then she put her hand over her mouth, like she was angry at herself for forgetting her sadness.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

If we communicated with something like music, we would never be misunderstood, because there is nothing in music to understand.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

The bruises go away, and so does how you hate, and so does the feeling that everything you receive from life is something you have earned.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I see myself as someone who makes things. Definitions have never done anything but constrain.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Feeding my children is not like feeding myself: it matters more.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Not responding is a response--we are equally responsible for what we don't do. In the case of animal slaughter, to throw your hands in the air is to wrap your fingers around a knife handle.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Am I such a bad person for dreaming of a world that ends when I do? I don't mean the world ending with respect to me, but every set of eyes closing with mine.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Why does watching a dog be a dog fill one with happiness?

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I've never particularly liked bankers.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Let love write on you for awhile.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

All really great artists, Jackson Pollack, John Cage, Beckett or Joyce - you are never indifferent to them.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

In the morning, when the nothing vase casts a something shadow, like the memory of someone you've lost, what can you say about that?

~Jonathan Safran Foer

When I was a girl, my life was music that was always getting louder. Everything moved me. A dog following a stranger. That made me feel so much.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I do think ordinariness is, in a way, the enemy, but not ordinariness as the opposite of flamboyance.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Cruelty depends on an understanding of cruelty, and the ability to choose against it. Or to choose to ignore it.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I'd rather somebody hate what I do than be indifferent to it.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Time was passing like a hand waving from a train I wanted to be on. I hope you never have to think about anything as much as I think about you.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

In the end, everyone loses everyone. There was no invention to get around that, and so I felt, that night, like the turtle that everything else in the universe was on top of.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

But I still couldn't figure out what it all meant. The more I found out, the less I understood.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Why is taste, the crudest of our senses, exempted from the ethical rules that govern our other senses?

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Animal agriculture makes a 40% greater contribution to global warming than all transportation in the world combined; it is the number one cause of climate change.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I wondered, for the first time in my life, if life was worth all the work it took to live. What exactly made it worth it?

~Jonathan Safran Foer

As long as I am thinking, I am alive.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I'm sorry for my inability to let unimportant things go, for my inability to hold on to the important things.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

I never confused what I had with what I was.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

Being with him made my brain quiet. I didn't have to invent a thing.

~Jonathan Safran Foer

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