

# Kate DiCamillo

## Quotes

*Writing, Book, Thinking, Heart, Children, Kids, Stories, People, Light, Reading,  
World, Girl, Powerful, Princess, Beautiful, Mother, Mean, Fun, Dark, Way*

I was born in Philadelphia and currently live in Minneapolis. I write for both children and adults.

~Kate DiCamillo

There ain't no way you can hold onto something that wants to go, you understand? You can only love what you got while you got it.

~Kate DiCamillo

Once upon a time," he said out loud to the darkness. He said these words because they were the best, the most powerful words that he knew and just the saying of them comforted him.

~Kate DiCamillo

There is nothing sweeter in this sad world than the sound of someone you love calling your name.

~Kate DiCamillo

When we read together, we connect. Together, we see the world. Together, we see one another.

~Kate DiCamillo

Reading should not be presented to children as a chore or duty. It should be offered to them as a precious gift.

~Kate DiCamillo

The undoing is almost always more difficult than the doing.

~Kate DiCamillo

You must be filled with expectancy. You must be awash in hope. You must wonder who will love you, whom you will love next.

~Kate DiCamillo

It is important that you say what you mean to say. Time is too short. You must speak the words that matter.

~Kate DiCamillo

The world is dark, and light is precious. Come closer, dear reader. You must trust me. I am telling you a story.

~Kate DiCamillo

There ain't a body, be it mouse or man, that ain't made better by a little soup.

~Kate DiCamillo

The sound of the king's music made Despereaux's soul grow large and light inside of him.

~Kate DiCamillo

Love is ridiculous. But love is also wonderful. And powerful. And Despereaux's love for the Princess Pea would prove, in time, to be all of these things: powerful, wonderful, and ridiculous.

~Kate DiCamillo

I want to remind people of the great and profound joy that can be found in stories, and that stories can connect us to each other, and that reading together changes everybody involved.

~Kate DiCamillo

I am single and childless, but I have lots of friends and I am an aunt to three lovely children.

~Kate DiCamillo

You can always trust a dog that likes peanut butter.

~Kate DiCamillo

Each new friendship can make you a new person, because it opens up new doors inside of you.

~Kate DiCamillo

So many miracles have not yet happened.

~Kate DiCamillo

Stories are light. Light is precious in a world so dark.

~Kate DiCamillo

We appreciate the complicated and wonderful gifts you give us in each other. And we appreciate the task you put down before us, of loving each other the best we can, even as you love us.

~Kate DiCamillo

If you have no intention of loving or being loved, the whole journey is pointless.

~Kate DiCamillo

She was working to remind herself of who she was. She was working to remember that somewhere in another place entirely she was known and loved.

~Kate DiCamillo

That is surely the truth, at least for now. But perhaps you have not noticed: the truth is forever changing.

~Kate DiCamillo

I thought I was going nowhere. Now I can see there was a pattern.

~Kate DiCamillo

My goal is two pages a day, five days a week. I never want to write, but I'm always glad that I have done it. After I write, I go to work at the bookstore.

~Kate DiCamillo

Allow me to congratulate you on your very astute powers of observation.

~Kate DiCamillo

I will be brave, thought Despereaux. I will try to be brave like a knight in shining armour. I will be brave for the Princess Pea.

~Kate DiCamillo

It's hard not to immediately fall in love with a dog who has a good sense of humor.

~Kate DiCamillo

I always go to the Agriculture Building, where they make apple cider popsicles for a dollar.

~Kate DiCamillo

A friend of mine said Winn-Dixie is the way that people want the world to be and Tiger Rising is the way that it is.

~Kate DiCamillo

Reader, you must know that an interesting fate (sometimes involving rats, sometimes not) awaits almost everyone, mouse or man, who does not conform.

~Kate DiCamillo

There are hearts, reader, that never mend again once they are broken. Or if they do mend, they heal themselves in a crooked and lopsided way, as if sewn together by a careless craftsman.

~Kate DiCamillo

I'm at the mercy of whatever character comes into my head.

~Kate DiCamillo

Did you think that rats do not have hearts? Wrong. All living things have a heart. And the heart of any living thing can be broken.

~Kate DiCamillo

My favorite food is deep-fried ravioli. I always get that every year.

~Kate DiCamillo

I grew up in Florida, and I wanted to go home and I couldn't. I didn't have the money. The book [The Tiger Rising] was a way to go home.

~Kate DiCamillo

Stories are light. Light is precious in a world so dark. Begin at the beginning. Tell Gregory a story. Make some light.

~Kate DiCamillo

But, reader, there is no comfort in the word "farewell," even if you say it in French. "Farewell" is a word that, in any language, is full of sorrow. It is a word that promises absolutely nothing.

~Kate DiCamillo

Every well-written book is a light for me. When you write, you use other writers and their books as guides in the wilderness.

~Kate DiCamillo

Despereaux marveled at his own bravery. He admired his own defiance. And then, reader, he fainted.

~Kate DiCamillo

There can be a lot of longevity in the repetition of things being told again and again in a variety of ways.

~Kate DiCamillo

I work full-time in a used bookstore. I get up. I drink a cup of coffee. I think, The last thing I want to do is write. Then I go to the computer and write.

~Kate DiCamillo

I didn't know anything about writing a screenplay, but somehow I ended

up rewriting a screenplay.

~Kate DiCamillo

I feel like I've been blessed. I see the world through stories.

~Kate DiCamillo

And hope is like love...a ridiculous, wonderful, powerful thing.

~Kate DiCamillo

You can't always judge people by the things they done. You got to judge them by what they are doing now.

~Kate DiCamillo

Life is hard. Life is beautiful. Life is difficult. Life is wonderful.

~Kate DiCamillo

It seems to be that way with most things. No one to do the really disagreeable jobs except oneself.

~Kate DiCamillo

But let's not speak of what might have been. Let us speak instead of what is. You are whole.

~Kate DiCamillo

No one cared what she wanted. No one had ever cared. And perhaps, worst of all, no one ever would care.

~Kate DiCamillo

I am busier now than I ever imagined I would be, but I feel blessed in that I have found what I am supposed to be doing with my life. It's wonderful to tell stories and have people listen to them.

~Kate DiCamillo

My father leaving the family shaped who I was and how I looked at the

world. By the same token, my father telling me fairy tales that he had made up shaped me profoundly, too.

~Kate DiCamillo

Say it, reader. Say the word 'quest' out loud. It is an extraordinary word, isn't it? So small and yet so full of wonder, so full of hope.

~Kate DiCamillo

It is our duty and our joy to communicate our hearts to each other. Words assist us in this task.

~Kate DiCamillo

I believe, sometimes, that the whole world has an aching heart.

~Kate DiCamillo

Love!' said the princess. She stamped her foot. 'Why must everyone always speak of love?

~Kate DiCamillo

I have a Bachelor of Arts in English, which means I had a lot of formal training in reading.

~Kate DiCamillo

The shapes arranged themselves into words, and the words spelled out a delicious and wonderful phrase: Once upon a time.

~Kate DiCamillo

I hate to cook and love to eat.

~Kate DiCamillo

Life was so short; so many beautiful things slipped away.

~Kate DiCamillo

I always write with music. It takes me a while to figure out the right



piece of music for what I'm working on. Once I figure it out, that's the only thing I'll play.

~Kate DiCamillo

Reading is my passion.

~Kate DiCamillo

Rats have a sense of humor. Rats, in fact think the world is very funny. And they are right, dear reader. They are right.

~Kate DiCamillo

Holly McGhee said I should come to dinner with them. That first dinner, I said something pretty smart-alecky, and Alison [McGhee] laughed really hard at it. It made me happy.

~Kate DiCamillo

There is a lot of love in him, a lot of love in his heart...And he is up there with no one and nothing to love. It is a bad thing to have love and no where to put it.

~Kate DiCamillo

I have learned how to love. And it's a terrible thing. I'm broken. My heart is broken. Help me.

~Kate DiCamillo

Things are not at all what they seem to be: oh no, not at all.

~Kate DiCamillo

The Tale of Despereaux came at the request of Luke, my friend's then-eight-year-old son, who asked, "Write for me the story of an unlikely hero with exceptionally large ears."

~Kate DiCamillo

Nothing new ever happens in the books. It's the same old theme.

~Kate DiCamillo

Miracles and magic pervade the things that I've written, but yet there are no miracles and there is no magic.

~Kate DiCamillo

The Tale of Despereaux is the story of an unlikely hero, a mouse, who falls in love with a princess and then must save her. It's a triumph of the human spirit, via a mouse.

~Kate DiCamillo

As far as books getting turned into movies, I fared very, very well.

~Kate DiCamillo

We all live in fear of getting blocked no matter what kind of art we're trying to do. It happens all the time, but I prefer to think of it as a bad day.

~Kate DiCamillo

You are down there alone, the stars seemed to say to him. And we are up here, in our constellations, together.

~Kate DiCamillo

There ain't no point in making soup unless others eat it. Soup needs another mouth to taste it, another heart to be warmed by it.

~Kate DiCamillo

All of God's creatures have names, every last one of them. Of that I am sure: of that I have no doubt at all.

~Kate DiCamillo

Like most hearts, it was complicated, shaded with dark and dappled with light.

~Kate DiCamillo

Everything I write comes from my childhood in one way or another. I am forever drawing on the sense of mystery and wonder and possibility that pervaded that time of my life.

~Kate DiCamillo

I have been loved said Edward to the stars

~Kate DiCamillo

How will the world change if we do not question it?

~Kate DiCamillo

I like to think of myself as a storyteller.

~Kate DiCamillo

Perhaps," said the man, "you would like to be lost with us. I have found it much more agreeable to be lost in the company of others.

~Kate DiCamillo

We forget that the simple gesture of putting a book in someone's hands can change a life. I want to remind you that it can. I want to thank you because it did. - 2010 Indies Choice Award

~Kate DiCamillo

We must ask ourselves these questions as often as we dare. How will the world change if we do not question it?

~Kate DiCamillo

Hands down, the biggest thrill is to get a letter from a kid saying, I loved your book. Will you write me another one?

~Kate DiCamillo

What was it like...to have someone who knew you would always return and who welcomed you with open arms?

~Kate DiCamillo

Have you, in truth, ever seen something so heartbreakingly lovely?  
What are we to make of a world where stars shine bright in the midst of  
so much darkness and gloom?

~Kate DiCamillo

Open your heart. Someone will come. Someone will come for you. But  
first you must open your heart. (Old Doll)

~Kate DiCamillo

Love, as we have already discussed, is a powerful, wonderful,  
ridiculous thing, capable of moving mountains. And spools of thread.

~Kate DiCamillo

He was reading from the beginning so that he could get to the end,  
where the reader was assured that the knight and the fair maiden lived  
together happily ever after.

~Kate DiCamillo

Longing is not always a reciprocal thing.

~Kate DiCamillo

[He] had the soul of a poet, and because of this, he liked very much to  
consider questions that had no answers.

~Kate DiCamillo

In a dark time, doors will sometimes magically open and let us step  
inside to the warmth and light of a community.

~Kate DiCamillo

Magic is always impossible.... It begins with the impossible and ends  
with the impossible and is impossible in between. That is why it's  
magic.

~Kate DiCamillo

Everything, as you well know . . . cannot always be sweetness and light.

~Kate DiCamillo

When you are a king, you may make as many ridiculous laws as you like. That is what being a king is all about.

~Kate DiCamillo

I think of myself as an enormously lucky person.

~Kate DiCamillo

Do you think everybody misses somebody? Like I miss my mama?â€•  
â€œMmmm-hmmm,â€• said Gloria. She closed her eyes. â€œI believe, sometimes, that the whole world has an aching heart.

~Kate DiCamillo

I didn't start working on children's books until I got a job at a book warehouse on the children's floor. When I started reading some of the books, I was so impressed.

~Kate DiCamillo

Take this squirrel, for instance. Ulysses. Do I believe he can type poetry? Sure, I do believe it. There is much more beauty in the world if I believe such a thing is possible.

~Kate DiCamillo

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