

# Bruce Sterling Quotes

*People, Literature, Thinking, Mean, Data, Clouds, Writing, Military, War, Past,  
Ideas, Years, Want, Cyberspace, Trends, Worry, Jobs, Fun, Civilization, Guy*

Obsolescence and death, the reign of the archaic, the abandoned, and the corny: Really, if you saw Windows 3.0 on the sidewalk outside the building, would you bend over and pick it up?!?

~Bruce Sterling

Don't become a well rounded person. Well rounded people are smooth and ull. Become a thoroughly spiky person.

~Bruce Sterling

I was once a student in a punk T-Shirt hooked on screwed-up scenarios. Thats how I became the esteemed cultural figure that I am today.

~Bruce Sterling

One of the points about distractions is that everything that they do is destabilizing.

~Bruce Sterling

I don't think there's much distinction between surveillance and media in general. Better media means better surveillance. Cams are everywhere.

~Bruce Sterling

Privacy under what circumstance? Privacy at home under what circumstances? You have more privacy if everyone's illiterate, but you wouldn't really call that privacy. That's ignorance.

~Bruce Sterling

Everybody wants to disown neocon strategy, including the neocons, because that strategy never worked. Still, it was, in point of fact, a strategy. Nobody else has one.

~Bruce Sterling

I'm an entertainer in the military-entertainment complex.

~Bruce Sterling

I haven't had that good a time in ages. Since September 11, really. I just felt so happy, it was like the sun came out of the clouds for me. I love Italy.

~Bruce Sterling

If politics and business fail us, of course the military will be called in. In the developing world, the massive and repeated ecological disasters are quite commonly met by the military.

~Bruce Sterling

"Story-tellers" should listen seriously to design and architecture without getting all literary and imperial about that. Hackers are arrogant geek romantics. They lack the attentive spirit of inquiry.

~Bruce Sterling

The future is a process, not a destination.

~Bruce Sterling

Humans are very aggressive and scrappy, and go to war at the drop of a hat. However, a standard land war is no longer going to work as it is no longer technically possible.

~Bruce Sterling

We might be on the brink of an apocalypse if, instead of poor people with suicide bombs killing middle class guys, middle-class people with suicide bombs started killing rich guys.

~Bruce Sterling

I wouldn't describe that "position" as "parasitic." I'd describe that experience as "edifying." I don't merely write from a critical intellectual distance. I actually live around here.

~Bruce Sterling

I like to get paid for doing basic research, so it's pleasant to write some nonfiction about it.

~Bruce Sterling

David Brin is a technological determinist. He thinks that we understand the trend and we need to hop on it. I don't have any such illusions.

~Bruce Sterling

Tomorrow composts today.

~Bruce Sterling

The internet brought many laudable things, but prosperity, stability, accountability and honest politics were not four of them.

~Bruce Sterling

When you can't imagine how things are going to change, that doesn't mean that nothing will change. It means that things will change in ways that are unimaginable.

~Bruce Sterling

Worrying about a large institution, especially when it has computers, is like worrying about a large gorilla, especially when it's on fire.

~Bruce Sterling

If bin Laden is in fact publicly killed, then the US military will find itself standing around with its hands in its pockets, wondering what's supposed to come next.

~Bruce Sterling

Hackers are arrogant geek romantics. They lack the attentive spirit of inquiry.

~Bruce Sterling

Cyberspace is the funhouse mirror of our own society.

~Bruce Sterling

But even the Four Horsemen of Kidporn, Dope Dealers, Mafia and Terrorists don't worry me as much as totalitarian governments. It's been a long century, and we've had enough of them.

~Bruce Sterling

The past is a kind of future that has already happened.

~Bruce Sterling

The frontiers of the future will be the ruins of the unsustainable.

~Bruce Sterling

Science fiction is not about the freedom of imagination. It's about a free imagination pinched and howling in a vise that other people call real life.

~Bruce Sterling

In a world so redolent with wonder, how can we allow ourselves to conduct our daily lives with so little insight, such absence of dignity?

~Bruce Sterling

Architects thrive after massive urban disasters. The abject collapse of East Berlin gave us the only city in Europe with a mighty host of Postmodern skyscrapers.

~Bruce Sterling

Information wants you to give me a dollar.

~Bruce Sterling

My dream appliance circa 2050 has one big dial on it, and when I twist it to the right, my IQ goes up to 450.

~Bruce Sterling

A set of Bollywood actresses are coming through Dallas soon in a live tour; I'd pay a lot to see them, but alas, I'm fully booked elsewhere.

~Bruce Sterling

The ruins of the unsustainable are the 21st century's frontier.

~Bruce Sterling

War as Napoleon knew it just not possible any more. However, we're very unlikely to accept or recognize "world peace" even when we get it.

~Bruce Sterling

Unfortunately, computers are?stupid.Unlike human beings, computers possess the truly profound stupidity of the inanimate.

~Bruce Sterling

The future isn't just unwritten, it's unsearched.

~Bruce Sterling

A security cam is one small part of a much larger universe of cams. The much larger effect, socially, politically and economically, is going to come from a much larger trend.

~Bruce Sterling

Saying you have a political solution is like saying you can write a pop song that's going to stay at the top of the list forever. I don't have many illusions about this, but I'm not cynical about it.

~Bruce Sterling

In a start-up society, huge sums can fall on innocent parties, almost by accident .

~Bruce Sterling

Open-source is a means of production.

~Bruce Sterling

It's a truism in technological development that no silver lining comes without its cloud.

~Bruce Sterling

Your attitude determines your altitude. Your ambitions are bigger than life. Of course. They must be. They encompass it.

~Bruce Sterling

Everybody has a different Internet.

~Bruce Sterling

Maybe we're about to radically change the operating system of the human condition. If so, then this would be a really good time to make backups of our civilization.

~Bruce Sterling

Cloud computing seems to be following this evolutionary path: A - Internet backbone. B - Information Superhighway. C - The Net. D - The Web. E - The Cloud. F - "Ubiquity" G- ???

~Bruce Sterling

A dagger is the noble weapon of Brutus. Everyone understands that tyrants fall to daggers. A bomb is a sordid modern device with many complex working parts. Only engineers understand bombs

~Bruce Sterling

Political people don't solve stuff - not really. Political people are like guys in pop music.

~Bruce Sterling

The level of ignorance is declining, and the ability to accumulate data and manipulate it for various ends is increasing.

~Bruce Sterling

Find a client and get a job.

~Bruce Sterling

Every passing year brings us more past futures.

~Bruce Sterling

Here in Europe they had a Dark Age so extensive, radical and oblitative that everyone forgot how to speak Latin.

~Bruce Sterling

It's counterproductive to blither on about "the" future. It's always somebody's future, and we're not who we used to be.

~Bruce Sterling

There's no victory-condition for being human.

~Bruce Sterling

Information wants to be free. Believe it.

~Bruce Sterling

Competence doesn't seem like a big deal until you are forced to realize that your own government has none.

~Bruce Sterling



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