

Patti Smith Quotes

*People, Thinking, Artist, Rocks, Writing, Children, Art, Dream, Want, Mother,
Book, Girl, Believe, Kids, Years, World, Real, Mean, Father, Hands*

My sunglasses are like my guitar.

~Patti Smith

We go through life. We shed our skins. We become ourselves.

~Patti Smith

To be an artist â€” actually, to be a human being in these times â€” it's all difficult. â€! What matters is to know what you want and pursue it.

~Patti Smith

Never let go of that fiery sadness called desire.

~Patti Smith

Where does it all lead? What will become of us? These were our young questions, and young answers were revealed. It leads to each other. We become ourselves.

~Patti Smith

Life isn't some vertical or horizontal line -- you have your own interior world, and it's not neat.

~Patti Smith

I imagined myself as Frida to Diego, both muse and maker. I dreamed of meeting an artist to love and support and work with side by side.

~Patti Smith

Swift is the arrow, dark is the thorn, the slate is clean, the future awaits, awake.

~Patti Smith

To me, punk rock is the freedom to create, freedom to be successful, freedom to not be successful, freedom to be who you are. It's freedom.

~Patti Smith

Make your interactions with people transformational, not just transactional.

~Patti Smith

Art is by nature optimistic. Art is optimistic because it is alive.

~Patti Smith

Polaroid by its nature makes you frugal. You walk around with maybe two packs of film in your pocket. You have 20 shots, so each shot is a world.

~Patti Smith

If we keep our little flame alive, our first feeling of enthusiasm of who we are, without the influence or intervention of others, we will prevail.

~Patti Smith

People have the power to redeem the work of fools.

~Patti Smith

In art and dream may you proceed with abandon. In life may you proceed with balance and stealth.

~Patti Smith

Wisdom was a teapot, pouring from above. Desolation angels, served it up with love.

~Patti Smith

What will happen to us?" I asked. "There will always be us," he answered.

~Patti Smith

Rock n' roll is dream soup, what's your brand?

~Patti Smith

Paths that cross will cross again

~Patti Smith

Even as a child, I knew what I didn't want. I didn't want to wear red lipstick.

~Patti Smith

No one expected me. Everything awaited me.

~Patti Smith

I have loved books all my life. There is nothing more beautiful in our material world than the book.

~Patti Smith

Life is an adventure of our own design intersected by fate and a series of lucky and unlucky accidents.

~Patti Smith

New York has closed itself off to the young and the struggling. But there are other cities. Detroit. Poughkeepsie. New York City has been taken away from you. So my advice is: Find a new city.

~Patti Smith

As far as I'm concerned, being any gender is a drag.

~Patti Smith

People say hello to me. I mean, sometimes the sanitation truck goes by and says, hey Patti.

~Patti Smith

Love is an angel disguised as lust.

~Patti Smith

The people have the power to redeem the work of fools. Upon the

meek the graces shower, it's decreed the people rule.

~Patti Smith

My father was always talking about God, and I idolized my father, so I'd spend hours trying to have mental telepathy with God.

~Patti Smith

I don't think the average American understands what patriotism truthfully is. That's why when I attack our country or attack the government, it's sometimes looked at as unpatriotic. It's not.

~Patti Smith

I came into music because I thought the presentation of poetry wasn't vibrant enough. So I merged improvised poetry with basic rock chords.

~Patti Smith

Freedom is...the right to write the wrong words.

~Patti Smith

I'm right here right now and I want now to be the Golden Age ...if only each generation would realize that the time for greatness is right now when they're alive ... the time to flower is now.

~Patti Smith

When I was a teenager, I had trouble getting a boyfriend, so I imagined Arthur Rimbaud or Bob Dylan as my boyfriend.

~Patti Smith

Got to lose control before you take control.

~Patti Smith

I wanted to go to Portland because it's a really good book town.

~Patti Smith

I understood that in this small space of time we had mutually surrendered our loneliness and replaced it with trust.

~Patti Smith

In the war of magic and religion, is magic ultimately the victor? Perhaps priest and magician were once one, but the priest, learning humility in the face of God, discarded the spell for prayer.

~Patti Smith

Acknowledge all man as fellow creation, but don't follow him.

~Patti Smith

I'm here right now and I want now to be the greatest time.

~Patti Smith

Vowels are the most illuminated letters in the alphabet. Vowels are the colors and souls of poetry and speech. (1976 Penthouse interview)

~Patti Smith

We need a new cosmology. New gods. New sacraments. Another drink.

~Patti Smith

Put down your cell phones, put everything away, and feel your blood pulsing in you, feel your creative impulse, feel your own spirit, your heart, your mind. Feel the joy of being alive and free.

~Patti Smith

I never really wanted to be a singer - not with any longevity. But I always wanted to be a writer.

~Patti Smith

I don't know about that. I'm not a very analytical person. I have various impulses. I've often quoted Walt Whitman's phrase "I contain

multitudes." I understand that.

~Patti Smith

I felt alien my whole life but I didn't feel alien because of my gender. Other people made me aware of my gender.

~Patti Smith

Life is like a roller coaster. It's never going to be perfect - it is going to have perfect moments, and then rough spots, but it's all worth it.

~Patti Smith

When I was young, I knew William Burroughs really well. And William's secret desire, which he never quite did, was to write a straightforward detective novel.

~Patti Smith

A good artist's always got his hand in his zipper.

~Patti Smith

We were as Hansel and Gretel and we ventured out into the black forest of the world.

~Patti Smith

I was horny, but I was innocent 'cause I was a real-late bloomer and not particularly attractive. In fact, homely.

~Patti Smith

If the postman is saying hello to you, then I feel like, wow, that's something special.

~Patti Smith

I always enjoyed doing transgender songs.

~Patti Smith

I learned from him that often contradiction is the clearest way to truth

~Patti Smith

For me, personally, I think drugs are sacred and should be used for work. That's what I believe in. Drugs have a real shamanistic value. I can handle drugs. I've never had a problem.

~Patti Smith

I was so horny in school it felt like my body was filled with electricity. I felt like I had neon bones or something.

~Patti Smith

Those who have suffered understand suffering and therefore extend their hand.

~Patti Smith

Pissing in a river, watching it rise.

~Patti Smith

Often the simplest song is the hardest to write.

~Patti Smith

These are the times, the times of our own, these are the shapes the world we formed.

~Patti Smith

Good news doesn't necessarily have to be a positive thing. Bringing good news is imparting hope to one's fellow man.

~Patti Smith

You can't make a mistake when you improvise.

~Patti Smith

We wanted, it seemed, what we already had, a lover and a friend to

create with, side by side. To be loyal, yet be free.

~Patti Smith

I'm not afraid of terrorism at all. I'm afraid of loss of our freedom, loss of mobility, loss of global comradeship.

~Patti Smith

An artist wears his work in place of wounds.

~Patti Smith

You can't carve up the world. It's not a pie.

~Patti Smith

...my camera is my friend, and I take it everywhere.

~Patti Smith

Why can't I write something that would awake the dead? That pursuit is what burns most deeply.

~Patti Smith

I've always thrived on the encouragement of others.

~Patti Smith

I never felt oppressed because of my gender. When I'm writing a poem or drawing, I'm not a female; I'm an artist.

~Patti Smith

People called me the godmother of punk, but I never name myself anything.

~Patti Smith

I'm okay with roaming around the world in my bunk for days on end. Maybe every third day I'll get a shower or stumble out at dawn and realize I'm in a field in Poland. I like that kind of life.

~Patti Smith

I'm a worker. I do the work to communicate, and I want people to embrace it, and when they do I'm happy.

~Patti Smith

I dreamed of having a book of my own, of writing one that I could put on a shelf.

~Patti Smith

The only way I can lose my mind in bed is to destroy myself in a fantasy.

~Patti Smith

No, my work does not reflect my sexual preferences, it reflects the fact that I feel total freedom as an artist.

~Patti Smith

Punk rock is just another word for freedom.

~Patti Smith

Somehow I started introducing writing into my drawings, and after a time, the language took over and I started getting very involved with the handwriting and then the look of the handwriting.

~Patti Smith

Blessedness is within us all.

~Patti Smith

People need space to air out their thoughts, to have a sense of themselves - unfettered by anything.

~Patti Smith

An artist is somebody who enters into competition with God.

~Patti Smith

In fact, I thought my calling was to be a painter.

~Patti Smith

Lets just say that I think any person who aspires, presumes, or feels the calling to be an artist has a built-in sense of duty.

~Patti Smith

I have seen a lifetime of transgender people and it was hard enough being gay in the '50s and early '60s. One couldn't imagine the cruelty that trans people had to face back then.

~Patti Smith

Artists are traditionally resistant to labels.

~Patti Smith

Remember, we are mortal, but poetry is not.

~Patti Smith

It will not fall away. Man cannot judge it. For art sings of God, and ultimately belongs to Him.

~Patti Smith

I know fashion is a material thing, but we live in a material world and I love clothes.

~Patti Smith

I'm not saying I wasn't flawed or amateurish. But you can never say I did anything to appease the music business.

~Patti Smith

When I'm on my own with my camera, taking these pictures, it feels as if I am in a room of my own, a self-contained world.

~Patti Smith

I think I'm constantly in a state of adjustment.

~Patti Smith

Maybe I'll be 48 and die in the gutter in Paris.

~Patti Smith

My mother answers all my fan mail.

~Patti Smith

I had a really happy childhood - my siblings were great, my mother was very fanciful, and I loved to read. But there was always financial strife.

~Patti Smith

A lot of children don't have a developed aesthetic. I did. I made early choices in life, even about cloth; I liked flannel and not polyester.

~Patti Smith

The new artists coming through were very materialistic and Hollywood, not so engaged in communication.

~Patti Smith

I'm from South Jersey: The idea of eating a roll with olive oil and anchovies or some kind of sardine and drinking mint tea definitely comes from reading Paul Bowles.

~Patti Smith

My introduction to photography and a lot of how I developed aesthetically was through '50s and early-'60s fashion magazines like Harper's Bazaar and Vogue.

~Patti Smith

I love my little overgrown yard. And my house is wonderful. It's

everything that I need.

~Patti Smith

I wasn't thinking so much of music. I wasn't thinking so much of perfection or stardom or any of that stuff.

~Patti Smith

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