

Laurie Halse Anderson Quotes

*Girl, Book, Hurt, People, Thinking, School, Kids, Cutting, Want, Mean, Children,
Eye, Believe, Blood, Soul, Dad, Strong, Morning, Two, Speak*

You're not dead, but you're not alive, either. You're a wintergirl.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I want to go to sleep and not wake up, but I don't want to die.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Cutting pain was a different flavor of hurt. It made it easier not to think about having my body and my family and my life stolen, made it easier not to care... -Wintergirls

~Laurie Halse Anderson

We turned us into wintergirls, and when she tried to leave, I pulled her back into the snow because I was afraid to be alone.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

There is no magic cure, no making it all go away forever. There are only small steps upward; an easier day, an unexpected laugh, a mirror that doesn't matter anymore.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I am beginning to measure myself in strength, not pounds. Sometimes in smiles.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

So, she tells me, the words dribbling out with the cranberry muffin crumbs, commas dunked in her coffee.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

They yell at me because I can't see what they see. Nobody can explain to me why my eyes work different than theirs.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

In one aspect, yes, I believe in ghosts, but we create them. We haunt ourselves.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Write about the emotions you fear the most.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Who wants to recover? It took me years to get that tiny. I wasn't sick; I was strong.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Eating was hard. Breathing was hard. Living was hardest.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

What do I want? The answer to that question does not exist.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I wish I had cancer. I will burn in hell for that, but it's true.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I failed eating, failed drinking, failed not cutting myself into shreds. Failed friendship. Failed sisterhood and daughterhood. Failed mirrors and scales and phone calls. Good thing I'm stable.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I inscribe three lines, hush hush hush, into my skin. Ghosts trickle out.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

For one moment we are not failed tests and broken condoms and cheating on essays; we are crayons and lunch boxes and swinging so high our sneakers punch holes in the clouds.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I am the space between my thighs, daylight shining through.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I won the wintergirl trip over the border into dangerland.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

You have to know what you stand for, not just what you stand against.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I breathe in slowly. Food is life. I exhale, take another breath. Food is life.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

When people don't express themselves, they die one piece at a time.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I just want to sleep. A coma would be nice. Or amnesia. Anything, just to get rid of this, these thoughts, whispers in my mind. Did he rape my head, too?

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Do they choose to be so dense? Were they born that way? I have no friends. I have nothing. I say nothing. I am nothing.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

The stars whirled above us and the firecrackers blazed. The moon stood watch as drops of blood fell, careless seeds that sizzled in the snow.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Because I am still a little girl who believes in Santa and the tooth fairy and you.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Do I want to die from the inside out or the outside in?

~Laurie Halse Anderson

A scar is a sign of strength. . .the sign of a survivor.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Art without emotion its like chocolate cake without sugar. It makes you gag.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Can the plural possessive express the feelings in your heart? If you don't learn art now, you will never learn to breathe!

~Laurie Halse Anderson

School libraries are the foundations of our culture - not luxuries.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Sometimes being an adult means doing the right thing, even if it's not what you want.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

The only number that would ever be enough is 0. Zero pounds, zero life, size zero, double-zero, zero point. Zero in tennis is love. I finally get it.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Used to be that my whole body was my canvas-hot cuts licking my ribs, ladder rungs climbing my arms, thick milkweed stalks shooting up my thighs.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Censorship is the child of fear and the father of ignorance.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I wonder how long it would take for anyone to notice if I just stopped talking.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I am angry that I starved my brain and that I sat shivering in my bed at night instead of dancing or reading poetry or eating ice cream or kissing a boy.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Bologna girl, that's me.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I knew how much it hurt to be the daughter of people who can't see you, not even if you are standing in front of them stomping your feet.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I wish adults would spend less energy freaking out about the cutting itself and work harder to understand what drives kids to self-harm.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Nicole can do anything that involves a ball and whistle.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Melancholy held me hostage, and the bees built a hive of sadness in my soul.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

i decapitated dandelions all morning, leaving carnage and death strewn into my path.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Too much sun after a Syracuse winter does strange things to your head, makes you feel strong, even if you aren't.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

It is my first morning of high school. I have seven new notebooks, a skirt I hate, and a stomachache.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

He says a million things without saying a word. I have never heard a more eloquent silence.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I cry to let everything out

~Laurie Halse Anderson

The bathroom door swings open. Emma sees the blood painting my skin and the red rivers carved on my body. Emma sees the wet knife, silver and bone. The screams of my little sister shatter mirrors.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Gym should be illegal. It's humiliating.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

It's easier to floss with barbed wire than admit you like someone in middle school.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I can't tell anymore when I'm asleep and when I'm awake, or which is worse.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

There is something about Christmas that requires a rug rat. Little kids make Christmas fun. I wonder if could rent one for the holidays.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

When life sucks, read. They can't yell at you for that. And if they do, then you can ignore them.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

If I run or breathe too deep, the cheap stitches holding me together will snap, and all the stickiness inside will pour out and burn through the concrete.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I have survived. I am here. Confused, screwed up, but here. So, how can I find my way? Is there a chain saw of the soul, an ax I can take to my memories or fears?

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Cold and silence. Nothing quieter than snow. The sky screams to deliver it, a hundred banshees flying on the edge of the blizzard. But once the snow covers the ground, it hushes as still as my heart.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

She cannot chain my soul. Yes, she could hurt me. She'd already done so...I would bleed, or not. Scar, or not. Live, or not. But she could not hurt my soul, not unless I gave it to her.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I look at my homely sketch. It doesn't need anything. Even through the river in my eyes I can see that. It isn't perfect and that makes it just right.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Why not draw naked guys, just to be fair? Naked women is art, naked guys a no-no, I bet. Probably because most painters are men.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I wanted to pull down a book, open it proper, and gobble up page after page

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I am learning how to be angry and sad and lonely and joyful and excited and afraid and happy.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I reach for funny books all the time to help me get through life.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Having a friend made everything else suck less.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Nothing is perfect. Flaws are interesting. Be the tree.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I'm the girl who trips on the dance floor and can't find her way to the exit. All eyes on me.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I was good at digging holes. It was the rest of life I sucked at.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Be careful what you wish for. There's always a catch.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Don't expect to make a difference unless you speak up for yourself.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Can't escape pain, kiddo. Battle through it and you get stronger.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Gossip is the foul smell from the Devil's backside.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Why are you being so mean?" "Friends tell friends the truth." "yeah, but not to hurt, to help.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I am getting better at smiling when people expect it.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Revision means throwing out the boring crap and making what's left sound natural.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Mr. Freeman sighs. "No imagination. What are you thirteen? Fourteen? You've already let them beat your creativity out of you!

~Laurie Halse Anderson

The trick to surviving an interrogation is patience. Don't offer up anything. Don't explain. Answer the question and only the question that is asked so you don't accidentally put your head in a noose.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

This is wonderful, wonderful! Be the bird. You are the bird. Sacrifice yourself to abandoned family values.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I watch some kids ask the cafeteria ladies to sign their books. What do they write: "Hope your chicken patties never bleed?" Or, maybe, "May your Jell-O always wiggle?"

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I want to make a memorial for our turkey. Never has a bird been so tortured to provide such a lousy dinner.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Sometimes I think high school is one long hazy activity: if you are tough enough to survive this, they'll let you become an adult. I hope it's worth it.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Everybody told me to be a man. Nobody told me how.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Apologies mean nothing if you don't mean it.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I make it through the first two weeks of school without a nuclear meltdown.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

It's a shame we can't just admit that we failed family living, sell the house, split up the money, and get on with our lives.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I don't say anything and I feel awful. I tell somebody and I feel worse. I'm having trouble finding a middle ground.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I pull my lower lip all the way in between my teeth. If I try hard enough, maybe I can gobble my whole self this way.... I didn't try hard enough to swallow myself.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

be aggressive, BE-BE Aggressive! B-E A-G-G-R-E-S-S-I-V-E

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I don't know what I'm doing in the next five minutes and she has the next ten years figured out. I'll worry about making it out of ninth grade alive. Then I'll think about a career path.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I am not going to think about it. It was ugly, but it's over, and I'm not going to think about it.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

You must walk alone to find your soul.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

It made me strong. I took a step back, near my whole self in the mirror. I pushed back my shoulders and raised my chin, my back straight as an arrow.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

It doesn't hurt. Nothing hurts except the small smiles and blushes that flash across the room like tiny sparrows.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Picasso. He whispers like a priest. Picasso. Who saw the truth. Who painted the truth, molded it, ripped from the earth with two angry hands.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I watch the Eruptions. Mount Dad, long dormant, now considered armed and dangerous. Mount Saint Mom, oozing lava, spitting flame. Warn the villagers to run into the sea.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

Did you read last night's assignments?" Say "yes" and get hammered again. Say "no" and the same thing would happen.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

A breath of steam trickles out, filled with the sobs of a grown woman breaking into girl-sized pieces.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I like cheeseburgers too much to be a model.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

If I ever form a clan, we'll be the anti-cheerleaders and walk under the bleacher forming mild acts of mayhem.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I doubt trees are ever told to 'be the screwed-up ninth-grader.'

~Laurie Halse Anderson

I wish America would stop judging and criticizing teens and instead, try to understand the battles they have to fight every day.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

They say they have noticed me drawing. I almost tell them right then and there. They noticed.

~Laurie Halse Anderson

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