

Frank Herbert

Quotes

Men, People, Thinking, Believe, Law, Government, Self, Life, Past, Mistake, Humans, Wise, Mind, Inspirational, Real, Giving, Children, Trying, Want, Needs

The mystery of life isn't a problem to solve, but a reality to experience.

~Frank Herbert

Without change, something sleeps inside us, and seldom awakens. The sleeper must awaken.

~Frank Herbert

All governments suffer a recurring problem: Power attracts pathological personalities.

~Frank Herbert

If we define Futurism as an exploration beyond accepted limits, then the nature of limiting systems becomes the first object of exploration.

~Frank Herbert

When politics and religion are intermingled, a people is suffused with a sense of invulnerability, and gathering speed in their forward charge, they fail to see the cliff ahead of them

~Frank Herbert

There is no real ending. It's just the place where you stop the story.

~Frank Herbert

Do actions agree with words? There's your measure of reliability. Never confine yourself to the words.

~Frank Herbert

Seek freedom and become captive of your desires. Seek discipline and find your liberty.

~Frank Herbert

Justice belongs to those who claim it, but let the claimant beware lest he create new injustice by his claim and thus set the bloody pendulum of revenge into its inexorable motion

~Frank Herbert

The best contribution one can make to humanity is to improve oneself.

~Frank Herbert

Question: Who governs the governors? Answer: Entropy

~Frank Herbert

The proximity of a desirable thing tempts one to overindulgence. On that path lies danger.

~Frank Herbert

Ideas are a dime a dozen. It's execution that counts.

~Frank Herbert

Absolute power does not corrupt absolutely, absolute power attracts the corruptible.

~Frank Herbert

The beginning of knowledge is the discovery of something we do not understand.

~Frank Herbert

Highly organized research is guaranteed to produce nothing new.

~Frank Herbert

There is only one true wealth in all the universe. I have given you some of it. I have given your father and your mate some of it. And your friends. This wealth is living time.

~Frank Herbert

The undeserving maintain power by promoting hysteria.

~Frank Herbert

Scientists seek the lawfulness of events. It is the task of Religion to fit man into this lawfulness.

~Frank Herbert

The function of science fiction is not always to predict the future but sometimes to prevent it.

~Frank Herbert

It is so shocking to find out how many people do not believe that they can learn, and how many more believe learning to be difficult.

~Frank Herbert

Most deadly errors arise from obsolete assumptions.

~Frank Herbert

When a wise man does not understand, he says: "I do not understand." The fool and the uncultured are ashamed of their ignorance. They remain silent when a question could bring them wisdom.

~Frank Herbert

Deep in the human unconscious is a pervasive need for a logical universe that makes sense. But the real universe is always one step beyond logic.

~Frank Herbert

When I need to identify rebels, I look for men with principles

~Frank Herbert

How often it is that the angry man rages denial of what his inner self is telling him.

~Frank Herbert

The people I distrust most are those who want to improve our lives but have only one course of action in mind.

~Frank Herbert

To suspect your own mortality is to know the beginning of terror, to learn irrefutably that you are mortal is to know the end of terror.

~Frank Herbert

Life is a mask through which the universe expresses itself.

~Frank Herbert

Blood is thicker than water, but politics are thicker than blood.

~Frank Herbert

Politics: the art of appearing candid and completely open while concealing as much as possible.

~Frank Herbert

If you live in bad faith, lies will appear to you like the truth.

~Frank Herbert

When I am weaker than you, I ask you for freedom because that is according to your principles; when I am stronger than you, I take away your freedom because that is according to my principles.

~Frank Herbert

There is not secret to balance. You just have to feel the waves.

~Frank Herbert

Does a population have informed consent when that population is not taught the inner workings of its monetary system, and then is drawn, all unknowing, into economic adventures?

~Frank Herbert

To endure oneself may be the hardest task in the universe. You cannot hire a wise man or any other intellect to solve it for you. There's no writ

of inquest or calling of witness to provide answers.

~Frank Herbert

Once men turned their thinking over to machines in the hope that this would set them free. But that only permitted other men with machines to enslave them.

~Frank Herbert

Fear is the mind-killer.

~Frank Herbert

Governments can be useful to the governed only so long as inherent tendencies toward tyranny are restrained.

~Frank Herbert

Caution is the path to mediocrity. Gliding, passionless mediocrity is all that most people think they can achieve.

~Frank Herbert

Revenge is for children and the emotionally retarded.

~Frank Herbert

A person needs new experiences. They jar something deep inside, allowing you to grow. Without them, it sleeps- seldom to awaken. The sleeper must awaken.

~Frank Herbert

Belief can be manipulated. Only knowledge is dangerous.

~Frank Herbert

. . . is to attempt seeing Truth without knowing Falsehood. It is the attempt to see the Light without knowing Darkness. It cannot be.

~Frank Herbert

All governments suffer a recurring problem: Power attracts pathological personalities. It is not that power corrupts but that it is magnetic to the corruptible.

~Frank Herbert

Think you of the fact that a deaf person cannot hear. Then, what deafness may we not all possess? What senses do we lack that we cannot see and cannot hear another world all around us?

~Frank Herbert

Bless the Maker and His water. Bless the coming and going of Him. May His passage cleanse the world. May He keep the world for His people.

~Frank Herbert

FEAR IS THE MIND-KILLER. FEAR IS THE LITTLE-DEATH THAT BRINGS TOTAL OBLITERATION.

~Frank Herbert

Face your fears or they will climb over your back.

~Frank Herbert

Reason is the first victim of strong emotion.

~Frank Herbert

No matter how much we ask after the truth, self-awareness is often unpleasant. We do not feel kindly toward the Truthsayer.

~Frank Herbert

If wishes were fishes, we'd all cast nets.

~Frank Herbert

We can say that Maud'Dib learned rapidly because his first training was in how to learn. And the first lesson of all was the basic trust that he

could learn.

~Frank Herbert

You know it's love when you want to give joy and damn the consequences.

~Frank Herbert

Power attracts the corruptible. Suspect any who seek it.

~Frank Herbert

Kindness is the beginning of cruelty.

~Frank Herbert

It is impossible to live in the past, difficult to live in the present and a waste to live in the future.

~Frank Herbert

There is probably no more terrible instant of enlightenment than the one in which you discover your father is a man - with human flesh.

~Frank Herbert

Too much knowledge never makes for simple decisions.

~Frank Herbert

When religion and politics ride in the same cart, the whirlwind follows.

~Frank Herbert

The willow submits to the wind and prospers until one day it is many willows - a wall against the wind.

~Frank Herbert

The person who experiences greatness must have a feeling for the myth he is in.

~Frank Herbert

Whether a thought is spoken or not it is a real thing and has powers of reality.

~Frank Herbert

If you focus your awareness only upon your own rightness, then you invite the forces of opposition to overwhelm you.

~Frank Herbert

Here lies a toppled god. His fall was not a small one. We did but build his pedestal, A narrow and a tall one.

~Frank Herbert

Truth suffers from too much analysis.

~Frank Herbert

This wise man observed that wealth is a tool of freedom. But the pursuit of wealth is the way to slavery.

~Frank Herbert

The gift of words is the gift of deception and illusion.

~Frank Herbert

What I'm saying in my books boils down to this: Mine religion for what is good and avoid what is deleterious. Don't condemn people who need it. Be very careful when that need becomes fanatical.

~Frank Herbert

Religion, too, is a weapon. What manner of weapon is religion when it becomes the government?

~Frank Herbert

And always, he fought the temptation to choose a clear, safe course, warning 'That path leads ever down into stagnation.

~Frank Herbert

What greater gift is there than to demonstrate you need not fear death?

~Frank Herbert

You aren't thinking or really existing unless you're willing to risk even your own sanity in the judgement of your existence.

~Frank Herbert

Survival is the ability to swim in strange water.

~Frank Herbert

I live in an apocalyptic dream. My steps fit into it so precisely that I fear most of all I will grow bored reliving the thing so exactly.

~Frank Herbert

Give as few orders as possible," his father had told him once long ago. "Once you've given orders on a subject, you must always give orders on that subject.

~Frank Herbert

What has mood to do with it? You fight when the necessity arisesâ€”no matter the mood! Mood's a thing for cattle or making love or playing the baliset. It's not for fighting.

~Frank Herbert

He who controls the spice controls the universe.

~Frank Herbert

Empires do not suffer emptiness of purpose at the time of their creation. It is when they have become established that aims are lost and replaced by vague ritual.

~Frank Herbert

Irreverence is a most necessary ingredient of religion. Not to speak of

its importance in philosophy. Irreverence is the only way left to us for testing our universe.

~Frank Herbert

Good subjects must feel guilty. The guilt begins as a feeling of failure. The good autocrat provides many opportunities for failure in the populace.

~Frank Herbert

Every judgment teeters on the brink of error. To claim absolute knowledge is to become monstrous. Knowledge is an unending adventure at the edge of uncertainty.

~Frank Herbert

The highest function of ecology is the understanding of consequences.

~Frank Herbert

Laws to suppress tend to strengthen what they would prohibit.

~Frank Herbert

Providence and Manifest Destiny are synonyms often invoked to support arguments based on wishful thinking.

~Frank Herbert

The convoluted wording of legalisms grew up around the necessity to hide from ourselves the violence we do to each other.

~Frank Herbert

Small souls who seek power over others first destroy the faith those others might have in themselves.

~Frank Herbert

It is a wise man that does know the contented man is never poor, whilst the discontented man is never rich.

~Frank Herbert

There should be a science of discontent. People need hard times and oppression to develop psychic muscles.

~Frank Herbert

Silence is often the best thing to say.

~Frank Herbert

A voice hissed: "He sheds tears!" It was taken around the ring "Usal gives moisture to the dead!" He felt fingers touch his damp cheek, heard the awed whispers.

~Frank Herbert

Education is no substitute for intelligence.

~Frank Herbert

Love is a very ancient force, which served its purpose in its day but no longer is essential for the survival of the species.

~Frank Herbert

Something cannot emerge from nothing.

~Frank Herbert

To come under siege was the inevitable fate of power.

~Frank Herbert

Words themselves were the ultimate barrier to revelation.

~Frank Herbert

A process cannot be understood by stopping it. Understanding must move with the flow of the process, must join it and flow with it.

~Frank Herbert

Historians exercise great power and some of them know it. They recreate the past, changing it to fit their own interpretations. Thus, they change the future as well.

~Frank Herbert

Guilt starts as a feeling of failure.

~Frank Herbert

Parting with friends is a sadness. A place is only a place.

~Frank Herbert

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