

# Pete Townshend Quotes

*Rocks, Song, Thinking, Writing, Guitar, Men, People, Play, Want, Blood, Heart,  
Mind, Fool, Rock And Roll, Inspirational, Way, Music, Reality, Doors, World*

The day you open your mind to music, you're halfway to opening your mind to life.

~Pete Townshend

Respect yourself. Try to remember that not everything in life can be perfect. You will make mistakes. That's inevitable. But you are not ugly. You will only be ugly when you behave in an ugly way.

~Pete Townshend

It's like the mod thing is happening again.

~Pete Townshend

I have terrible hearing trouble. I have unwittingly helped to invent and refine a type of music that makes its principal proponents deaf.

~Pete Townshend

Is your perception of 'I Heard It Through the Grapevine' so shallow that it's violated by dancing raisins?

~Pete Townshend

He is the king. If it hadn't been for Link Wray and 'Rumble,' I would have never picked up a guitar.

~Pete Townshend

I was born with a plastic spoon in my mouth.

~Pete Townshend

Rock 'n' Roll might not solve your problems, but it does let you dance all over them

~Pete Townshend

Keith Moon, God rest his soul, once drove his car through the glass doors of a hotel, driving all the way up to the reception desk, got out and asked for the key to his room.

~Pete Townshend

I believe rock can do anything, it's the ultimate vehicle for everything

~Pete Townshend

I played the guitar for ten years before I realized it wasn't a weapon.

~Pete Townshend

I smash guitars because I like them.

~Pete Townshend

Enjoy life. And be careful what you pray for - remember, you will get it all.

~Pete Townshend

We've got to fool the fools, and plan the plans. We must rule the rules, got to stand the stands.

~Pete Townshend

When I grew up, what was interesting for me was that music was color and life was gray. So music for me has always been more than entertainment.

~Pete Townshend

Pick up my guitar and play, just like yesterday / And I get on my knees and pray.

~Pete Townshend

Hearing loss is a terrible thing because it cannot be repaired.

~Pete Townshend

I only really started to go to plays and to be interested in drama 20 years ago when as an artist I was already well-rounded. I think I'm more disciplined today.

~Pete Townshend

Nothing else in nature behaves so consistently and rigidly as a human being in pursuit of hell.

~Pete Townshend

The Who got paid 4000 pounds during those days, but we always smashed our equipment that cost more than 5000 pounds.

~Pete Townshend

If you don't want anyone to know anything about you, don't write anything.

~Pete Townshend

Keith Moon is not interested in Jazz and won't ever be a Jazz drummer because he's more interested in looking good and being screamed at.

~Pete Townshend

The facts don't always reveal the truth, but the truth always reveals the facts.

~Pete Townshend

There's no easy way to be free.

~Pete Townshend

Deep inside of every human being is this feeling that nothing is ever going to be complete, that the circle will never connect - and that itself is the secret to infinity.

~Pete Townshend

I know how it feels to be a woman because I am a woman. And I won't be classified as just a man.

~Pete Townshend

Entertainment came out of this thing called a television, and it was gray. Most of the films that we saw at the cinema were black and white. It was a gray world. And music somehow was in color.

~Pete Townshend

I'M FREE! - I'm free, And freedom tastes of reality, I'm free - I'm free, An' I'm waiting for you to follow me.

~Pete Townshend

Parade your pallor in iniquity.

~Pete Townshend

No one respects the flame quite like the fool who's badly burned

~Pete Townshend

I have to say that anger is the blanket that comes around me, and that blunts and blurs my sense of proportion.

~Pete Townshend

Most of my songs are about Jesus. Most of my songs are about the idea that there is salvation, and that there is a Savior. But I won't mention his name in a song just to get a cheap play.

~Pete Townshend

It's the singer not the song that makes the music move along.

~Pete Townshend

The fact of the matter is, I'm f\*\*king brilliant. Not 'was' brilliant. 'Am' brilliant.

~Pete Townshend

In the midnight of a soul's unsleeping, hear the waterfall of women weeping. Hear the distant noise of traffic stalling, hear the prostituted children calling.

~Pete Townshend

What theatre started to look at much earlier than any other form was the internal operations of ordinary people, sometimes using mythic models in order to tell the story.

~Pete Townshend

I'm an air-conditioned gypsy.

~Pete Townshend

It's sad when people break up.

~Pete Townshend

I'm only interested in rites of passage stories.

~Pete Townshend

It's an ordinary day for Brian. Like, he died every day, you know.

~Pete Townshend

Everything that I had done creatively related to two or three incidents that happened to me when I was a child that I'd forgotten. Everything, absolutely everything.

~Pete Townshend

Songwriting is best. It's the hardest ... finest ... tightest. It also requires the most discipline.

~Pete Townshend

A lot of my audience are in their 50s. But they want me to pretend to continue to be pretending.

~Pete Townshend

What the English like to do is to face reality with a glass of port and a tear and fade off like Basil Rathbone into the sunset.

~Pete Townshend

I want fast food, pretty naked girls preferably tattooed.

~Pete Townshend

I don't need to fight / To prove I'm right / I don't need to be forgiven

~Pete Townshend

Bob Dylan did the first really long record - Like A Rolling Stone - I think it was four minutes.

~Pete Townshend

No matter what happens in the future, rock and roll will save the world.

~Pete Townshend

Rock is very, very important and very, very ridiculous.

~Pete Townshend

Although I was well past my teenage troubles, our music was specifically designed to lubricate the passage from adolescence to adulthood.

~Pete Townshend

Everything that has befallen you happened simply cause it crossed your mind.

~Pete Townshend

I don't really know any other musicians like me. I grew up backstage with my dad who played in a post-war dance band, so I always feel at home at a venue.

~Pete Townshend

We are musicians, entertainers. We can do it. We have the right tools. No worries.

~Pete Townshend

It's the most psychedelic experience I ever had, going to see Hendrix play. When he started to play, something changed: colors changed, everything changed.

~Pete Townshend

I've learned a huge amount because I've been tested and, more importantly, I've been trusted.

~Pete Townshend

Like so many addicts, I'd thought that if I could only sort out my life, I could then sort out my drinking. It was a revelation to see that it would be simpler the other way around

~Pete Townshend

Once she woke with untamed lover's face between her legs, now he's cooled and stifled and it's she who has to beg.

~Pete Townshend

Here comes the new boss Same as the old boss.

~Pete Townshend

Even as age humbles me it feeds my arrogance. There is still nothing that interests me as much as myself.

~Pete Townshend

I want to age with some dignity.

~Pete Townshend

Can't pretend that growin' older never hurts.

~Pete Townshend

The Who is now a brand, not a band; but it is a brand that is upheld by



its audience, not an industry or a cynical moneymaking machine.

~Pete Townshend

The music we play has to be tomorrow's, the things we say have to be today, and the reason for bothering is yesterday.

~Pete Townshend

Any fool can hide, few can play.

~Pete Townshend

It makes me angry when people insist that I have a responsibility to do what they think I should do.

~Pete Townshend

Give love, and keep blood between brothers

~Pete Townshend

Man makes machines to man the machines that make the machines.

~Pete Townshend

Tough boys running the streets, come a little closer. Rough toys under the sheets, nobody knows her.

~Pete Townshend

I think we are incumbent, I am incumbent, the Who is incumbent, anybody that produces anything by me is incumbent by my Englishness.

~Pete Townshend

Don't cry Don't raise your eye Its only teenage wasteland.

~Pete Townshend

I am writing better Stephen Sondheim songs than even Stephen Sondheim is writing.

~Pete Townshend

What the Who is all about is exactly that and it always has been. If it exists today for this concert, it's in response again to a function which is happening out there on the street.

~Pete Townshend

Rough boys I wanna bite and kiss you.

~Pete Townshend

Turning something into low resolution data does seem to make it worth less in the modern world.

~Pete Townshend

Water is more precious than oil. Both are more precious than music. Music won't heat a house or help a plant to grow.

~Pete Townshend

Punk rock was the tsunami that threatened to drown us all in 1977.

~Pete Townshend

Beach is a place where a man can feel he's the only soul in the world that's real.

~Pete Townshend

Give blood, but you may find that blood is not enough.

~Pete Townshend

We won't get fooled again!

~Pete Townshend

Looking back, I don't know why we needed it to be quite so loud all the time.

~Pete Townshend

I am an animal, my teeth are sharp and my mouth is full, and the passion is strong.

~Pete Townshend

Prayer TV looks like pay TV to me.

~Pete Townshend

All good art cannot help but confront denial on its way to truth.

~Pete Townshend

I bought a Dutch barge and turned it into a recording studio. My plan was to go to Paris and record rolling down the Seine.

~Pete Townshend

I sing my heart out to the wide open spaces I sing my heart out to the infinite sea I sing my vision to the sky-high mountains I sing my song to the free.

~Pete Townshend

There's a man upon that ledge, he's only cleaning windows. What a shame for the pain we're missing. Gonna lean back on my wall and pray for him to fall.

~Pete Townshend

Your love is like heroin.

~Pete Townshend

I respect those who follow religious routes only if they seem to me to be morally proper and in accord with the modern world.

~Pete Townshend

Dance is the only thing that lets you lose yourself and find yourself at the same time.

~Pete Townshend

Young and old will sit and judge unfeeling, while the empty churches' bells are pealing. And the green hills lay ignored, untended, lonely watchers remain unbefriended.

~Pete Townshend

I see a boy with his mother's ambition, performing for love, trained in submission.

~Pete Townshend

Let my love open the door To yourheart.

~Pete Townshend

It's terrible feeling like an eligible bachelor but no women seeming to agree with you.

~Pete Townshend

If I were to have my own brand of guitars, they would have to be industructable.

~Pete Townshend

I want to get inside your bitter mind and see what I can find.

~Pete Townshend

I'll spend my mornings at the sunshine cafÃ©.

~Pete Townshend

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