Mother, Thinking, People, School, College, Character, Kids, Mean, Mom, Way, Growing Up, Sports, Years, Father, Littles, Trying, Passion, New York, Spirit, Hurt

To really be conscious of how long the journey is, be patient, push yourself, persevere and always be working on your craft while waiting for your break.

~Mahershala Ali

The people that I admire have a wonderful balance of self-belief and humility.

~Mahershala Ali

Hold tight to the mentality of being a student, meaning hold on to curiosity and approach life as a student.

~Mahershala Ali

I always hope to be a better person tomorrow than today.

~Mahershala Ali

I'm not much of cook, but I cook a mean bowl of oatmeal.

~Mahershala Ali

I think what I've learned from working on "Moonlight" is we see what happens when you persecute people. They fold into themselves.

~Mahershala Ali

At the end of the day we're all spirits having a physical experience.

~Mahershala Ali

At the end of the day we're all spirits having a physical experience. That really comes from my relationship with Islam because it just makes me really conscious of my action.

~Mahershala Ali

I think my mom gave me the borders, the - gave me a very clear understanding of what the perimeter was. And I had to find my fun within those boundaries.

~Mahershala Ali

This is 2003, 2004. And then I started - after the Patriot Act, I would always get my financial packages in the mail and they would just be opened. And it was like, what is going on here?

~Mahershala Ali

It felt like it disrupted my rhythm in growing up. But I will say that I'm really grateful for [my mother's] own personal transition.

~Mahershala Ali

I do think that there are people who are able to connect with and empathize with anyone who is going through something difficult, just naturally. I don't think it's a world of effort for everyone.

~Mahershala Ali

Between the two [parents], it was a really unique upbringing, I think, especially for where I was from.

~Mahershala Ali

Getting to St. Mary's College was a big deal for me because that essentially led to me getting to go to NYU.

~Mahershala Ali

I didn't have the passion for athletics in that way, that there were other parts of me that felt under-served and that needed to be nurtured and needed my energy.

~Mahershala Ali

I played all four years [at St. Mary's College] with - at a certain point, basketball became the thing I was doing most, but it was really in my periphery.

~Mahershala Ali

It was really a focus on how to in some ways keep moving in this direction towards something that allowed me to express myself in a way that sports didn't.

~Mahershala Ali

How do I transform and be believable as Krogstad in "A Doll's House" or Sir Peter Teazle in "A School for Scandal".

~Mahershala Ali

I've personally been on the outside sometimes. But I was - I personally was never persecuted especially in the way in which sharing my own experiences.

~Mahershala Ali

In my time at St. Mary's College, drifting out of sports because it was something that began to feel really finite. And I could see that I didn't have the passion to sustain a career in sports.

~Mahershala Ali

I had read some books on the Baha'i Faith. I had read - I was looking into Buddhism and trying to understand sort of the agnostic approach, so there was just a bunch of stuff I was just looking at.

~Mahershala Ali

Gay, straight - whatever - adolescents in high school and coming out of junior high, that's such a difficult, awkward period and kids can be so cruel and mean.

~Mahershala Ali

Again, having - fortunately having never been in trouble. And eventually I found out that I was on a watch list.

~Mahershala Ali

The freedom that I wanted as a kid would - probably would not have

been good for me and not in the way in which I wanted it.

~Mahershala Ali

I grew up in church. My mom's a minister, and my grandmother was an ordained minister. I was always very mindful of the presence of a greater being I call God.

~Mahershala Ali

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