

Ford Madox Ford Quotes

*Men, Book, Mind, Writing, Heart, People, Years, Quality, Want, War, Six
Months, World, Wrong Things, Regard, Heaven, Eden, New York, Lasts, Smell,
Thinking*

Higher than the beasts, lower than the angels, stuck in our idiot Eden.

~Ford Madox Ford

And it was a most remarkable, a most moving glance, as if for a moment a lighthouse had looked at me.

~Ford Madox Ford

The object of the novelist is to keep the reader entirely oblivious of the fact that the author exists - even of the fact he is reading a book.

~Ford Madox Ford

Only two classes of books are of universal appeal. The very best and the very worst.

~Ford Madox Ford

If you're going to have a character appear in a story long enough to sell a newspaper, he'd better be real enough that you can smell his breath.

~Ford Madox Ford

What the artist wishes to do "as far as you are concerned" is to take you out of yourself. As far as he is concerned, he wishes to express himself.

~Ford Madox Ford

Open the book to page ninety-nine and read, and the quality of the whole will be revealed to you.

~Ford Madox Ford

Why can't people have what they want? The things were all there to content everybody; yet everybody has the wrong thing.

~Ford Madox Ford

Pride and reserve are not the only things in life; perhaps they are not even the best things. But if they happen to be your particular virtues

you will go all to pieces if you let them go.

~Ford Madox Ford

The first thing you have to consider when writing a novel is your story, and then your story - and then your story!

~Ford Madox Ford

It was an odd friendship, but the oddnesses of friendships are a frequent guarantee of their lasting texture.

~Ford Madox Ford

We are all so afraid, we are all so alone, we all so need from the outside the assurance of our own worthiness to exist.

~Ford Madox Ford

New York is large, glamorous, easy-going, kindly and incurious, but above all it is a crucible - because it is large enough to be incurious.

~Ford Madox Ford

He added that a Frenchman in the train had given him a great sandwich that so stank of garlic that he had been inclined to throw it at the fellow's head.

~Ford Madox Ford

You have to wait together - for a week, for a year, for a lifetime, before the final intimate conversation may be attained ... and exhausted. So that ... That in effect was love.

~Ford Madox Ford

The world is full of places to which I want to return

~Ford Madox Ford

I know nothing - nothing in the world - of the hearts of men. I only know that I am alone - horribly alone.

~Ford Madox Ford

But responsibility hardens the heart. It must.

~Ford Madox Ford

[W]e are almost always in one place with our minds somewhere quite other.

~Ford Madox Ford

Damn it all, it's the first duty of a soldier - it's the first duty of all Englishmen - to be able to tell a good lie in answer to a charge.

~Ford Madox Ford

The war had made a man of him! It had coarsened him and hardened him. There was no other way to look at it. It had made him reach a point at which he would no longer stand unbearable things.

~Ford Madox Ford

I couldn't regard myself as personally repulsive. No man can, or, if he ever comes to do so, that is the end of him.

~Ford Madox Ford

If you hunch your shoulders too long against a storm your shoulders will grow bowed.

~Ford Madox Ford

He thought he suddenly understood. For the Lincon-shire sergeant-major the word Peace meant that a man could stand up on a hill. For him it meant someone to talk to.

~Ford Madox Ford

Ford's last Fifth Queen novel is amazing. The whole cycle is a noble conception.

~Ford Madox Ford

Six months ago I had never been to England, and, certainly, I had never sounded the depths of an English heart. I had known the shallows.

~Ford Madox Ford

It's the quality of harmony, sir. The quality of being in harmony with you own soul. God having given you your own soul you are then in harmony with Heaven.

~Ford Madox Ford

They were simple, earnest people, those early Victorians, and had not yet learnt the trick of avoiding disturbing thoughts and sights.

~Ford Madox Ford

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