

# Mona Simpson Quotes

*Men, Mother, Forever, Thinking, Parent, Writing, Father, People, Stories,  
Income, Morning, Grew Up, Ice Cream, Grandmother, Brother, World, Faces,  
Generations, Beautiful, Identity*

We all - in the end - die in medias res. In the middle of a story. Of many stories.

~Mona Simpson

Fashion is what seems beautiful now but looks ugly later; art can be ugly at first but it becomes beautiful later.

~Mona Simpson

Even as a feminist, my whole life I'd been waiting for a man to love, who could love me. For decades, I'd thought that man would be my father. When I was 25, I met that man and he was my brother.

~Mona Simpson

Everybody in America grew up without a father even if they had one. It was the fifties. They were working.

~Mona Simpson

Often, I think, displaced people imagine themselves leading double lives. So a portion of my identity has always been privately siphoned into what would have been if I had stayed in Wisconsin.

~Mona Simpson

Once upon a time, my mother lived in the posh downtown of Homs, Syria. She described my grandfather as a king in a storybook, atop a horse, wearing a didashah and pointing a long arm.

~Mona Simpson

Reading-not occasionally, not only on vacation but everyday-gives me nourishment and enlarges my life in mysterious and essential ways.

~Mona Simpson

So many things that seemed crucial and excruciatingly hard ended and then didn't matter anymore, forever after

~Mona Simpson

We come into the world whole, all of us, but we don't know that, don't know that life will be taking large chunks out of us, forever.

~Mona Simpson

The first person besides my mother who believed in me was a man whose last name I never knew. He was my boss, the manager of Swenson's Ice Cream shop.

~Mona Simpson

Casebook is my attempt at a love story. I had a vision of a difficult love.

~Mona Simpson

I knew I would hate my best memory because it would prove that people could fake love or that love could end or worst of all, love was not powerful enough to change a life.

~Mona Simpson

Love ruined people's lives, the way our parents said drugs could.

~Mona Simpson

He was a man too busy to flush toilets.

~Mona Simpson

In every person's face, there is one place that seems to express them most accurately. With my grandmother, you always looked at her mouth.

~Mona Simpson

Sometimes, a stage curtain parts and you see: life could be better if you had more. Usually, I think, we can get just as good a different way. But tricks, they do not always work.

~Mona Simpson

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