

Jonathan Livingston Seagull Quotes

And some song lyrics and assignment



[Richard Bach](#), [Jonathan Livingston Seagull](#)



"Don't believe what your eyes are telling you. All they show is limitation. Look with your understanding. Find out what you already know and you will see the way to fly."

"You have the freedom to be yourself, your true self, here and now, and nothing can stand in your way". "

"You will begin to touch heaven, Jonathan, in the moment that you touch perfect speed. And that isn't flying a thousand miles an hour, or a million, or flying at the speed of light. Because any number is a limit, and perfection doesn't have limits. Perfect speed, my son, is being there."

"Jonathan sighed. The price of being misunderstood, he thought. They call you devil or they call you god."

"We can lift ourselves out of ignorance, we can find ourselves as creatures of excellence and intelligence and skill."

"Your whole body, from wingtip to wingtip," Jonathan would say, other times, "is nothing more than your thought itself, in a form you can see. Break the chains of your thought, and you break the chains of your body, too."

"He spoke of very simple things- that it is right for a gull to fly, that freedom is the very nature of his being, that whatever stands against that freedom must be set aside, be it ritual or superstition or limitation in any form.

"The only true law is that which leads to freedom," Jonathan said. "There is no other."

"Jonathan Seagull discovered that boredom and fear and anger are the reasons that a gull's life is so short, and with those gone from his thought, he lived a long fine life indeed."

"Overcome space, and all we have left is Here. Overcome time, and all we have left is Now."

"We choose our next world through what we learn in this one. Learn nothing, and the next world is the same as this one, all the same limitations and lead weights to overcome."

"Instead of our drab slogging forth and back to the fishing boats, there's reason to live!
We can lift ourselves out of ignorance, we can find ourselves as creatures of excellence and intelligence and skill. We can learn to be free! we can learn to fly!"

"Like everything else, Fletcher. Practice."

"Do you have any idea how many lives we must have gone through before we even got the first idea that there is more to life than eating, or fighting, or power in the Flock? A thousand lives, Jon, ten thousand!"

"Most gulls don't bother to learn more than the simplest facts of flight - how to get from shore to food and back again"

"It was morning, and the new sun sparkled gold across the ripples of a gentle sea."

"One school is finished, and the time has come for another to begin."

"Sully, for shame!" Jonathan said in reproach, " and don't be foolish! What are we trying to practice everyday? If our friendship depends on things like space and time, we've destroyed our own brotherhood! But overcome space, and all we have left is Here. Overcome time, and all we have left is Now. And in the middle of Here and Now, don't you think that we might see each other once or twice?"

"To fly as fast as thought, to anywhere that is, you must begin by knowing that you have already arrived."

"Fletcher Lynd Seagull was still quite young, but already he knew that no bird had ever been so harshly treated by any Flock, or with so much injustice."

"Oh, Fletch, you don't love that! You don't love hatred and evil, of course. You have to practice and see the real gull, the good in every one of them, and help them to see it in themselves. That's what I mean by love. It's fun, when you get the knack of it."

Song Lyrics

Lost

On a painted sky
Where the clouds are hung
For the poet's eye
You may find him
If you may find him

There

On a distant shore
By the wings of dreams
Through an open door
You may know him
If you may

Be

As a page that aches for a word
Which speaks on a theme that is timeless
While the Sun God will make for your day
Sing
As a song in search of a voice that is silent
And the one God will make for your way

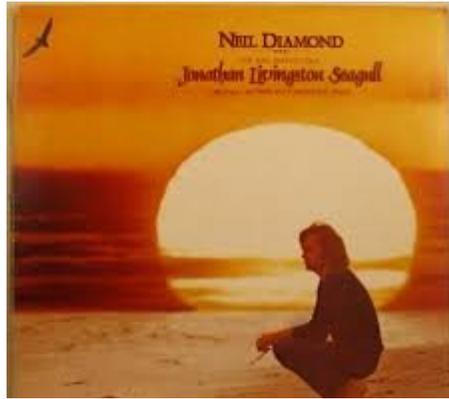
And we dance

To a whispered voice
Overheard by the soul
Undertook by the heart



And you may know it
If you may know it

While the sand
Would become the stone
Which begat the spark
Turned to living bone
Holy, holy
Sanctus, sanctus



Be
As a page that aches for a word
Which speaks on a theme that is timeless
While the Sun God will make for your day
Sing
As a song in search of a voice that is silent
And the one God will make for your way



JLS theme song and clips.htm



JLS Lonely Looking Sky.htm

Assignments

- Choose and sign up for one of the quotes (or find another from the book that is important to you) and place it on one slide with a background that illustrates the meaning not only for seagulls but for human society and culture as well.
- Choose a song (or clip of a song) to go with your slide that complements the message.
- We will put the 21 slides together into one ppt presentation and someone will see if we can include the background music within the slide show (for you all know that's beyond your teacher—even with JLS's inspiration☺). If that can't be accomplished easily, we'll mix a CD of the music to play alongside the show.
- Not as part of this class collaboration but as an individual project, respond to JLS with a piece of original art or writing (or performance). Due _____

Slide due to file on my laptop by _____

Music due _____