

Collection of quotes from “The Sportswriter” by Richard Ford.

One natural effect of life is to cover you in a thin layer of, what? A film. A residue, a skin of all the things you've done and been and said. I am not sure. But you are under it. And for a long time and only rarely do you know it. And in some unexpected moment you come from under it. And you suddenly feel very good. And in that magical instant you realize, how long it's been since you felt that way. We all feel that way. I am certain of it. Since there is no way that I can feel what hundreds of millions of others haven't. Only suddenly you're out of it, that film, that skin of life. And you think, this must have been the way it was once in my life. As when you were a kid. A feeling of wind on your cheeks and your arms. A feeling of being released, let loose. And since that is not how it has been for a long time, you want this time to make it last. This glistening one moment, this cool air. So you can preserve a feeling of it. And in truth of course, this may be the last time that you may feel like this again.

The only truth that can not be a lie is life itself. It just happens.

Life has only one certain closure.

In Florida, time goes by fast, in a sort of timeless way. Much unlike Gotham, where you feel every second of your life but miss everything else.

At some point there is nothing but attitude. Explanations are useless.

All writers have a need to belong. Only the real writers belong to a club of one.

What else is the ordinary world good for than to tell you not to check out early.

You loose control in degrees.

Being a sport writers is living in your head and on the edge of others.

There is a mystery everywhere. You never know what's next, and it might just be something you actually like.

New Jersey is a perfect place of invisibility.

Genuine conversations with your ex are limited by the widening gap of intimacy of which you are excluded of.

Men always think other men are assholes. And most of the time they are right.

Who is to be the judge when intimacy is at work.

He's less of a doer and more like an arbiter of an agreeable frame of mind. (I feel like that with lots of intellectuals, take Tegmark, FeiFei, Hinton etc.)

I remember those conversations because they were stolen.

She had flirtations with a number of dark -isms that galvanized her intellect and gave her the illusion that she knew why people do things.

There is so much adult conversation going on about this sport it's like romanticizing a rock and calling it a mountain range. (US Soccer, College Soccer)

He's a man completely without subtext, a literalist of the first order.

The team concept is like the dynamo fate 19th century. It's too mechanical. You leave the person, the hero out of it.

I looked at Jesus in the pain and thought why are you making our lives miserable without taking any heat for it. Try resurrection in today's complex world.

It's funny how we respect the nobility of small mistakes but neglect the large fuck ups.

Today's academics are like Wall Street types. They stand proud at cocktail parties next to their bony, brown legged younger wives and talk about second homes in Telluride.

We're almost always wrong when we are young.

She has the look of a woman that wants to start something.

She was an acerbic Levantine with shiny eyes and glistening skin. Ready to take on the world.

He's seen the situation from both sides and didn't like neither of them. Take college soccer. Look at it from both sides. Soccer and academics. And I don't like both sides. There is something to be avoided here and I intend to avoid it.

College Soccer is an exercise in excessive of dreary parenting with a sequence of inconsequential events.

Death is something Christians are not comfortable with. Too severe, too unequivocal. Like a mistake in adding.

There is something to be avoided here and I intend to avoid it.

Universities like Stanford have a still air of privilege emanating across campus. Not likable.

He's a public intellectual with no clear sense of direction nor purpose but with an oversized impression of his importance.

I neither have the vocabulary nor the temperament to deal with such people.

1. Life is a film of residue of what you did, said, earned and yearned for. Break out. Feel the wind on your cheeks.
2. Nietzsche. Hero, Jesus, In order for life not just to happen you need to be acerbic. Have agency. Don't let things happen to you. Academics talk about second homes in Telluride. Intellectuals have an oversized sense of importance but no direction.
3. Nietzsche. Sportswriter lives in his head on the edge of others.
4. Death is a problem. Only if you don't live. "a mistake in adding."