

# Scarlett Thomas

## Quotes

*People, Writing, Way, Stories, Together, Mean, Thinking, Ideas, Wonder, Bigs,  
Book, Reading, Real, Ifs, Giving, Firsts, Character, Hate, Would Be, Reason*

People make events into stories. Stories give events meaning.

~Scarlett Thomas

I'm a great believer in gathering together all your obsessions and seeing if you can make a novel out of them.

~Scarlett Thomas

Routine kills creative thought.

~Scarlett Thomas

Homeopathy seemed . . . both mathematical and poetic.

~Scarlett Thomas

What folly takes light through ether to each eye from every horizon.

~Scarlett Thomas

I wonder if the reason I tend to say yes to everything is because I deeply believe that I can survive anything.

~Scarlett Thomas

One of the biggest problems for beginning writers is this need to over-explain.

~Scarlett Thomas

Over to my left is the big grey wall in front of the church. Are we the Thoughts of God? a poster asks. No, I realise. It's the reverse.

~Scarlett Thomas

If something wants to be a story, it will be.

~Scarlett Thomas

I think about stories and their logic and wonder if there can be any such thing as simply "there is a book.

~Scarlett Thomas

Honesty and authenticity are a big deal for me.

~Scarlett Thomas

I hate stereotypes and I hate cliché.

~Scarlett Thomas

You can't do science in a novel, but you can do philosophy. Or, if you're really lucky, you can manage to pose a question in such a way that other people will take it on.

~Scarlett Thomas

The sky was the colour of sad weddings.

~Scarlett Thomas

One minute I was playing chess and doing maths all the time, the next I had been rerouted into more 'normal' girls' activities: reading, writing stories and worrying about my clothes.

~Scarlett Thomas

But I quite like the way you can talk about science without necessarily using mathematics, but using metaphors instead.

~Scarlett Thomas

I erased the thought from my mind, but I couldn't undo the fact that I'd had the thought in the first place.

~Scarlett Thomas

I wonder at what point my life swerved to avoid that, and if that life would have been nicer than the one I've got.

~Scarlett Thomas

One of the paradoxes of writing is that when you write non-fiction everyone tries to prove that it's wrong, and when you publish fiction, everyone tries to see the truth in it.

~Scarlett Thomas

Homeopaths argue that water has a memory.

~Scarlett Thomas

Sometimes you have to trust grownups, perhaps more so when they are not there to actually supervise you.

~Scarlett Thomas

In real life nothing means anything. Stuff happens and there just is no structure.

~Scarlett Thomas

Living for ever would be like marrying yourself, with no possibility of a divorce.

~Scarlett Thomas

My novels are high concept. I guess big ideas interest me more than, say, the minutiae of domestic life.

~Scarlett Thomas

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