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Quotes about Nostalgia

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To look backward for a while is to refresh the eye, to restore it, and to render it the more fit for its prime function of looking forward.

- Barber, Margaret Fairless

The good old times -- all times when old are good.

- Byron, Lord

I wept as I remembered how often you and I had tired the sun with talking and sent him down the sky.

- Callimachus

Those who weep for the happy periods which they encounter in history acknowledge what they want; not the alleviation but the silencing of misery.

- Camus, Albert

That is the land of lost content, I see it shining plain, the happy highways where I went and cannot come again.

- Housman, A. E.

People have this obsession. They want you to be like you were in 1969. They want you to,

because otherwise their youth goes with you. It's very selfish, but it's understandable.

- Jagger, Mick

Time has lost all meaning in that nightmare alley of the Western world known as the American mind. We wallow in nostalgia but manage to get it all wrong. True nostalgia is an ephemeral composition of disjointed memories... but American-style nostalgia is about as ephemeral as copyrighted d?j? vu.

- King, Florence

Ah tell me not that memory sheds gladness over the past; what is recalled by faded flowers save that they did not last?

- Landon, Letitia Elizabeth

A society that has made nostalgia a marketable commodity on the cultural exchange quickly repudiates the suggestion that life in the past was in any important way better than life today.

- Lasch, Christopher

A feeling of sadness and longing that is not akin to pain, and resembles sorrow only as the mist resembles the rain.

- Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth

It is a curious emotion, this certain homesickness I have in mind. With Americans, it is a national trait, as native to us as the roller-coaster or the jukebox. It is no simple longing for

the home town or country of our birth. The emotion is Janus-faced: we are torn between a nostalgia for the familiar and an urge for the foreign and strange. As often as not, we are homesick most for the places we have never known.

- Mccullers, Carson

I don't like nostalgia unless it's mine.

- Reed, Lou

Remembrance of things past.

- Shakespeare, William

Even while I protest the assembly-line production of our food, our songs, our language, and eventually our souls, I know that it was a rare home that baked good bread in the old days. Mother's cooking was with rare exceptions poor, that good unpasteurized milk touched only by flies and bits of manure crawled with bacteria, the healthy old-time life was riddled with aches, sudden death from unknown causes, and that sweet local speech I mourn was the child of illiteracy and ignorance. It is the nature of a man as he grows older, a small bridge in time, to protest against change, particularly change for the better.

- Steinbeck, John

For us, the best time is always yesterday.

- Tolstaya, Tatyana

Oh, for boyhood's painless play, sleep that wakes in laughing day, health that mocks the

doctor's rules, knowledge never learned of schools.

- Whittier, John Greenleaf

When you are old and gray and full of sleep, and nodding by the fire, take down this book
and slowly read, and dream of the soft look your eyes had once, and of their shadows
deep.

- Yeats, William Butler



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