

# Paula Fox Quotes

*People, Stories, Reality, Writing, Truth, War, Paris, Book, Thinking, Used,  
Years, Block, Lying, Dresses, Doing Good, Childhood, Combination, Different,  
Feelings, Jobs*

When you read to a child, when you put a book in a child's hands, you are bringing that child news of the infinitely varied nature of life. You are an awakener.

~Paula Fox

A good novel begins with a small question and ends with a bigger one.

~Paula Fox

The minute you become conscious that you are doing good, that's the minute you have to stop because from then on it's wrong.

~Paula Fox

To be human is to be in a story.

~Paula Fox

Families hold each other in an iron grip of definition. One must break the grip, somehow.

~Paula Fox

The language of labels is like paper money, issued irresponsibly, with nothing of intrinsic value behind it, that is, with no effort of the intelligence to see, to really apprehend.

~Paula Fox

Literature is the province of imagination, and stories, in whatever guise, are meditations on life.

~Paula Fox

People steal into one's consciousness and occupy what seems, in retrospect, to have been their place all along.

~Paula Fox

I was the goldfish that leapt out of the bowl.

~Paula Fox

Life is all getting used to what you're not used to.

~Paula Fox

we are, in this country, more open to new ideas. But we are also, it seems to me, more inclined to hail the new as absolute truth - until the next new comes along.

~Paula Fox

I don't like to listen to music while I'm working.

~Paula Fox

Teachers inspire the smallest hearts to grow big enough to change the world.

~Paula Fox

It was hard to reassure grown-ups when you weren't certain yourself what you were feeling and thinkingâ€”when thoughts dissolved before you could name them.

~Paula Fox

I taught writing classes at the University of Pennsylvania for a number of years and I realized that all you can do is encourage people and give them assignments and hope they will write them.

~Paula Fox

The truth came slowly like a story told by people interrupting each other.

~Paula Fox

In my early twenties, that's when I really began to write. Before that, I was too busy working, keeping myself going.

~Paula Fox

Freedom is a public library.

~Paula Fox

Imagination has to do with one's awareness of the reality of other people as well as of one's own reality. Imagination is a bridge between the provincialism of the self and the great world.

~Paula Fox

A lie hides the truth. A story tries to find it.

~Paula Fox

I have a painter's memory. I can remember things from my childhood which were so powerfully imprinted on me, the whole scene comes back.

~Paula Fox

You'll see some bad things, but if you didn't see them, they'd still be happening.

~Paula Fox

My first job was working in a dress shop in Los Angeles in 1940, for \$7 a week.

~Paula Fox

I've always known a lot of very bad people, destructive, brutes of a certain kind. Then I've seen these lovely impulses and what not, and they've stayed with me and comforted me.

~Paula Fox

There was no way to grasp the reality of the present which slid away each second, invisible as air; reality only existed after the fact, in one's vision of the past.

~Paula Fox

My father brought me a box of books once when I was about three and

a half or four. I remember the carton they were in and the covers with illustrations by Newell C. Wyeth.

~Paula Fox

Words are nets through which all truth escapes.

~Paula Fox

I like to cook; it is, for me, a happy combination of mindlessness and purpose.

~Paula Fox

My life was incoherent to me. I felt it quivering, spitting out broken teeth.

~Paula Fox

When I begin a story at my desk, the window to my back, the path is not there. As I start to walk, I make the path.

~Paula Fox

Life was an impenetrable mystery cloaked in babble.

~Paula Fox

There's a certain amount of tyranny in all of us to some extent, and in some people it's much more developed than in others. It's a different balance which makes us all different.

~Paula Fox

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