

# Karen Joy Fowler

## Quotes

*Sometimes, Thinking, People, Knows, Important, Book, Believe, Humans,  
Parent, Men, Way, Austen, Special, Admire You, Gone, Mean, Pheromones,  
Wonder, Taught, Dad*

Trees are as close to immortality as the rest of us ever come.

~Karen Joy Fowler

Let us never underestimate the power of a well-written letter.

~Karen Joy Fowler

Arriving late was a way of saying that your own time was more valuable than the time of the person who waited for you.

~Karen Joy Fowler

The sunset you see is always better than the one you don't. More stars are always better than less.

~Karen Joy Fowler

Lots of people go mad in January. Not as many as in May, of course. Nor June. But January is your third most common month for madness.

~Karen Joy Fowler

When there is an invisible elephant in the room, one is from time to time bound to trip over a trunk.

~Karen Joy Fowler

Pheromones are Earth's primordial idiom.

~Karen Joy Fowler

In everyone's life there are people who stay and people who go and people who are taken against their will.

~Karen Joy Fowler

No Utopia is Utopia for everyone

~Karen Joy Fowler

I still haven't found the place where I can be my true self. But maybe you never get to be your true self, either.

~Karen Joy Fowler

I'm unclear on the definition of person the courts have been using. Something that sieves out dolphins but lets corporations slide on through.

~Karen Joy Fowler

In general, librarians enjoyed special requests. A reference librarian is someone who likes the chase. When librarians read for pleasure, they often pick a good mystery.

~Karen Joy Fowler

When I run the world, librarians will be exempt from tragedy. Even their smaller sorrows will last only for as long as you can take out a book.

~Karen Joy Fowler

Antagonism in my family comes wrapped in layers of code, sideways feints, full deniability. I believe the same can be said of many families.

~Karen Joy Fowler

Each of us has a private Austen.

~Karen Joy Fowler

In the phrase 'human being,' the word 'being' is much more important than the word 'human.'

~Karen Joy Fowler

I wonder sometimes if I'm the only one spending my life making the same mistake over and over again or if that's simply human. Do we all tend toward a single besetting sin?

~Karen Joy Fowler

But no one is easier to delude than a parent; they see only what they wish to see.

~Karen Joy Fowler

Where you succeed will never matter so much as where you fail.

~Karen Joy Fowler

A man says something. Sometimes it turns out to be the truth, but this has nothing to do with the man who says it.

~Karen Joy Fowler

Sometimes you best avoid talking by being quiet, but sometimes you best avoid talking by talking.

~Karen Joy Fowler

There's science and there's science, is all I'm saying. Where humans are the subjects, it's mostly not science

~Karen Joy Fowler

Just ask yourself, if we weren't taught to be women, what would we be? (Ask yourself this question even if you're a man, and don't cheat by changing the words.)

~Karen Joy Fowler

You know, I don't think there's anything truly unforgivable. Not where there's love.

~Karen Joy Fowler

Allegra's Austen wrote about the impact of financial need on the intimate lives of women. If she'd worked in a bookstore, Allegra would have shelved Austen in the horror section.

~Karen Joy Fowler

I once broke up with a boy because he wrote me an awful poem.

~Karen Joy Fowler

Baby, high school's over. High school's never over.

~Karen Joy Fowler

It was the marriage that was important; Jane Austen rarely even bothered to write about the wedding.

~Karen Joy Fowler

The value of money is a scam perpetrated by those who have it over those who don't

~Karen Joy Fowler

You learn as much from failure as from success, Dad always says. Though no one admires you for it.

~Karen Joy Fowler

I thought there were moments to complain about your parents and moments to be grateful, and it was a shame to mix those moments up.

~Karen Joy Fowler

I am the daughter of a psychologist. I know that the thing ostensibly being studied is rarely the thing being studied. (*We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves*, p. 99)

~Karen Joy Fowler

You can't imagine the white-hot fury someone who can't sleep has toward the beautiful dreamer beside him.

~Karen Joy Fowler

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