

Christopher Isherwood

Quotes

Thinking, People, Book, Morning, Past, Lying, Writing, Causes, Trying, Single Man, Country, Real, Knows, Hate, Men, Mistake, Years, Wise, Land, Believe

Life is not so bad if you have plenty of luck, a good physique, and not too much imagination.

~Christopher Isherwood

We must remember that nothing in this world really belongs to us. At best, we are merely borrowers.

~Christopher Isherwood

Only those who are capable of silliness can be called truly intelligent.

~Christopher Isherwood

By helping yourself, you are helping humankind. By helping humankind, you are helping yourself. That's the law of all spiritual progress.

~Christopher Isherwood

Sometimes awful things have their own beauty.

~Christopher Isherwood

I'll bet Shakespeare compromised himself a lot; anybody who's in the entertainment industry does to some extent.

~Christopher Isherwood

Bad writing is bad not just because the language is humdrum, but the quality of the observation is so poor.

~Christopher Isherwood

The sea only drowns its lovers.

~Christopher Isherwood

I am a camera, with its shutter open. Someday, all of this will be developed, printed, fixed.

~Christopher Isherwood

I often feel that worse than the most fiendish Nazis were those

Germans who went along with the persecution of the Jews not because they really disliked them but because it was the thing.

~Christopher Isherwood

Someone has to ask you a question," George continues meaningly, "before you can answer it. But it's so seldom you find anyone who'll ask the right questions. Most people aren't that much interested.

~Christopher Isherwood

The town is an advertisement for itself; none of its charms are left to the visitor's imagination.

~Christopher Isherwood

We live in stirring times- tea-stirring times.

~Christopher Isherwood

California is a tragic country - like Palestine, like every Promised Land.

~Christopher Isherwood

She is sighing deeply now with sympathy and delight - the delight of an addict when someone else admits he's hooked, too.

~Christopher Isherwood

If it's going to be a world with no time for sentiment, it's not a world that I want to live in.

~Christopher Isherwood

The past is just something that's over.

~Christopher Isherwood

Horror is always aware of its cause; terror never is. That is precisely what makes terror terrifying.

~Christopher Isherwood

I'm like a book you have to read. A book can't read itself to you. It doesn't even know what it's about. I don't know what I'm about.

~Christopher Isherwood

I am a camera with its shutter open, quite passive, recording, not thinking.

~Christopher Isherwood

I doubt if one ever accepts a belief until one urgently needs it.

~Christopher Isherwood

I seldom try to probe the mystery of my sloth. I have squandered a gigantic fortune of work hours... seems likely that I'll go on squandering till the very end.

~Christopher Isherwood

One should never write down or up to people, but out of yourself.

~Christopher Isherwood

The paternalist is a sentimentalist at heart, and the sentimentalist is always potentially cruel.

~Christopher Isherwood

In order to get the worst possible first impression of Los Angeles one should arrive there by bus, preferably in summer and on a Saturday night.

~Christopher Isherwood

The Nazis were not right to hate the Jews. But their hating of Jews was not without a cause. No one ever hates without a cause.

~Christopher Isherwood

The Quito telephone service is about as reliable as roulette.

~Christopher Isherwood

What it sees there isn't so much a face as the expression of a predicament.

~Christopher Isherwood

You see, Kenny, there are some things you don't even know you know, until you're asked.

~Christopher Isherwood

Lois and Alexander are by far the most beautiful creatures in the class; their beauty is like the beauty of plants, seemingly untroubled by vanity, anxiety or effort.

~Christopher Isherwood

George smiles to himself, with entire self-satisfaction. Yes, I am crazy, he thinks. That is my secret; my strength.

~Christopher Isherwood

I must honor those who fight of their own free will, he said to himself. And I must try to imitate their courage by following my path as a pacifist, wherever it takes me.

~Christopher Isherwood

I'm very militant, you know, in a quite way.

~Christopher Isherwood

A minority is only thought of as a minority when it constitutes some kind of threat to the majority, real or imaginary. And no threat is ever quite imaginary.

~Christopher Isherwood

No one ever hates without a cause.

~Christopher Isherwood

Every writer has certain subjects that they write about again and again,

and . . . most people's books are just variations on certain themes.

~Christopher Isherwood

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