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People say it gets better but it doesn't. It just gets different, that's all.

~Maggie Smith

I like being outside and working with the elements. The elemental aspects of it. The physicality of it.

~Maggie Smith

I like the ephemeral thing about theatre, every performance is like a ghost - it's there and then it's gone.

~Maggie Smith

When you get into the granny era, you're lucky to get anything.

~Maggie Smith

Listen, I must be 110 by now. Granny is going to kick the bucket at some point.

~Maggie Smith

I tend to head for what's amusing because a lot of things aren't happy. But usually you can find a funny side to practically anything.

~Maggie Smith

There is a kind of invisible thread between the actor and the audience, and when it's there it's stunning, and there is nothing to match that.

~Maggie Smith

Little girls, I am in the business of putting old heads on young shoulders, and all my pupils are the crÃ"me de la crÃ"me. Give me a girl at an impressionable age and she is mine for life.

~Maggie Smith

One went to school, one wanted to act, one started to act, and one's still acting.

An actor is somebody who communicates someone else's words and emotions to an audience. It's not me. It's what writers want me to be.

~Maggie Smith

It's true I don't tolerate fools but then they don't tolerate me, so I am spiky. Maybe that's why I'm quite good at playing spiky elderly ladies.

~Maggie Smith

Don't be defeatist, dear, it's very middle class.

~Maggie Smith

Theres a difference between solitude and loneliness

~Maggie Smith

Try not to cry too much because it can be pretty heart-breaking and pretty hard.

~Maggie Smith

I said 'It can't go on' and he said 'No, it can't.' Honestly, I don't think I could have mattered less to him by then. But by then, nothing mattered to him.

~Maggie Smith

We can't escape the shadow, so the best thing we can do is notice the light and be open to it.

~Maggie Smith

I know there is something out there and like most people, I tend to believe in it more when things go bad.

~Maggie Smith

There were male colleges, and there were very few female colleges.

I'm far, far, far from that. But of course, that's one of the joys of acting is that you can move up in the world, even if - you know, in the characters that you're playing, even if you don't.

~Maggie Smith

People think of you differently if you've been in their homes. They think they own you because they watched you while they were eating dinner, or they can turn you up or down, or even freeze you.

~Maggie Smith

Chris and Toby are far too sane to be upset any more.

~Maggie Smith

I don't think films about elderly people have been made very much.

~Maggie Smith

The performances you have in your head are always much better than the performances on stage.

~Maggie Smith

I believe that I am past my prime. I had reckoned on my prime lasting till I was at least fifty.

~Maggie Smith

My career is chequered. Then I think I got pigeon-holed in humour; Shakespeare is not my thing.

~Maggie Smith

It's easy to get bogged down in bad news.

~Maggie Smith

I'd done "Gosford Park," a film that Julian Fellowes had written that Robert Altman directed.

Where you get people who want to take a picture of you or take a picture of them with you.

~Maggie Smith

There was nobody in the family who had ever done anything like that before. My brothers - I had two brothers. They were twins. They both became architects. They were both six years older.

~Maggie Smith

The last couple of years have been a write-off, though I'm beginning to feel like a person now. My energy is coming back.

~Maggie Smith

It seems to me there is a change in what audiences want to seeâ€I can only hope that's correct, because there's an awful lot of people of my age around now and we outnumber the others.

~Maggie Smith

It was - it's always very nice to be somebody rather grand.

~Maggie Smith

Which is strange - I've always thought of myself as someone who writes out of difficulty. And I did do that, but I came out on the side of light more often than not.

~Maggie Smith

I'm hopeless - all I know is that time is going past so fast.

~Maggie Smith

It's funny to be pigeonholed so late in life but there we are.

~Maggie Smith

I'm so moved to hear Celia Johnson again, so lovely.

The drama school was in Oxford - and it's funny to think of it, but in those days when I started out the University was nearly all male. And they certainly weren't mixed.

~Maggie Smith

The thing is, often press people ask questions that are so personal that even your nearest and dearest wouldn't ask them.

~Maggie Smith

A lot of writing about being a mother is not so much writing about the kids themselves. They become placeholders for the shift that happens when you're suddenly in charge of other people.

~Maggie Smith

If someone is going to talk about the process of making a film, it should be the director.

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