

Joseph Boyden Quotes

*People, Stories, Thinking, Needs, America, War, Historical, Want, Two, Ideas,
Important, Civilization, Masters, Crafts, Speak, Powerful, Hate, Believe, Writing,
Tragedy*

The history needs to serve the story, not the story the history. But at the same time you can't stray too far.

~Joseph Boyden

People will say that Canada, unlike America, was not birthed from violence. But I want to say, "What are you talking about?" It's just not true.

~Joseph Boyden

There's the concept that dreams are as important - if not more important - than reality. The attention that one pays to those things in the shadows is very much a part of the Indian experience.

~Joseph Boyden

America seems to celebrate its more violent past, but Canada doesn't like to recognize those things. The willingness to accept the existence of violence separates our two countries.

~Joseph Boyden

Sometimes, it's not getting what we want that offers us the most important Lessons

~Joseph Boyden

I never want to play down to the reader. I think readers are willing to go along if they're intrigued.

~Joseph Boyden

The beliefs of Native people are no less powerful or important just because they focus on a different "form of magic."

~Joseph Boyden

We aren't the masters of the earth. We're the servants.

~Joseph Boyden

I'm fascinated by the magic realism used by many writers. I think it goes hand-in-hand with the Indian experience. It's a very different way of viewing the world.

~Joseph Boyden

There's something sexy in cooking for a man who likes my food. Am I growing up?

~Joseph Boyden

As a fiction writer, of course, you need to take some leeway with certain aspects of history to make the story work.

~Joseph Boyden

Canada and America are very, very different. It's true that we share a language and many customs. But Americans have a very different view of the world.

~Joseph Boyden

Compared to Americans, Canadians are often more gentle in their approach to things. They're much more apologetic. There's less room for conflict.

~Joseph Boyden

We all fight on two fronts, the one facing the enemy, the one facing what we do to the enemy.

~Joseph Boyden

I'm intrigued by the classic Greek tragedies, as well as by the idea of the Greek chorus.

~Joseph Boyden

From a craft standpoint, telling a story in the first-person present tense over the course of 500 pages is a daunting challenge.

~Joseph Boyden

I believe truly that Canada is a living history and we're going through some of the most important time in this country's short 150 years.

~Joseph Boyden

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