

# Philip Pullman

## Quotes

*Writing, Thinking, Book, Stories, Children, Lying, Believe, Long, Fighting, People, Feelings, Ideas, Mean, Way, Reading, World, Christian, Fall, Mind, Doe*

True education flowers at the point when delight falls in love with responsibility.

~Philip Pullman

You cannot change what you are, only what you do.

~Philip Pullman

That's the duty of the old, to be anxious on behalf of the young. And the duty of the young is to scorn the anxiety of the old.

~Philip Pullman

After nourishment, shelter and companionship, stories are the thing we need most in the world.

~Philip Pullman

One curious thing about growing up is that you don't only move forward in time; you move backwards as well, as pieces of your parents' and grandparents' lives come to you.

~Philip Pullman

We don't need lists of rights and wrongs, tables of do's and don'ts: we need books, time, and silence. Thou shalt not is soon forgotten, but Once upon a time lasts forever.

~Philip Pullman

I stopped believing there was a power of good and a power of evil that were outside us. And I came to believe that good and evil are names for what people do, not for what they are.

~Philip Pullman

If you want something you can have it, but only if you want everything that goes with it, including all the hard work and the despair, and only if you're willing to risk failure.

~Philip Pullman

Just finished 'Secrecy' - truly enthralling both as a love story and as a tale of suspense - but much more than both.

~Philip Pullman

Read like a butterfly, write like a bee.

~Philip Pullman

Being in love was like China: you knew it was there, and no doubt it was very interesting, and some people went there, but I never would.

~Philip Pullman

Argue with anything else, but don't argue with your own nature.

~Philip Pullman

Imagination is a form of seeing

~Philip Pullman

Once upon a time' lasts forever.

~Philip Pullman

Men pass in front of our eyes like butterflies, creatures of a brief season. We love them; they are brave, proud, beautiful, and clever.

~Philip Pullman

No one has the right to live without being shocked.

~Philip Pullman

There are some themes, some subjects, too large for adult fiction; they can only be dealt with adequately in a children's book.

~Philip Pullman

A story, to me, has a particular sprite, like the angel of the spirit of that story - and it's my job to attend to what it wants to do.

~Philip Pullman

We have to build the Republic of Heaven where we are, because for us there is no elsewhere.

~Philip Pullman

We are all subject to the fates. But we must act as if we are not, or die of despair.

~Philip Pullman

Thou Shalt Not is soon forgotten, but Once Upon a Time is forever.

~Philip Pullman

My only real claim to anyone's attention lies in my writing

~Philip Pullman

For a long time I thought I was a poet, but that's a high title to claim.

~Philip Pullman

If you can't think of what to write, tough luck; write anyway.

~Philip Pullman

Everything has a meaning, if only we could read it.

~Philip Pullman

"And then what?" said her daemon sleepily. "Build what?" "The Republic of Heaven," said Lyra.

~Philip Pullman

'For a human being, nothing comes naturally,' said Grumman. 'We have to learn everything we do.'

~Philip Pullman

The fairy tale is in a perpetual state of becoming and alteration. To keep to one version or one translation alone is to put robin redbreast in a cage.

~Philip Pullman

This is the value for me of writing books that children read. Children aren't interested in your appalling self-consciousness. They want to know what happens next. They force you to tell a story.

~Philip Pullman

It takes long practice, yes. You have to work. Did you think you could snap your fingers, and have it as a gift? What is worth having is worth working for.

~Philip Pullman

You don't win races by wishing, you win them by running faster than everyone else does.

~Philip Pullman

...because where we are is always the most important place.

~Philip Pullman

She was riding a bear! And the Aurora was swaying above them in golden arcs and loops, and all around was the bitter Arctic cold and the immense silence of the North.

~Philip Pullman

Teachers often make the mistake of thinking they're the boss of the class; they're not. The boss of the class is sitting down there somewhere.

~Philip Pullman

Stories are the most important thing in the world. Without stories, we wouldn't be human beings at all.

~Philip Pullman

Every little increase in human freedom has been fought over ferociously

between those who want us to know more and be wiser and stronger, and those who want us to obey and be humble and submit.

~Philip Pullman

I don't know where my ideas come from, but I know where they come to. They come to my desk, and if I'm not there, they go away again.

~Philip Pullman

Long before writing, people were telling each other stories and the audiobook goes all the way back to that tradition.

~Philip Pullman

When you choose one way out of many, all the ways you don't take are snuffed out like candles, as if they'd never existed.

~Philip Pullman

As Jane Austen might have put it: It is a truth universally acknowledged that young protagonists in search of adventure must ditch their parents.

~Philip Pullman

I have stolen ideas from every book I have ever read.

~Philip Pullman

I am a strong believer in the tyranny, the dictatorship, the absolute authority of the writer.

~Philip Pullman

People are too complicated to have simple labels.

~Philip Pullman

Being a practiced liar doesn't mean you have a powerful imagination. Many good liars have no imagination at all; it's that which gives their lies such wide-eyed conviction.

~Philip Pullman

What I couldn't help noticing was that I learned more about the novel in a morning by trying to write a page of one than I'd learned in seven years or so of trying to write criticism

~Philip Pullman

D'you know how embarrassing it is to mention good and evil in a scientific laboratory? Have you any idea? One of the reasons I became a scientist was not to have to think about that kind of thing.

~Philip Pullman

...his face bore an expression that mingled haughty disdain with a tender, ardent sympathy, as if he would love all things if only his nature could let him forget their defects.

~Philip Pullman

She longed for cutlasses, pistols, and brandy; she had to make do with coffee, and pencils, and verbs.

~Philip Pullman

You'll drift apart, it's true, but you'll be out in the open, part of everything alive again.

~Philip Pullman

You speak of destiny as if it was fixed.

~Philip Pullman

Children are not less intelligent than adults; what they are is less informed.

~Philip Pullman

Was there only one world after all which spent its time dreaming of others?

~Philip Pullman

From what we are, spirit; from what we do, matter. Matter and spirit are one.

~Philip Pullman

And think what worrying does: has anyone ever added a single hour to the length of his life by worrying about it?

~Philip Pullman

I'm with the Grimms on this: stories for young and old. You can't characterize them any better than that.

~Philip Pullman

The justice of it seems to children correct and right - I mean, we laugh at it! We underestimate children's ability to know what is a story and what isn't.

~Philip Pullman

I practiced on the greatest model of storytelling we've got, which is "The Iliad" and "The Odyssey." I told those stories many, many times.

~Philip Pullman

There's been terrible things we seen, en't there? And more a coming, more'n likely. So I think I'd rather not know what's in the future. I'll stick to the present.

~Philip Pullman

There's a hunger for stories in all of us, adults too. We need stories so much that we're even willing to read bad books to get them, if the good books won't supply them.

~Philip Pullman

I am a religious person, although I am not a believer.



~Philip Pullman

You don't read it in the sense of reading a message; it doesn't work like that. What's happening is that the Shadows are responding to the attention you pay them.

~Philip Pullman

We measure the value of a civilized society by the number of libraries it opens, not the number it closes down.

~Philip Pullman

The e-book revolution has made it very easy to pay writers a good deal less than what their work is worth. I do strongly believe that we writers ought to hold out for much better royalties.

~Philip Pullman

Well, I have an idea, usually a visual image of some sort. A setting. A particular, I don't know, urban scene, a particular time of day. Something that grips my imagination for some reason.

~Philip Pullman

The great thing about fairy tales and folk tales is that there is no authentic text.

~Philip Pullman

The state of mind which I put myself when I tell a story is one in which superstition flourishes very easily. And I welcome that because it helps me.

~Philip Pullman

Do not lie to the Scholar.

~Philip Pullman

A professional writer is someone who writes just as well when they're

not inspired as when they are.

~Philip Pullman

All things from the north are devilish.

~Philip Pullman

But I know that all the things I do know are very small compared with the things that I don't know.

~Philip Pullman

The Christian religion is a very powerful and convincing mistake.

~Philip Pullman

When he'd sworn at her and been sworn at in return, they became great friends.

~Philip Pullman

Religion grants its adherents malign, intoxicating and morally corrosive sensations. Destroying intellectual freedom is always evil, but only religion makes doing evil feel quite so good.

~Philip Pullman

If there is a war to be fought, we don't consider cost one of the factors in deciding whether or not to fight.

~Philip Pullman

Seems to me-" Lee said, feeling for the words, "seems to me the place you fight cruelty is where you find it, and the place you give help is where you see it needed.

~Philip Pullman

All the history of human life has been a struggle between wisdom and stupidity.

~Philip Pullman

All good things pass away.

~Philip Pullman

I will love you for ever, whatever happens. Till I die and after I die, and when I find my way out of the land of the dead I'll drift about forever, all my atoms, till I find you again.

~Philip Pullman

lorek Byrnison: Can is not the same as must. Lyra Silvertongue: But if you must and you can, then there's no excuse.

~Philip Pullman

We need to ensure that children are not forced to waste their time on barren rubbish.

~Philip Pullman

'Thou shalt not' might reach the head, but it takes 'Once upon a time' to reach the heart.

~Philip Pullman

Tell them stories. They need the truth you must tell them true stories, and everything will be well, just tell them stories.

~Philip Pullman

Human beings can't see anything without wanting to destroy it. That's original sin. And I'm going to destroy it. Death is going to die.

~Philip Pullman

What is worth having is worth working for.

~Philip Pullman

You going to be a scientist when you grow up?â€• That sort of question deserved a blank stare, which it got.

~Philip Pullman

Tell him, we are not devils but we have friends who are.

~Philip Pullman

Then she was pressing her little proud broken self against his face, as close as she could get, and then they died.

~Philip Pullman

There will be days when the stuff is not flowing freely. What you do then is **MAKE IT UP!**

~Philip Pullman

If you can't think of what to write, tough luck; write anyway. If you can think of lots more when you've finished the three pages, don't write it; it'll be that much easier to get going next day.

~Philip Pullman

I don't profess any religion; I don't think it's possible that there is a God.... My books are about killing God.

~Philip Pullman

Writing is tyranny ... but reading is democracy.

~Philip Pullman

I am a story teller. If I wanted to send a message I would have written a sermon.

~Philip Pullman

Lee was too cool by nature to rage at fate; his manner was to raise an eyebrow and greet it laconically.

~Philip Pullman

Lonely? I don't know. They tell me this is cold. I don't know what cold is, because I don't freeze. So I don't know what lonely means either. Bears are made to be solitary.

~Philip Pullman

Just sort of relax your mind and say yes, it does hurt, I know. Don't try and shut it out.

~Philip Pullman

It does not make sense. It cannot exist. It's impossible, and if it isn't impossible, it's irrelevant, and if it isn't either of those things, it's embarrassing.

~Philip Pullman

We have to learn everything we do.

~Philip Pullman

A murderer was a worthy companion.

~Philip Pullman

No,' he said, 'memory's a poor thing to have. It's your own real hair and mouth and arms and eyes and hands I want. I didn't know I could ever love anything so much.

~Philip Pullman

What I do say is that I can write verse, and that the writing of verse in strict form is the best possible training for writing good prose

~Philip Pullman

**Related Links:**

- Writing Quotes
- Thinking Quotes
- Book Quotes
- Stories Quotes
- Children Quotes
- Lying Quotes
- Believe Quotes
- Long Quotes
- Fighting Quotes
- People Quotes
- Feelings Quotes
- Ideas Quotes
- Mean Quotes
- Way Quotes
- Reading Quotes
- World Quotes
- Christian Quotes
- Fall Quotes
- Mind Quotes
- Doe Quotes