

Nick Hornby

Quotes

*People, Book, Reading, Thinking, Football, Want, Real, Mean, Song, Heart,
Years, Home, Girl, Writing, Men, Self, Believe, Suicide, Way, Sleep*

The natural state of the football fan is bitter disappointment, no matter what the score.

~Nick Hornby

It's brilliant, being depressed; you can behave as badly as you like.

~Nick Hornby

Record stores can't save your life. But they can give you a better one.

~Nick Hornby

I suddenly had a little epiphany: all the books we own, both read and unread, are the fullest expression of self we have at our disposal.

~Nick Hornby

I fell in love with football as I was later to fall in love with women: suddenly, inexplicably, uncritically, giving no thought to the pain or disruption it would bring with it.

~Nick Hornby

For alarmingly large chunks of an average day, I am a moron.

~Nick Hornby

It's a mystery of human chemistry and I don't understand it, some people, as far as their senses are concerned, just feel like home.

~Nick Hornby

Radio football is football reduced to its lowest common denominator.

~Nick Hornby

Hard is trying to rebuild yourself, piece by piece, with no instruction book, and no clue as to where all the important bits are supposed to go.

~Nick Hornby

It's no good pretending that any relationship has a future if your record collections disagree violently or if your favorite films wouldn't even speak to each other if they met at a party.

~Nick Hornby

Everyone knows how to talk, and no one knows what to say.

~Nick Hornby

Sentimental music has this great way of taking you back somewhere at the same time that it takes you forward, so you feel nostalgic and hopeful all at the same time.

~Nick Hornby

The plain state of being human is dramatic enough for anyone; you don't need to be a heroin addict or a performance poet to experience extremity. You just have to love someone.

~Nick Hornby

I couldn't bear to think about the proper future, so I just tried to make things better for the next twenty minutes or so, over and over again.

~Nick Hornby

No man is an island.

~Nick Hornby

When you get older, it feels like happy memories and sad memories are pretty much the same thing. It is all just emotion in the end. And any of it can make you weep.

~Nick Hornby

But the internet had changed everything: nobody was forgotten anymore.

~Nick Hornby

One could argue that most of the trouble in the world is caused by introspection.

~Nick Hornby

I lost the plot for a while then. And I lost the subplot, the script, the soundtrack, the intermission, my popcorn, the credits, and the exit sign.

~Nick Hornby

There isn't so much to be afraid of, out there. I can remember thinking it was funny to find that out, on the last night of my life; I'd spent the rest of it being afraid of everything.

~Nick Hornby

Even bad times have good things in them to make you feel alive.

~Nick Hornby

I'm a good person. In most ways. But I'm beginning to think that being a good person in most ways doesn't count for anything very much, if you're a bad person in one way.

~Nick Hornby

We can't be as good as we'd want to, so the question then becomes, how do we cope with our own badness?

~Nick Hornby

One thing about great art: it made you love people more, forgive them their petty transgressions. It worked in the way that religion was supposed to, if you thought about it.

~Nick Hornby

Everything's complicated, even those things that seem flat in their bleakness or sadness.

~Nick Hornby

I can see that now. I can see everything once it's already happened â€” I'm very good at the past. It's the present I can't understand.

~Nick Hornby

He'd told her it was just a scratch and got cross when she hadn't offered morphine.

~Nick Hornby

Books are, let's face it, better than everything else.

~Nick Hornby

I love the detail about the workings of the human heart and mind that only fiction can provide - film can't get in close enough.

~Nick Hornby

Cynicism is our shared common language, the Esperanto that actually caught on, and though I'm not fluent in it - I like too many things, and I'm not envious of enough people - I know enough to get by.

~Nick Hornby

Not for the first time in my life, and certainly not for the last, a self-righteous gloom had edged out all semblance of logic.

~Nick Hornby

The plain state of being human is dramatic enough for anyone

~Nick Hornby

There had been times when he knew, somewhere in him, that he would get used to it, whatever it was, because he had learnt that some hard things became softer after a very little while.

~Nick Hornby

Sarcasm and compassion are two of the qualities that make life on Earth tolerable.

~Nick Hornby

...self-consciousness is a man's worst enemy.

~Nick Hornby

I've committed to nothing...and that's just suicide...by tiny, tiny increments.

~Nick Hornby

There were about seventy-nine squillion people in the world, and if you were very lucky, you would end up being loved by fifteen or twenty of them.

~Nick Hornby

You wouldn't believe that so much could change just because a relationship ended.

~Nick Hornby

The trouble with history is that there are too many people involved

~Nick Hornby

Love, it turns out, is as undemocratic as money, so it accumulates around people who have plenty of it already: the sane, the healthy, the lovable.

~Nick Hornby

Self-pity is an ignoble emotion, but we all feel it, and the orthodox critical line that it represents some kind of artistic flaw is dubious, a form of emotional correctness.

~Nick Hornby

It's no wonder we're all such a mess, is it? We're like Tom Hanks in Big. Little boys and girls trapped in adult bodies and forced to get on with it.

~Nick Hornby

Telling me I can do anything I want is like pulling the plug out of the bath and then telling the water it can go anywhere it wants. Try it, and see what happens.

~Nick Hornby

I'm still not a very good white wine, but I'm drinkable - you could put me in a punch, anyway.

~Nick Hornby

It's often the way that people who take their work seriously laugh at stupid jokes; it's as if they are under-humored and, as a consequence, suffer from premature laugh-ejaculation.

~Nick Hornby

We are never allowed to forget that some books are badly written; we should remember that sometimes they're badly read, too.

~Nick Hornby

Most people have a rope that ties them to someone, and that rope can be short or it can be long. (Be long. Belong. Get it?) You don't know how long, though. It's not your choice.

~Nick Hornby

The truth will set you free. Either that or it'll get you a punch in the nose.

~Nick Hornby

You had to live in your own bubble. You couldn't force your way into someone else's, because then it wouldn't be a bubble any more.

~Nick Hornby

We have one of those conversations where every thing clicks, meshes, corresponds, locks, where even our pauses, even our punctuation marks, seem to be nodding in agreement.

~Nick Hornby

The outward manifestations of an inner combustion are never very directed.

~Nick Hornby

There are many differences between a baby and an I-Pod. And one of the biggest is, no ones going to mug you for your baby.

~Nick Hornby

I don't even feel as if I'm the center of my own world, so how am I supposed to feel as though I'm the center of anyone else's?

~Nick Hornby

Complaining about boring football is a little like complaining about the sad ending of King Lear: it misses the point somehow.

~Nick Hornby

Life isn't, and has never been, a 2-0 home victory after a fish and chip lunch.

~Nick Hornby

Definitely avoid going out with ugly girls who say they want to be models. Not because they're ugly, but because they're mad".

~Nick Hornby

We're here for such a short amount of time. Why do we spend any of it building sandcastles?

~Nick Hornby

The artistic temperament is particularly unhelpful if it is just that, with no end product.

~Nick Hornby

One has so many more opinions about what has gone wrong than about what is perfect.

~Nick Hornby

It's just that romance, with its dips and turns and glooms and highs, its swoops and swoons and blues, is a natural metaphor for music itself

~Nick Hornby

He has the personality of a child prodigy, but no discernable talent.

~Nick Hornby

Sometimes we have to be judged by our one-offs.

~Nick Hornby

So it's not about what you do. It can't be, can it? It has to be about how you are, how you love, how you treat yourself and those around you, and that's where I get eaten up.

~Nick Hornby

You'll remember someone who broke your heart, and you'll think to yourself, 'Oh yes, I remember how that feels.' But you can't.

~Nick Hornby

Reciprocation was a pretty powerful stimulant to the imagination.

~Nick Hornby

It's not what you like but what you are like that's important.

~Nick Hornby

Sequels are very rarely a good idea, and in any case, the success of the book changed my relationship with the club in some ways.

~Nick Hornby

I have a really low boredom threshold.

~Nick Hornby

By the early seventies I had become an Englishman - that is to say, I hated England just as much as half my compatriots seemed to do.

~Nick Hornby

As I get older, the tyranny that football exerts over my life, and therefore over the lives of the people around me, is less reasonable and less attractive.

~Nick Hornby

We spent all those years talking about stuff we had in common, and the last few months noticing all the ways we were different and it broke both of our hearts.

~Nick Hornby

I don't believe in Heaven or anything. But I want to be the kind of person that qualifies for entry anyway.

~Nick Hornby

â€œI've had a bad week." "What's happened?" "Nothing's happened. I've had a bad week in my head, is all.

~Nick Hornby

But then, that was the trouble with relationships generally. They had their own temperature and there was no thermostat.

~Nick Hornby

One day, maybe not in the next few weeks, but certainly in the conceivable future, someone will be able to refer to me without using the word 'arse' somewhere in the sentence.

~Nick Hornby

[H]ow was I supposed to get excited about the oppression of females if

they couldn't be trusted to stay upright during the final minutes of a desperately close promotion campaign?

~Nick Hornby

Like all books that have that kind of momentum, it starts from word of mouth.

~Nick Hornby

It's no good looking to writers for definitions of what constitutes proper writing, because you will drive yourself crazy, and you won't find anything that you can build into a coherent whole.

~Nick Hornby

When even the scrupulously detached BBC is exhorting us to talk to God, you know something is going on.

~Nick Hornby

You have to work at relationships. You can't just walk out on them every time something goes wrong.

~Nick Hornby

I don't want my books to exclude anyone, but if they have to, then I would rather they excluded the people who feel they are too smart for them!

~Nick Hornby

But I suspect that all writers come up with premises of some kind, fragments of narrative or scenarios, in the course of a working week.

~Nick Hornby

You can wait forever for the muse to sit on your shoulder, but most of the time you know what has to be done and inspiration is not going to help you.

~Nick Hornby

On New Year's Eve he could make a resolution to recover some of his previous scepticism, but until then he would do as the Romans do, and smile at people even if he disapproved of them

~Nick Hornby

You know that things aren't going well for you when you can't even tell people the simplest fact about your life, just because they'll presume you're asking them to feel sorry for you.

~Nick Hornby

I'm coming to London next week, by the way, in unhappy circumstances. Are we getting on fine as we are? Or would you like a drink?

~Nick Hornby

I don't think you can call it stalking when it's just phone calls and letters and emails and knocking on the door.

~Nick Hornby

I'm human. That's how humans spend their time, doing shitty things.

~Nick Hornby

my friends don't seem to be friends at all but people whose phone numbers I haven't lost.

~Nick Hornby

It takes a child to say the unsayable.

~Nick Hornby

Women who disapprove of men - and there's plenty to disapprove of - should remember how we started out, and how far we had to travel.

~Nick Hornby

For the best part of 40 years she had genuinely believed that not doing

things would somehow prevent regret, when, of course, the exact opposite was true.

~Nick Hornby

contemporary poetry is a kind of Reykjavik, a place where accessibility and intelligence have been fighting a Cold War by proxy for the last half-century.

~Nick Hornby

The truth about life was that nothing ever ended until you died, and even then you just left a whole bunch of unresolved narratives behind you.

~Nick Hornby

I miss him like one might miss a scar, or wooden leg, something disfiguring but characteristic.

~Nick Hornby

It was hopeless, life, really. It was set up all wrong.

~Nick Hornby

That's why; he's worried about how his life is turning out, and he's lonely, and lonely people are the bitterest of them all

~Nick Hornby

Reading begets reading.

~Nick Hornby

I'm very good at the past. It's the present I can't understand.

~Nick Hornby

Barry, you're over thirty years old. You owe it to your mum and dad not to sing in a group called Sonic Death Monkey.

~Nick Hornby

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