

Tom Perrotta

Quotes

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Maybe that's what we look for in the people we love, the spark of unhappiness we think we know how to extinguish.

~Tom Perrotta

When things don't go well, it helps to think of yourself as a genius and the rest of the world as a bunch of idiots.

~Tom Perrotta

Every minute we were together, I felt like I was wandering in the dark through a strange house, groping for a light switch. And then, whenever I found one and turned it on, the bulb was dead.

~Tom Perrotta

Once you'd broken through that invisible barrier that separates one person from another, you were connected forever, whether you liked it or not.

~Tom Perrotta

Sooner or later we all lose our loved ones. We all have to suffer, every last one of us.

~Tom Perrotta

I read 'The Great Gatsby' in high school and was hypnotized by the beauty of the sentences and moved by the story about the irrevocability of lost love.

~Tom Perrotta

I've been a little bit obsessed with religion, without being a religious person, for about a decade.

~Tom Perrotta

I was also known as Frodo because I was an early adopter of 'The Lord of the Rings.

~Tom Perrotta

I'm used to adapting my novels for feature film - it can be challenging to cut and compress three or four hundred pages into two hours of dramatic action.

~Tom Perrotta

I no longer believe that just about everything is funny, if viewed from the proper angle.

~Tom Perrotta

The lesson you have to learn as novelist is how to be collaborative, and how to say, "I don't get to dictate this."

~Tom Perrotta

I know very few writers who outline fully before they start. It just doesn't seem possible to do, because so many things don't come out until you're absolutely knee-deep in the world.

~Tom Perrotta

Because, really, what was worse than lying wide-awake in the dark, watching your life drip away, one irreplaceable minute after another?

~Tom Perrotta

I don't really distinguish between sympathy and honesty when I'm writing. The two go together - I'm interested in inhabiting my characters, seeing the world through their eyes.

~Tom Perrotta

I did a lot of reading of the Bible and became fascinated with the idea of the Rapture. It's pretty wild. I hadn't heard of it until I was in college.

~Tom Perrotta

Apparently even the most awful tragedies, and the people they'd ruined, got a little stale after a while.

~Tom Perrotta

When I was writing 'The Abstinence Teacher,' I really tried to immerse myself in contemporary American evangelical culture.

~Tom Perrotta

My wife and I left New York when she got pregnant - we just thought it would be really hard to stay in the city.

~Tom Perrotta

Back then, when everybody thought the world would last forever, nobody had time for anything.

~Tom Perrotta

It just so happened that for most of my life I've lived in the suburbs.

~Tom Perrotta

It's like the human race has been programmed for misery.

~Tom Perrotta

As for writing about temptation, there's no drama without temptation, and no novel without drama.

~Tom Perrotta

The interesting part about the writing process is that you can never see all the way to the end, not if something is happening over the course of a year and a half, or two years.

~Tom Perrotta

I find that even small changes sometimes jog you out of a mental rut.

~Tom Perrotta

I write about kids growing up, I write a lot about schools and parents, and all of my experiences with those things have been suburban experiences.

~Tom Perrotta

If anything, he seemed a little lonely, all too ready to open his heart at the slightest sign of interest.

~Tom Perrotta

There's not some finite amount of pain inside us. Our bodies and minds just keep manufacturing more of it.

~Tom Perrotta

I really wanted to be a musician, but it turned out I had no sense of time.

~Tom Perrotta

I used to describe myself as a comic novelist, but my concerns seem to have darkened over the past few years.

~Tom Perrotta

I have actual dreams of Bruce Springsteen calling me up on stage to wear a bandanna and play rhythm guitar next to Little Steven.

~Tom Perrotta

He made me think of all the books I hadn't read, and all the ones I'd read but hadn't fully understood.

~Tom Perrotta

My novels are certainly more exciting than my own life.

~Tom Perrotta

Nothing beats novel writing because it's complete expression of you. You just control everything. Not even a movie director has that level of control.

~Tom Perrotta

It felt good, the whole family together on a sunny morning in a wholesome environment. If it hadn't been for the worshipping God part,

he would have happily attended church on a regular basis.

~Tom Perrotta

It just took some people a little longer than others to realize how few words they needed to get by, how much of life they could negotiate in silence.

~Tom Perrotta

It's not the cheating. It's the hunger for an alternative. The refusal to accept unhappiness.

~Tom Perrotta

I was a garbage man in New Jersey in summers during college at Yale. Everybody else got to go to Switzerland and I got to go to the dump.

~Tom Perrotta

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