



Quotable Quotes

Read the following quotes from *The Beauty of the Moment*.

Working individually, with a partner, or in a small group:

Choose a couple of quotes which speak to you, and consider the following questions:.

1. Why did you choose the quote?
2. What are the most important ideas and values embedded in the quote?
3. Is this quote realistic or idealistic?
4. How does it relate to the main message(s) the author is trying to convey?
5. How does it move the story forward?
6. How does it relate to your own personal experience, or your understanding of the world?
7. Is there something you can learn from this quote about how you should live your life?

In Jeddah, Indian expats joke about a whole street of buildings across from the Mississauga Civic Centre, where new immigrants buy apartments to deposit their wife and kids in, and then return to their tax-free, high-paying jobs in the Gulf. Begumpura, they call the place: the City of Wives (p50).

I am out of my element, Amma most certainly is - a woman who left behind an active life in India for the monotony of household chores in Saudi Arabia... only to be thrust into an active life once more in a new country where her qualifications aren't valued (p74)

Where'd you go?... Nowhere... You were somewhere alright... My sister used to call it Fuzzyland... It's when you're neither here nor there... Limbo... Neither Saudi, nor Indian, nor Canadian... Limbo. (p76)

NAME: _____

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Quotable Quotes (cont'd)

I think of Jeddah, where women can still be arrested for driving a car...
(p127)

Think of the opportunities you'll be getting once you immigrate...
(p127)

Mancher Mama told me once that a romantic relationship is never just between two people. There's the girl, the guy and what he called the ghosts of people in between. (p205)

There's a difference between being bad at something and not being interested in it. You need to find something you love doing - that doesn't bore you to death. (p209)

Be careful she doesn't forget where she comes from like those children in the West. (p212)

Nothing lasts forever. Not this snowflake. Not our homes, not our families. But it doesn't mean that you can't live in the beauty of the moment. (p221)

I wonder again if Amma was always like this. If she had dreams - other dreams apart from being a scientist - that were crushed somewhere along the way. (p226)

I really hate that word... Tolerant. What are they, flies? Or some other form of annoyance?... Remember that politician on TV, Suzy? About how she wants to screen potential new immigrants for 'anti-Canadian values'? Tolerant, my foot. (p229)

...love isn't easy. You just have to decide if it's worth the trouble. (p295)

Why fit in... when you can stand out? (p325)