

Roddy Doyle

Quotes

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If there is a heaven, Jane Austen is sitting in a small room with Mother Teresa and Princess Diana, listening to Duran Duran, forever. If there's a hell, she's standing.

~Roddy Doyle

I'm not recognised that much. I'm just a bald man in glasses and there's a rash of them in Dublin. It'd be different if I had a mohican.

~Roddy Doyle

You know people are always putting Ulysses in the top 10 books ever written but I doubt that any of those people were really moved by it.

~Roddy Doyle

It's a big con job. We have sold the myth of Dublin as a sexy place incredibly well; because it is a dreary little dump most of the time.

~Roddy Doyle

I see people in terms of dialogue and I believe that people are their talk.

~Roddy Doyle

Some of the people who look the most normal are probably the maddest people trying to look normal.

~Roddy Doyle

Good ideas are often murdered by better ones.

~Roddy Doyle

When I'm writing I just think there's only the page and me and nobody else.

~Roddy Doyle

I wouldn't go out of my way to experience the indignity of middle-age just because it might be good meat for a story.

~Roddy Doyle

If you are a writer you're at home, which means you're out of touch. You have to make excuses to get out there and look at how the world is changing.

~Roddy Doyle

It's great meeting children because you never know what they will say.

~Roddy Doyle

The Irish are the niggers of Europe, lads.

~Roddy Doyle

She'd tried her hand at most things, but drew the line at honesty.

~Roddy Doyle

To claim that music is more important than oxygen would be trite and sentimental. It would also be true.

~Roddy Doyle

When you grow up on an island, what matters is how you stand to the sea.

~Roddy Doyle

It's hard for me to measure them, or to assess my books because I'm so close to them.

~Roddy Doyle

Most working days I can be at my desk for nine hours a day.

~Roddy Doyle

She's a pot-of-tea-before-I-say-boo-to-you woman. There's always a pile of warm teabags in the sink when I come down, like what a horse would leave behind.

~Roddy Doyle

I like naming characters.

~Roddy Doyle

I'm going to sound like an old man but at my age, it's lovely doing something that you've never done before.

~Roddy Doyle

I tend to plan as I write. And I want to leave myself open and the character open to keep on going until it seems to be the time to stop.

~Roddy Doyle

I do enjoy Gothic fiction or books about zombies if they are well written and I like vampires.

~Roddy Doyle

I don't work to any commissions. I do what I want to do.

~Roddy Doyle

When I was growing up, the exam system didn't allow you to write fiction, so you never did.

~Roddy Doyle

I wasn't even aware of the Year of the Family. I couldn't give a toss. These things - the year of the family, the year of the three-legged dog. I think it's all trash.

~Roddy Doyle

The problem with being Irish... is having 'Riverdance' on your back. It's a burden at times.

~Roddy Doyle

The best way to reveal a character is to get them to open their mouths.

~Roddy Doyle

Schools don't really allow failure and yet it's part of any endeavour, not just writing.

~Roddy Doyle

It was a sign of growing up, when the dark made no more difference to you than the day.

~Roddy Doyle

Sometimes adults seem as though they have cut a chord from being a child.

~Roddy Doyle

Do not place a photograph of your favourite author on your desk, especially if the author is one of the famous ones who committed suicide.

~Roddy Doyle

My novels come from within me; they are things I feel I want to do.

~Roddy Doyle

My parents were sixty years married.

~Roddy Doyle

I write short stories when a little idea occurs to me, that I know isn't a part of a novel that will stand by itself and should be concentrated.

~Roddy Doyle

Dreaming was only nice while it lasted.

~Roddy Doyle

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