

# Maria Semple Quotes

*Thinking, Writing, People, Mom, Book, Mean, World, Past, Eye, Girl, Want, Fun,  
House, Home, Dark, Life, Television, Might, Brain, Filled*

I got a huge knot in my stomach because if Antarctica could talk, it would be saying only one thing: you don't belong here. (277)

~Maria Semple

The sooner you learn it's on you to make life interesting, the better off you'll be.

~Maria Semple

This is why you must love life: one day you're offering up your social security number to the Russian Mafia; two weeks later you're using the word calve as a verb.

~Maria Semple

I think because I try to keep things as real as I can, or I try to start from a place of reality, I almost don't have the imagination to write a book that's not set where I am.

~Maria Semple

I'm not too good when exposed to people

~Maria Semple

Anything I write I ask myself: Is it true, is it entertaining?

~Maria Semple

Unfortunately Seattle is my muse, for the better or worse of Seattle - I'm not sure.

~Maria Semple

I think one of the good things about writing novels is that you always start from scratch.

~Maria Semple

I can't tell you the number of times I've been in the middle of a perfunctory conversation, and someone will say, 'Tell us what you really

think.' Or 'Maybe you should switch to decaf.

~Maria Semple

When I'm creatively solving problems, I'm in my sweet spot, and nothing can take me out of that joyful present.

~Maria Semple

I felt so full of love for everything. But at the same time, I felt so hung out there to dry, like nobody could ever understand. I felt so alone in this world, and so loved at the same time.

~Maria Semple

I want find a part of myself that I feel shame about, or that I feel really scared of exposing to the world.

~Maria Semple

My way of looking at the world is that if it is true, it is funny and it is dark. No matter how dark it is, I just think it is funny. I can't help it.

~Maria Semple

When I'm writing a book, I draw from my immediate experience, and my books are therefore almost a snapshot of where I am at that moment in my life.

~Maria Semple

Ruthless concern with story is what I learned in television.

~Maria Semple

I think that's the most important job of a novelist - to bring authority to their writing.

~Maria Semple

Can you believe the weather?'...'Actually, I CAN believe the weather. What I can't believe is that I'm actually having a conversation about the

weather.

~Maria Semple

Your mission statement says Galer Street is based on global "connectitude." (You people don't just think outside the box, you think outside the dictionary!)

~Maria Semple

Maggie Shipstead's prose is so graceful and muscular, so dazzling, so sure-handed and fearless, that at times I had to remind myself to breathe. *Astonish Me* is a treasure of small surprises.

~Maria Semple

Breezy, sophisticated, hilarious, rude and aching with sweetness: *LOVE, NINA* might be the most charming book I've ever read.

~Maria Semple

I love the camaraderie of a writers' room.

~Maria Semple

*Mad About You* fit my sensibility the most of any show that I worked on, and as a result, it was really fun. It felt like a very natural fit.

~Maria Semple

Maybe that's what religion is, hurling yourself off a cliff and trusting that something bigger will take care of you and carry you to the right place.

~Maria Semple

My day is not that fun-filled or that filled usually with complications.

~Maria Semple

I'd say I never considered myself a great architect. I'm more of a creative problem solver with good taste and a soft spot for logistical nightmares.

~Maria Semple

One of the main reasons I don't like leaving the house is because I might find myself face to face with a Canadian.

~Maria Semple

I'll see something awful on the street and I'll come home and say to my boyfriend, "I just saw the funniest thing on the street." It's a stance. It's the way I was born, or the way I was damaged.

~Maria Semple

The first stop on this crazy train is Kindergarten Junction, and nobody gets off until it pulls into Harvard Station.

~Maria Semple

You bet your bindi that's how big I want it.

~Maria Semple

I spend my whole life trying to put up a front to prevent people from seeing certain parts of me. Weirdly, when I go to write, I feel like I have to expose it, almost compulsively.

~Maria Semple

My strength as a TV writer was my total lack of interest in television.

~Maria Semple

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