

# Anna Julia Cooper Quotes

*Men, Race, Country, Girl, Heart, Giving, Voice, Ideas, Women, Growth, Eye,  
Special, Sex, Natural, Vices, Inspire, School, Bullying, Southern, Humanity*

The cause of freedom is not the cause of a race or a sect, a party or a class - it is the cause of humankind, the very birthright of humanity.

~Anna Julia Cooper

Let our girls feel that we expect something more of them than that they merely look pretty and appear well in society.

~Anna Julia Cooper

Bullies are always cowards at heart and may be credited with a pretty safe instinct in scenting their prey.

~Anna Julia Cooper

Peace produced by suppression is neither natural nor desirable.

~Anna Julia Cooper

All prejudices, whether of race, sect or sex, class pride and caste distinctions are the belittling inheritance and badge of snobs and prigs.

~Anna Julia Cooper

The old, subjective, stagnant, indolent and wretched life for woman has gone. She has as many resources as men, as many activities beckon her on. As large possibilities swell and inspire her heart.

~Anna Julia Cooper

A stream cannot rise higher than its source.

~Anna Julia Cooper

One needs occasionally to stand aside from the hum and rush of human interests and passions to hear the voices of God.

~Anna Julia Cooper

Life must be something more than dilettante speculation.

~Anna Julia Cooper

Teach [our girls] that there is a race with special needs which they and only they can help; that the world needs and is already asking for their trained, efficient forces.

~Anna Julia Cooper

I constantly felt (as I suppose many an ambitious girl has felt) a thumping from within unanswered by any beckoning from without.

~Anna Julia Cooper

Woman's cause is one and universal.

~Anna Julia Cooper

The great, the fundamental need of any nation, any race, is for heroism, devotion, sacrifice; and there cannot be heroism, devotion, or sacrifice in a primarily skeptical spirit.

~Anna Julia Cooper

Agnosticism has nothing to impart. Its sermons are the exhortations of one who convinces you he stands on nothing and urges you to stand there too.

~Anna Julia Cooper

... women are more quiet. They don't feel called to mount a barrel and harangue by the hour every time they imagine they have produced an idea.

~Anna Julia Cooper

Respect for woman, the much lauded chivalry of the Middle Ages, meant what I fear it still means to some men in our own day - respect for the elect few among whom they expect to consort.

~Anna Julia Cooper

As in an icicle the agnostic abides alone. The vital principle is taken out of all endeavor for improving himself or bettering hisfellows. All hope in

the grand possibilities of life are blasted.

~Anna Julia Cooper

Nothing natural can be wholly unworthy.

~Anna Julia Cooper

A race cannot be purified from without.

~Anna Julia Cooper

No man can prophesy with another's parable.

~Anna Julia Cooper

With five to ten hundred pure-minded young women threading the streets of the village every evening unattended, vice must slink away, like frost before the rising sun.

~Anna Julia Cooper

If our vaunted rule of the people does not breed nobler men and women than monarchies have done it must and will inevitably give place to something better.

~Anna Julia Cooper

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