

# Sefi Atta Quotes

*Writing, Stories, Play, People, Book, Kings, Notebook, Reach Out, Ideas,  
Imagination, Elements, Very Happy, Wind, Fiction, Bored, Conflict, Betrayal,  
Editors, Passion, England*

I don't have much of an imagination, but I have a mind bank of details, which I play with. It's how I daydream, so writing like that is natural for me.

~Sefi Atta

What works for me is that I read widely and stay focused on my writing. I'm no longer concerned about what happens in the literary marketplace. It is distracting and can lead to discontent.

~Sefi Atta

I never wanted to be a writer; I just had stories I needed to tell.

~Sefi Atta

I never wanted to be a writer; I just had stories I wanted to share so I learnt how to write and kept going. If I could sing or paint, I would.

~Sefi Atta

I don't remember being a keen reader, but apparently I was. My aunt told me that whenever I was teased for reading, I would say, "To each his own."

~Sefi Atta

People don't fear the wind until it fells a tree. Then, they say it's too much.

~Sefi Atta

I don't have a schedule, but I can write for hours non-stop. If I'm drafting a book, I try and do a chapter a day. I dislike first drafts. Revision is a lot more fun, but it takes years.

~Sefi Atta

I have to say that writing about my writing process is more daunting than writing non-fiction.

~Sefi Atta

I read Macbeth as a secondary student in Nigeria and it was like an African play to me. It had all the right elements - witches, kings and assassinations.

~Sefi Atta

At some point, practicality requires that you reach out to people in the business. You have to take care of business if you value your work.

~Sefi Atta

For all forms, writing dialogue is almost like writing music. I pay close attention to rhythms and tones.

~Sefi Atta

I can't say L'Etranger influenced me to write, but for the first time I considered the possibility of telling a story that resembled my own experiences in my own voice.

~Sefi Atta

I get stage fright with short stories. For me it feels like standup comedy: kill or die. I'm more confident when I begin a novel because I know I have space to fail.

~Sefi Atta

I couldn't decide on a title for my first novel and my editor came up with Everything Good Will Come. After that, I thought I should name my own books. A Bit of Difference seems just right.

~Sefi Atta

I'm addicted to writing.

~Sefi Atta

My accountancy experience could come in handy if ever I find myself in the right position. For now, I'm very happy to write.

~Sefi Atta

've had notebooks, but they are nondescript. All I care about is that they fit in my hand. I scribble down ideas. The problem is my best ideas come while I'm driving or showering.

~Sefi Atta

I always begin [a novel] with outlines, but they change and so do my endings and beginnings.

~Sefi Atta

I had stopped writing plays set in villages because they were not relevant to my experiences and I knew my English classmates wouldn't appreciate them.

~Sefi Atta

As a student in England, I studied French and English literature. I read L'Etranger and the rhythm of the novel felt familiar to me - very African.

~Sefi Atta

### **Related Links:**

- Writing Quotes
- Stories Quotes
- Play Quotes
- People Quotes
- Book Quotes
- Kings Quotes
- Notebook Quotes
- Reach Out Quotes
- Ideas Quotes
- Imagination Quotes
- Elements Quotes
- Very Happy Quotes
- Wind Quotes
- Fiction Quotes
- Bored Quotes
- Conflict Quotes
- Betrayal Quotes
- Editors Quotes
- Passion Quotes
- England Quotes