

Lee Child Quotes

*Writing, Book, People, Men, Jobs, Needs, Two, Guy, Thinking, Three,
Character, Giving, Government, America, Want, Looks, Wish, Running, New
York, Car*

Hope for the best, plan for the worst.

~Lee Child

The way to write a thriller is to ask a question at the beginning, and answer it at the end.

~Lee Child

Don't be sad that roses have thorns. Be glad that thorns have Roses. Today's the day I worried about yesterday and it didn't happen.

~Lee Child

Don't get it right - get it WRITTEN!

~Lee Child

I have a kind of old-fashioned, artisan approach.

~Lee Child

Spread love and understanding,â€• Reacher said. â€œUse force if necessary.

~Lee Child

The first day of the rest of my life.

~Lee Child

I grew up in Birmingham, where they made useful things and made them well.

~Lee Child

So long as readers keep reading and my publishers keep publishing, I plan to keep on writing. I'd have to be an idiot to be burnt-out in this job.

~Lee Child

Writing is showbusiness for shy people. That's how I see it.

~Lee Child

I need a stimulating environment to write because my books are driven at 100 miles per hour at a time.

~Lee Child

I'm a rich man. To have everything you need is the definition of affluence.

~Lee Child

What do I miss about the UK? Sadly, almost nothing. Maybe the midnight sun, in June in the north. That's all.

~Lee Child

The best fights are the ones you don't have", a wise man once said to me.

~Lee Child

I wanted readers to be genuinely unsure as to whether she's telling the truth or lying. It meant making her partly sympathetic, and partly unsympathetic, which wasn't easy.

~Lee Child

You see something scary, you should stand up and step toward it, not away from it. Instinctively, reflexively, in a raging fury.

~Lee Child

I don't care about the little guy. I just hate the big guy. I hate big smug people who think they can get away with things.

~Lee Child

I said nothing. I'm good at saying nothing. I don't like talking. I could go the rest of my life without saying another word, if I had to.

~Lee Child

The third guy was different. He was what you got when you ate squirrels for four generations. Smarter than a rat and tougher than a goat, and jumpier than either one.

~Lee Child

Hit them fast, hit them hard, and hit them a lot.

~Lee Child

I was fired from my television job, simple as that. Well, downsized, really, a classic 1990s situation.

~Lee Child

People who wear glasses, without them they always look unfocused, vulnerable. Out in the open. A layer removed.

~Lee Child

She's a reflection of my fascination with the diversity of America she's totally normal in New York, but a freak in Texas. There are dozens of such clashes in America.

~Lee Child

I'm opposed to censorship of any kind, especially by government. But it's plain common sense that producers should target their product with some kind of sensitivity.

~Lee Child

I don't want to put the world to rights... I just don't like people who put the world to wrongs.

~Lee Child

You do not mess with the special investigators.

~Lee Child

Everything you could want - action, suspense, character and setting, all

floating on the easy lyricism of a fine writer at the top of his game.

~Lee Child

LA has a fantastic car scene and because the climate is so gentle, cars can last forever.

~Lee Child

I have the "thing" worked out - the trick or the surprise or the pivotal fact. Then I just start somewhere and let the story work itself out.

~Lee Child

No, I'm a man with a rule. People leave me alone, I leave them alone. If they don't, I don't.

~Lee Child

I'm not really into gourmet food; I'm the kind of guy who just stops by a place that looks good rather than heading for the restaurant of the moment.

~Lee Child

Sometimes if you want to know for sure whether the stove is hot, the only way to find out is to touch it.

~Lee Child

I was in television drama, which is a first cousin to the movies, and I trust myself to make the right decisions.

~Lee Child

I'm not a vagrant... I'm a hobo. Big difference.

~Lee Child

I'd never believed in luck. Never had any cause to. Never relied on it, because I never could.

~Lee Child

He had fallen out of the ugly tree, and hit every branch.

~Lee Child

The most sustained feat of imagination in mystery fiction today.

~Lee Child

That should be your town motto. It's all I ever hear. Like: New Hampshire, Live Free or Die. It should be: Despair, You Need To Leave Now.

~Lee Child

British crime stories tend to be very internal, psychological, claustrophobic, very limited in terms of geography.

~Lee Child

The thriller is not a recent invention. It probably goes back to the dawn of storytelling.

~Lee Child

I went to college. West Point is technically a college.

~Lee Child

I'm not afraid of death. Death's afraid of me.

~Lee Child

Never forget a Favor, Never forgive a Slight!

~Lee Child

The key to thrillers is vicarious pleasure.

~Lee Child

A handgun at two hundred feet is the same thing as crossing your fingers and making a wish.

~Lee Child

It's a kind of zen question: if you write a book and no one reads it, is it really a book?

~Lee Child

I have three desks. One empty for paperwork, one for the internet and email, and one for the writing computer.

~Lee Child

I have to warn you. I promised my mother, a long time ago. She said I had to give folks a chance to walk away.

~Lee Child

It's always sad if anybody you know has a personal problem.

~Lee Child

I've discovered writers by reading books left in airplane seats and weird hotels.

~Lee Child

Most actors are small, anyway - at least compared to me.

~Lee Child

I know I'm smarter than an armadillo

~Lee Child

All of us write wish fulfillment.

~Lee Child

I like food, like any other guy, but it is not the main thing in my life. I can do without it.

~Lee Child

I don't need validation, recognition or praise. What I need are facts and the facts are that one of my books gets sold, somewhere in the world,

every second.

~Lee Child

I don't know what the secret is when I am writing it - it really is a surprise to me.

~Lee Child

Practically any Western has a homesteader in trouble, and a mysterious rider shows up off the range, solves the problem over two or three days, and then rides off into the sunset.

~Lee Child

I'd been a thriller reader all my life.

~Lee Child

Full of thrills and tension - but smart and human too.

~Lee Child

I felt alienated by the experience and decided to stay away from corporate employment.

~Lee Child

For me the end of a book is just as exciting as it is for a reader.

~Lee Child

I always wanted to be in the world of entertainment. I just love the idea of an audience being happy with what I am doing. Writing is showbusiness for shy people. That's how I see it.

~Lee Child

A calm environment is for after I finish work.

~Lee Child

My mother still calls me Jim and that is about it. Everyone else calls me

Lee. My wife calls me whatever.

~Lee Child

I love Italian food but that's too generic a term for what's available now: you have to narrow it down to Tuscan, Sicilian, and so on.

~Lee Child

Now they broke my toothbrush, I don't own anything.

~Lee Child

Reacher said, "So here's the thing Brett. Either you take your hand off my chest, or I'll take it off your wrist.

~Lee Child

Lone women shouldn't stop in the middle of nowhere for giant unkempt strangers with duct tape on their faces.

~Lee Child

Plan A is to hitch a ride out of here. But if they want a war, then plan B is to win it.

~Lee Child

Printing currency for foreigners to buy is the best racket a government can get into.

~Lee Child

I just felt from personal observation that there is nothing more dislocated or alienated than a lifelong military person trying to cope in civilian life. It's like two completely separate planets.

~Lee Child

I think my books come out very visual, which is an obvious consequence.

~Lee Child

Some old guy once said that the meaning of life is that it ends.

~Lee Child

It's always tense when you move a character from a book to the screen. Always tense.

~Lee Child

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