

# Douglas Coupland Quotes

*People, Thinking, World, Years, Mean, Dream, Real, Believe, Way, Past, Long,  
Memories, Trying, Doe, Technology, Want, Two, Book, Giving, Looks*

Remember: the time you feel lonely is the time you most need to be by yourself. Life's cruelest irony.

~Douglas Coupland

Handmade presents are scary because they reveal that you have too much free time.

~Douglas Coupland

You can't fake creativity, competence, or sexual arousal.

~Douglas Coupland

Fondue sets, martini shakers and juicing machines: three things the world could live completely without.

~Douglas Coupland

If a building looks better under construction than it does when finished, then it's a failure.

~Douglas Coupland

Eagles are seagulls with a good hairdo.

~Douglas Coupland

We decided that the French could never write user-friendly software because they're so rude.

~Douglas Coupland

Big companies are like marching bands. Even if half the band is playing random notes, it still sounds kind of like music. The concealment of failure is built into them.

~Douglas Coupland

Is there anything in the world more annoyingly creepy than an unspoken dress code?

~Douglas Coupland

When we constantly ask for miracles, we're unraveling the fabric of the world. A world of continuous miracles would not be a world, it would be a cartoon.

~Douglas Coupland

Cloning is great. If God made the original, then making copies should be fine.

~Douglas Coupland

The modern economy isn't about the redistribution of wealth - it's about the redistribution of time.

~Douglas Coupland

One of the cruelest things you can do to another person is pretend you care about them more than you really do.

~Douglas Coupland

Earth was not built for six billion people all running around and being passionate about things. The world was built for about two million people foraging for roots and grubs.

~Douglas Coupland

Life is boring. People are vengeful. Good things always end. We do so many things and we don't know why, and if we do find out why, it's decades later and knowing why doesn't matter any more.

~Douglas Coupland

Sometimes the best lighting of all is a power failure.

~Douglas Coupland

Your body isn't just a body. It's an ecosystem.

~Douglas Coupland

Royalty is either going to do very well with cloning, or it's going to

disappear completely.

~Douglas Coupland

I think that in the future, clocks won't say three o'clock anymore. They'll just get right to the point and rename three o'clock 'Pepsi.

~Douglas Coupland

Making eye contact with adults while dressed as a clown is risky.

~Douglas Coupland

Life need not be a story, but it does need to be an adventure.

~Douglas Coupland

Try not thinking of peeling an orange. Try not imagining the juice running down your fingers, the soft inner part of the peel. The smell. Try and you can't. The brain doesn't process negatives.

~Douglas Coupland

When Donald Duck traded his wings for arms, was he trading up or trading down?

~Douglas Coupland

New York is a theme park for people with IQs over 108.

~Douglas Coupland

Adventure without risk is Disneyland.

~Douglas Coupland

Birds are a miracle because they prove to us there is a finer, simpler state of being which we may strive to attain.

~Douglas Coupland

Florida isn't so much a place where one goes to reinvent oneself, as it is a place where one goes if one no longer wished to be found.

~Douglas Coupland

Make your goals big and broad enough so that they never become answered prayers and boomerang to curse you.

~Douglas Coupland

Human beings are the only animal that thinks they change who they are simply by moving to a different place. Birds migrate, but it's not quite the same thing.

~Douglas Coupland

Brain research tells us that only twenty percent of human beings have a sense of irony, which means that eighty percent of the world takes everything at face value.

~Douglas Coupland

I don't want any vegetables, thank you. I paid for the cow to eat them for me.

~Douglas Coupland

You wait for fate to bring about the changes in life which you should be bringing about by yourself.

~Douglas Coupland

The harder you try to become the opposite of your parents, the more quickly you become them.

~Douglas Coupland

There are three things we cry for in life: things that are lost, things that are found, and things that are magnificent.

~Douglas Coupland

Most of us have only two or three genuinely interesting moments in our lives; the rest is filler.

~Douglas Coupland

You know what the best thing is about the end of the day? Tomorrow, it starts all over again.

~Douglas Coupland

You can't get mad at weather because weather's not about you. Apply that lesson to most other aspects of life.

~Douglas Coupland

Every single moment is a coincidence.

~Douglas Coupland

Figure out what it is in life you don't do well, and then don't do it.

~Douglas Coupland

Letting go of randomness is one of the hardest decisions a person can make.

~Douglas Coupland

Most people can't handle a structureless life.

~Douglas Coupland

Here's my theory about meetings and life: the three things you can't fake are erections, competence and creativity.

~Douglas Coupland

We're rapidly approaching a world comprised entirely of jail and shopping.

~Douglas Coupland

Their talk was endless, compulsive, and indulgent, sometimes sounding like the remains of the English language after having been hashed over by nuclear war survivors for a few hundred years.

~Douglas Coupland

If human beings had genuine courage, they'd wear their costumes every day of the year, not just on Halloween.

~Douglas Coupland

Sometimes failure isn't an opportunity in disguise, it's just you.

~Douglas Coupland

You pretend to be more eccentric than you actually are because you worry you are an interchangeable cog.

~Douglas Coupland

Salad bars are like a restaurant's lungs. They soak up the impurities and bacteria in the environment, leaving you with much cleaner air to enjoy.

~Douglas Coupland

Forget about being world famous, it's hard enough just getting the automatic doors at the supermarket to acknowledge our existence.

~Douglas Coupland

It's not healthy to live life as a succession of isolated little cool moments.

~Douglas Coupland

As the expression goes, we spend our youth attaining wealth, and our wealth attaining youth.

~Douglas Coupland

A ring is a halo on your finger.

~Douglas Coupland

Here's what I think: the five most unattractive traits in people are

cheapness, clinginess, neediness, unwillingness to change and jealousy. Jealousy is the worst, and by far the hardest to conceal.

~Douglas Coupland

Good looking people with strong, fluoridated teeth get things handed to them on platters.

~Douglas Coupland

Starved for affection, terrified of abandonment, I began to wonder if sex was really just an excuse to look deeply into another human being's eyes.

~Douglas Coupland

You can only fall in love six times in your life. Choose wisely.

~Douglas Coupland

If your life had lyrics, would they be any good?

~Douglas Coupland

Being asked what animal you'd like to be is a trick question; you're already an animal.

~Douglas Coupland

Long lives aren't natural. We forget that senior citizens are as much an invention as toasters or penicillin.

~Douglas Coupland

If you're not a tree hugger, then you're a what, a tree hater?

~Douglas Coupland

I kind of wonder if creativity is all morphing into one big thing that's not even art, but something universal and bigger.

~Douglas Coupland



So where do you start when you want to start your life again?

~Douglas Coupland

Depression is when you have lots of love, but no one's taking.

~Douglas Coupland

Nothing very very good and nothing very very bad lasts for very very long.

~Douglas Coupland

There's a lot to be said for having a small manageable dream.

~Douglas Coupland

Too much free time is certainly a monkey's paw in disguise. Most people can't handle a structureless life.

~Douglas Coupland

Blame is just a lazy person's way of making sense of chaos.

~Douglas Coupland

A few years ago it dawned on me that everybody past a certain age - regardless of how they look on the outside - pretty much constantly dreams of being able to escape from their lives.

~Douglas Coupland

The Internet has made me very casual with a level of omniscience that was unthinkable a decade ago. I now wonder if God gets bored knowing the answer to everything.

~Douglas Coupland

Unhappiness is something we are never taught about; we are taught to expect happiness, but never a Plan B to use when the happiness doesn't arrive.

~Douglas Coupland

what I remember is the silence in spite of the noise. In my head it might just as well have been a snowy day in the country.

~Douglas Coupland

A bland smile is like a green light at an intersection, it feels good when you get one, but you forget it the moment you're past it.

~Douglas Coupland

There are few, if any, Canadian men that have never spelled their name in a snow bank.

~Douglas Coupland

It's very strange that most people don't care if their knowledge of their family history only goes back three generations.

~Douglas Coupland

Canadians can easily 'pass for American' as long as we don't accidentally use metric measurements or apologize when hit by a car.

~Douglas Coupland

We live in an era with no historical precedents. History is no longer useful as a tool in helping us understand current changes.

~Douglas Coupland

Where does personality end and brain damage begin?

~Douglas Coupland

When you crop the photo, you tell a lie.

~Douglas Coupland

Flying dreams mean that you're doing the right thing with your life.

~Douglas Coupland

I have trouble with seafood because it tastes like a dock.

~Douglas Coupland

I like doing radio because it's so intimate. The moment people hear your voice, you're inside their heads, not only that, you're in there laying eggs.

~Douglas Coupland

I think money is due for some sort of collapse. People are going to realize that money has a half-life, like radioactive elements.

~Douglas Coupland

The future and eternity are two entirely different things.

~Douglas Coupland

I want to see books taken out of historical time and placed into a different timeline, such as evolutionary or geological time, as a means of putting the human experience in context.

~Douglas Coupland

Lottery tickets are a surtax on desperation.

~Douglas Coupland

We want our idols to be dead because it makes death a much less scary place.

~Douglas Coupland

Clowns drink to blot out the ravages of terrifying children for a living.

~Douglas Coupland

Ten commandments yet seven deadly sins: conflict?

~Douglas Coupland

If God drives a car, He'd drive a 1973 Ford LTD Brougham sedan with a claret-colored vinyl roof, with oxblood leather upholstery and an opera

window.

~Douglas Coupland

Nature is one great big wood-chipper. Sooner or later, everything shoots out the other end in a spray of blood, bones and hair.

~Douglas Coupland

Never loan a book to someone if you expect to get it back. Loaning books is the same as giving them away.

~Douglas Coupland

Once you establish a look, and once everybody recognizes that look as your look, you never have to think about fashion again.

~Douglas Coupland

If I think too much about all of those Chinese factories where all the stuff in a Wal-Mart is made, I get that woozy feeling you get when you see ducks covered in crude oil.

~Douglas Coupland

What if God exists except it turns out he doesn't really like people very much?

~Douglas Coupland

Technology favors horrible people.

~Douglas Coupland

The capacity for not feeling lonely can carry a very real price, that of feeling nothing at all.

~Douglas Coupland

Workshops and seminars are basically financial speed dating for clueless people.

~Douglas Coupland

I don't deserve a soul, yet I still have one. I know because it hurts.

~Douglas Coupland

Before machines the only form of entertainment people really had was relationships.

~Douglas Coupland

I think we're simply going to run out of Nature before we have a chance to destroy it.

~Douglas Coupland

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