

Write to the Heart of Motherhood
Connecting to our true voice in the middle of our messy lives

Week 5. QUOTES



~ TO NURTURE & INSPIRE ~

“Poems are maps for getting lost in the wilderness of your own heart,
where everyone can find you.”

– Alfred K. LaMotte

“Do not ask your children to strive for extraordinary lives.

Such striving may seem admirable,

but it is the way of foolishness.

Help them instead to find the wonder

and the marvel of an ordinary life.

Show them the joy of tasting

tomatoes, apples and pears.

Show them how to cry

when pets and people die.

Show them the infinite pleasure

in the touch of a hand.
And make the ordinary come alive for them.
The extraordinary will take care of itself.”

– William Martin

“Writing and reading decrease our sense of isolation. They deepen and widen and expand our sense of life: they feed the soul. When writers make us shake our heads with the exactness of their prose and their truths, and even make us laugh about ourselves or life, our buoyancy is restored. We are given a shot at dancing with, or at least clapping along with, the absurdity of life, instead of being squashed by it over and over again. It's like singing on a boat during a terrible storm at sea. You can't stop the raging storm, but singing can change the hearts and spirits of the people who are together on that ship.”

– Anne Lamott

“After nourishment, shelter and companionship,
stories are the thing we need most in the world.”

– Philip Pullman

“Why are we reading, if not in hope of beauty laid bare, life heightened and its deepest mystery probed? Can the writer isolate and vivify all in experience that most deeply engages our intellects and our hearts? Can the writer renew our hope for literary forms? Why are we reading if not in hope that the writer will magnify and dramatize our days, will illuminate and inspire us with wisdom, courage, and the possibility of meaningfulness, and will press upon our minds the deepest mysteries, so that we may feel again their majesty and power? What do we ever know

that is higher than that power which, from time to time, seizes our lives, and reveals us startlingly to ourselves as creatures set down here bewildered? Why does death so catch us by surprise, and why love? We still and always want waking."

– Annie Dillard

"No tears in the writer, no tears in the reader.
No surprise in the writer, no surprise in the reader."

– Robert Frost