

Pico Iyer Quotes

*Thinking, Home, Years, People, World, Travel, Country, Way, Mind, California,
Moving, Dream, Age, Writing, Heart, Adventure, Reality, Mean, Men, Lying*

In an age of constant movement, nothing is more urgent than sitting still.

~Pico Iyer

Hello Kitty will never speak.

~Pico Iyer

Making a living and making a life sometimes point in opposite directions.

~Pico Iyer

Travel is not really about leaving our homes, but leaving our habits.

~Pico Iyer

But it's only by having some distance from the world that you can see it whole, and understand what you should be doing with it.

~Pico Iyer

Home is not just the place where you happen to be born. It's the place where you become yourself.

~Pico Iyer

We travel, initially, to lose ourselves; and we travel, next to find ourselves.

~Pico Iyer

Finding a sanctuary, a place apart from time, is not so different from finding a faith.

~Pico Iyer

I often think we're most happy when we forget the time.

~Pico Iyer

A person susceptible to "wanderlust" is not so much addicted to

movement as committed to transformation.

~Pico Iyer

We travel, in essence, to become young fools again - to slow time down and get taken in, and fall in love once more.

~Pico Iyer

We travel to open our hearts and eyes and learn more about the world than our newspapers will accommodate.

~Pico Iyer

Every day there are small moments when we have a choice: will we take in more stuff, or just clear our minds out for a bit?

~Pico Iyer

Movement is only as good as the sense of stillness that you can bring to it to put it into perspective.

~Pico Iyer

All good trips are, like love, about being carried out of yourself and deposited in the midst of terror and wonder.

~Pico Iyer

Going nowhere isn't about turning your back on the world; it's about stepping away now and then so that you can see the world more clearly and love it more deeply.

~Pico Iyer

Adventure today means finding one's way back to the silence and stillness of a thousand years ago.

~Pico Iyer

...home lies in the things you carry with you everywhere and not the ones that tie you down.

~Pico Iyer

I think [Dalai Lama] is far and away the most solid, deep-thinking, far-sighted politician I've met, and I've been a journalist for 26 years for Time magazine, so I've met a lot of politicians.

~Pico Iyer

A holy day, after all, is a day for considering everything you otherwise think too little about.

~Pico Iyer

Any school would gain, if the students began the day with meditation, cleared their heads and got themselves centered.

~Pico Iyer

We can better see what we don't have. The other man's grass is always greener and now we can actually go and visit his grass much more and feel the absence of green in our own lives.

~Pico Iyer

So it is that Lonely Places attract as many lonely people as they produce, and the loneliness we see in them is partly in ourselves.

~Pico Iyer

In an age of acceleration, nothing can be more exhilarating than going slow.

~Pico Iyer

In an age of distraction, nothing can feel more luxurious than paying attention.

~Pico Iyer

I suddenly realized I was racing around so much, I could never catch up with my life

~Pico Iyer

The less conscious one is of being a writer, the better the writing.

~Pico Iyer

For citizens who think themselves puppets in the hands of their rulers, nothing is more satisfying than having rulers as puppets in their hands.

~Pico Iyer

Writing is, in the end, that oddest of anomalies: an intimate letter to a stranger.

~Pico Iyer

The more ways we have to connect, the more many of us seem desperate to unplug.

~Pico Iyer

We have more and more ways to communicate, as Thoreau noted, but less and less to say.

~Pico Iyer

As soon as I'm on the road, I see, often palpably, that I know nothing at all, which is always a great liberation.

~Pico Iyer

Like the moon on the water, in a way. When you confront a Zen master, what you're really seeing are not his limitations but yours.

~Pico Iyer

Destinations are less important than the spirit you bring to them.

~Pico Iyer

Writing of every kind is a way to wake oneself up and keep as alive as when one has just fallen in love.

~Pico Iyer

The open road is the school of doubt in which man learns faith in man.

~Pico Iyer

My Christmas present to myself each year is to see how much air travel can open up the world and take me to places as far from sheltered California and Japan as possible.

~Pico Iyer

That's the great advantage of being a foreigner: you're not paying your dues, but you are getting all the benefits.

~Pico Iyer

I'm one of those perverse people who likes being alone. I always took myself to be a community of one. That's what I am comfortable with.

~Pico Iyer

The more we run from a problem, the more we're actually running into it.

~Pico Iyer

Travel, in the superficial sense at least, is a good cure for loneliness. When you travel, especially in the third world, you quickly find that you get more friends than you know what to do with.

~Pico Iyer

To step away from the world isn't to draw back; it's actually a way to tune in.

~Pico Iyer

Serendipity was my tour guide, assisted by caprice

~Pico Iyer

Many people would say that A Tibetan monk, even in Lhasa, may be free while the ruler of China may not be free.

~Pico Iyer

None of the things in life - like love or faith - was arrived at by thinking; indeed, one could almost define the things that mattered as the ones that came as suddenly as thunder.

~Pico Iyer

Death undoes us less, sometimes, than the hope that it will never come.

~Pico Iyer

For me the first great joy of traveling is simply the luxury of leaving all my beliefs and certainties at home, and seeing everything I thought I knew in a different light, and from a crooked angle.

~Pico Iyer

Yet [Dalai Lama] has said very strongly that basic freedoms of thought and speech have to be respected in Tibet and they're not at the moment. Tolerance doesn't mean accepting what's unfair.

~Pico Iyer

Travel, for me, is a little bit like being in love, because suddenly all your senses are at the setting marked æon.

~Pico Iyer

Dalai Lama is taking a subtle and nuanced view of politics and he is thinking in terms of events well beyond our lifetime.

~Pico Iyer

With the war in Iraq, he [Dalai Lama] feels that the causes of that lie maybe hundreds of years ago, and he says, "What we do now may have consequences far into the future that we will never see."

~Pico Iyer

It so often happens that somebody says 'change your life' and you repaint your car rather than re-wire the engine.

~Pico Iyer

There's so much visible stuff around now, we're tempted to forget that it's usually the invisible that matters most.

~Pico Iyer

Travel is an act of humility

~Pico Iyer

Movement is a fantastic privilege but it ultimately only has meaning if you have a home to go back to.

~Pico Iyer

When one questions [Dalai Lama's] political actions, it is worth remembering that he's the single most experienced politician on the planet at this moment.

~Pico Iyer

What we have to do is act as clearly and with as pure motivation as is possible now, and that will sow the seeds for good action maybe in the twenty-second century.

~Pico Iyer

One curiosity of being a foreigner everywhere is that one finds oneself discerning Edens where the locals see only Purgatory.

~Pico Iyer

Technology, in short, cannot teach me how to do without technology.

~Pico Iyer

For more and more of us, home has less to do with a piece of soil than a piece of soul.

~Pico Iyer

We may be joined these days more by the questions we have in common than by the answers we share.

~Pico Iyer

In a world full of shifting borders, everything is happening all at once in every possible direction.

~Pico Iyer

The Dalai Lama says don't pray for peace, don't wait for peace, don't talk about peace - do it right now.

~Pico Iyer

You can continue your practice, you can exercise kindness, you can practice meditation whether you're in a prison or a millionaire's house, whether you're in India or Tibet.

~Pico Iyer

Dalai Lama has not coming to show us his kindness, so that we can enjoy his charisma, he's coming with a specific message for the specific circumstances of the world today.

~Pico Iyer

I think Dalai Lama efforts have been heroic.

~Pico Iyer

I would say that by virtue of transforming politics, [Dalai Lama] is in fact easily underestimated.

~Pico Iyer

I think of the Dalai Lama as a doctor of the mind offering medicine and

specific counsel and cures in the way a great doctor would.

~Pico Iyer

You rebel against your parents until you become them. One day you look in the mirror and you see your father's face.

~Pico Iyer

Comedy is nothing more than tragedy deferred.

~Pico Iyer

The Dalai Lama would say that meditation is something that can help everyone. But he's aware that it can be misused or things can go wrong.

~Pico Iyer

I think Dalai Lama is always careful about stressing that people be led into the practice by somebody who knows what's going on.

~Pico Iyer

When I was two years old, I heard about his [Dalai Lama] flight from Tibet. Being very little, I said, "Oh, good Tibetans, bad Chinese." Those were the black-and-white ways that I thought.

~Pico Iyer

The average American teenager sends or receives 75 text messages a day, though one girl in Sacramento managed to handle an average of 10,000 every 24 hours for a month.

~Pico Iyer

So travel for me is an act of discovery and of responsibility as well a grand adventure and a constant liberation.

~Pico Iyer

Suffering is a privilege. It moves us toward thinking of essential things

and shakes us out of complacency. Calamity cracks you open, moves you to change your ways.

~Pico Iyer

Our own country seemed more polarized than it's ever been and since the two terrorist attacks of 9/11, religion was in greater disrepute than at any other time in my lifetime.

~Pico Iyer

[The Dalai Lama] says Western traditions can teach Tibetans a lot about social action, and he thinks some Christians are very good at that.

~Pico Iyer

More than any religious figure that I can think of, Dalai Lama goes out of his way to attend interfaith conferences; religious harmony is one of his urgent priorities in life.

~Pico Iyer

Dalai Lama is very interested in learning from and sharing tips with people in other traditions, but he always stresses that we shouldn't underestimate the important differences between them.

~Pico Iyer

Everyone is a Wordsworth in certain moods, and every traveler seeks out places that every traveler has missed.

~Pico Iyer

The beauty of being foreign is that it snaps you awake.

~Pico Iyer

American dreams are strongest in the hearts of those who have seen America only in their dreams.

~Pico Iyer

I exult in the fact I can see everywhere with a flexible eye; the very notion of home is foreign to me, as the state of foreignness is the closest thing I know to home.

~Pico Iyer

Its no coincidence that the word holiday suggests a holy day, or that the longest book in the Torah concerns the Sabbath. If you wish to advance in any sphere, the best way is to take a retreat.

~Pico Iyer

In the past, Ive visited remote places - North Korea, Ethiopia, Easter Island - partly as a way to visit remote states of mind: remote parts of myself that I wouldnt ordinarily explore.

~Pico Iyer

For centuries, Cubas greatest resource has been its people.

~Pico Iyer

The Dalai Lama says that when a Catholic and a Buddhist speak, the Buddhist becomes a deeper Buddhist and the Catholic becomes a deeper Catholic.

~Pico Iyer

You can see exile as loss, and then it will be a loss for you. You can treat it as opportunity and then all kinds of benefits accrue.

~Pico Iyer

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