

Colin Wilson Quotes

*Men, World, Outsiders, Thinking, Ideas, Believe, People, Two, Views, Feelings,
Way, Hands, Animal, Eye, Simple, Desire, Discipline, Self, Reality, Real*

Life itself is an exile. The way home is not the way back.

~Colin Wilson

The average man is a conformist, accepting miseries and disasters with the stoicism of a cow standing in the rain.

~Colin Wilson

If you can train your senses to perceive the movement of the minute hand of a clock, what is to stop you for training them to 'slow down' when you look at a tree or a puddle?

~Colin Wilson

Imagination should be used, not to escape reality but to create it.

~Colin Wilson

Turning on the light is easy if you know where the switch is.

~Colin Wilson

When we pull back and get, for a moment, the 'bird's eye' view of life, it reveals meanings that are ungraspable by the narrow focus of our usual worm's eye view

~Colin Wilson

When I open my eyes in the morning, I am not confronted by a world, but by a million possible worlds.

~Colin Wilson

Ask the Outsider what he ultimately wants, and he will admit he doesn't know. Why? Because he wants it instinctively, and it is not always possible to tell what your instincts are driving towards.

~Colin Wilson

It is far easier to write an angry letter than to go and say angry things to another person - because as soon as we look in one another's faces

we can see the other point of view.

~Colin Wilson

Sexual activity is driven by the same aims and motives as reading poetry or listening to music: to escape the limitations imposed by the need for particularity in the consciousness.

~Colin Wilson

The worst crimes are not committed by evil degenerates, but by decent and intelligent people taking 'pragmatic' decisions.

~Colin Wilson

The sheer volume of evidence for survival after death is so immense that to ignore it is like standing at the foot of Mount Everest and insisting that you cannot see the mountain.

~Colin Wilson

The mystical impulse in men is somehow a desire to possess the universe. In women, it's a desire to be possessed.

~Colin Wilson

I had never doubted my own abilities, but I was quite prepared to believe that "the world" would decline to recognize them.

~Colin Wilson

The visionary disciplines himself to see the world always as if he had only just seen it for the first time.

~Colin Wilson

Could it be that sexual perversion and romanticism sprang from the same longing for distant horizons?

~Colin Wilson

If you asked me what is the basis of all my work, it's the feeling there's

something basically wrong with human beings.

~Colin Wilson

Simple perception then is a fallacy. Besides the conscious prejudices that we are aware of imposing on the world, there are a thousand subconscious prejudices that we assume to be actuality.

~Colin Wilson

I'm basically a writer of ideas, and the English aren't interested in ideas. The English, I'm afraid, are totally brainless.

~Colin Wilson

The "passion for incredulity" can produce as much self-deception as the uncritical will to believe.

~Colin Wilson

The complex develops out of the simple.

~Colin Wilson

Too much success gets you resting on your laurels and creates a kind of quicksand that you can't get out of.

~Colin Wilson

I've always believed that a writer has got to remain an outsider.

~Colin Wilson

Criminals interest me, because they're driven by the same desires as we are, but they take these disastrous shortcuts and end up in a real mess.

~Colin Wilson

The real issue is not whether two and two make four or whether two and two make five, but whether life advances by men who love words or by men who love living.

~Colin Wilson

If I'd stayed on in London and carried on going to literary parties, it would have wrecked me as a writer.

~Colin Wilson

It was Rousseau who was largely responsible for the problem by giving currency to the idea that freedom can exist without responsibility and discipline.

~Colin Wilson

A symphony is a stage play with the parts written for instruments instead of for actors.

~Colin Wilson

The self-surmounter can never put up with the man who has ceased to be dissatisfied with himself.

~Colin Wilson

In the mid nineteenth century, the typical murderer was a drunken illiterate; a hundred years later the typical murderer regards himself as a thinking man.

~Colin Wilson

Being very famous is not the fun it sounds. It merely means you're being chased by a lot of people and you lose your privacy.

~Colin Wilson

The outsider is not sure who he is. He has found an 'œl', but it is not his true 'œl'. His main business is to find his way back to himself.

~Colin Wilson

Man is the only animal who is prone to insanity.

~Colin Wilson

Our language has become a tired and inefficient thing in the hands of journalists and writers who have nothing to say.

~Colin Wilson

Faculty X is a sense of reality of other places and other times, and it is the possession of itâ€™”fragmentary and uncertain though it isâ€™”that distinguishes man from all other animals.

~Colin Wilson

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