

H. P. Lovecraft Quotes

*Men, Dream, Real, Writing, World, Horror, Dark, Memories, Thinking, Cat, Life,
Sleep, Book, Past, Evil, Reality, Mean, Race, Stars, Mind*

I felt myself on the edge of the world; peering over the rim into a fathomless chaos of eternal night.

~H. P. Lovecraft

That is not dead which can eternal lie, And with strange aeons even death may die.

~H. P. Lovecraft

All life is only a set of pictures in the brain, among which there is no difference betwixt those born of real things and those born of inward dreamings, and no cause to value the one above the other.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Who knows the end? What has risen may sink, and what has sunk may rise. Loathsomeness waits and dreams in the deep, and decay spreads over the tottering cities of men.

~H. P. Lovecraft

The oldest and strongest emotion of mankind is fear, and the oldest and strongest kind of fear is fear of the unknown

~H. P. Lovecraft

If I am mad, it is mercy! May the gods pity the man who in his callousness can remain sane to the hideous end!

~H. P. Lovecraft

No new horror can be more terrible than the daily torture of the commonplace.

~H. P. Lovecraft

I never ask a man what his business is, for it never interests me. What I ask him about are his thoughts and dreams.

~H. P. Lovecraft

I am disillusioned enough to know that no man's opinion on any subject is worth a damn unless backed up with enough genuine information to make him really know what he's talking about.

~H. P. Lovecraft

The Old Ones were, the Old Ones are, and the Old Ones shall be. Not in the spaces we know, but between them. They walk serene and primal, undimensioned and to us unseen.

~H. P. Lovecraft

If I could create an ideal world, it would be an England with the fire of the Elizabethans, the correct taste of the Georgians, and the refinement and pure ideals of the Victorians.

~H. P. Lovecraft

The world is indeed comic, but the joke is on mankind.

~H. P. Lovecraft

I have harnessed the shadows that stride from world to world to sow death and madness.

~H. P. Lovecraft

I know always that I am an outsider; a stranger in this century and among those who are still men.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Memories and possibilities are even more hideous than realities.

~H. P. Lovecraft

For I have always been a seeker, a dreamer, and a ponderer on seeking and dreaming.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Searchers after horror haunt strange, far places.

~H. P. Lovecraft

I couldn't live a week without a private library - indeed, I'd part with all my furniture and squat and sleep on the floor before I'd let go of the 1500 or so books I possess.

~H. P. Lovecraft

The process of delving into the black abyss is to me the keenest form of fascination.

~H. P. Lovecraft

The cat is such a perfect symbol of beauty and superiority that it seems scarcely possible for any true aesthete and civilized cynic to do other than to worship it.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Who knows the end? What has risen may sink, and what has sunk may rise.

~H. P. Lovecraft

I like coffee exceedingly.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Man is an essentially superstitious and fearful animal. Take away the herd's Christian gods and saints and they will without failing come to worship...something else.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Despite my solitary life, I have found infinite joy in books and writing, and am by far too much interested in the affairs of the world to quit the scene before Nature shall claim me.

~H. P. Lovecraft

What a man does for pay is of little significance. What he is, as a

sensitive instrument responsive to the world's beauty, is everything!

~H. P. Lovecraft

I fear my enthusiasm flags when real work is demanded of me.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Ocean is more ancient than the mountains, and freighted with the memories and the dreams of Time.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Someday our piecing together of knowledge will open up such terrifying vistas we shall either go mad or flee into the safety of a new dark age.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Never Explain Anything

~H. P. Lovecraft

The greatest human achievements have never been for profit.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Life is a hideous thing.

~H. P. Lovecraft

I could not write about "ordinary people" because I am not in the least interested in them.

~H. P. Lovecraft

The oldest and strongest emotion of mankind is fear.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Our brains deliberately make us forget things, to prevent insanity

~H. P. Lovecraft

Nothing matters, but it's perhaps more comfortable to keep calm and

not interfere with other people.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Wise men have interpreted dreams, and the gods have laughed.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Almost nobody dances sober, unless they happen to be insane.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Do not call up any that you can not put down.

~H. P. Lovecraft

But more wonderful than the lore of old men and the lore of books is the secret lore of ocean.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Bunch together a group of people deliberately chosen for strong religious feelings, and you have a practical guarantee of dark morbidities expressed in crime, perversion, and insanity.

~H. P. Lovecraft

The cat is cryptic, and close to strange things which men cannot see.

~H. P. Lovecraft

The only saving grace of the present is that it's too damned stupid to question the past very closely.

~H. P. Lovecraft

I have never been able to soothe myself with the sugary delusions of religion; for these things stand convicted of the utmost absurdity in light of modern scientific knowledge.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Blue, green, grey, white, or black; smooth, ruffled, or mountainous; that

ocean is not silent.

~H. P. Lovecraft

In his house at R'lyeh, dead Cthulu waits dreaming

~H. P. Lovecraft

It is good to be a cynic - it is better to be a contented cat - and it is best not to exist at all.

~H. P. Lovecraft

We love kitties, gawd bless their little whiskers, and we don't give a damn whether they or we are superior or inferior! They're confounded pretty, and that's all we know and all we need to know!

~H. P. Lovecraft

An isolated person requires correspondence as a means of seeing his ideas as others see them, and thus guarding against the dogmatisms and extravagances of solitary and uncorrected speculation.

~H. P. Lovecraft

The most merciful thing in the world... is the inability of the human mind to correlate all its contents.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Race prejudice is a gift of nature, intended to preserve in purity the various divisions of mankind which the ages have evolved.

~H. P. Lovecraft

There is no field other than the weird in which I have any aptitude or inclination for fictional composition. Life has never interested me so much as the escape from life.

~H. P. Lovecraft

I have seen the dark universe yawning Where the black planets roll

without aim, Where they roll in their horror unheeded, Without knowledge, or lustre, or name.

~H. P. Lovecraft

To be bitter is to attribute intent and personality to the formless, infinite, unchanging and unchangeable void. We drift on a chartless, resistless sea. Let us sing when we can, and forget the rest.

~H. P. Lovecraft

The basis of all true cosmic horror is violation of the order of nature, and the profoundest violations are always the least concrete and describable.

~H. P. Lovecraft

We shall see that at which dogs howl in the dark, and that at which cats prick up their ears after midnight.

~H. P. Lovecraft

As human beings, our only sensible scale of values is one based on lessening the agony of existence.

~H. P. Lovecraft

But are not the dreams of poets and the tales of travellers notoriously false?

~H. P. Lovecraft

Only poetry or madness could do justice to the noises.

~H. P. Lovecraft

incurable lover of the grotesque

~H. P. Lovecraft

It must be remembered that there is no real reason to expect anything in particular from mankind; good and evil are local expedients - or their

lack - and not in any sense cosmic truths or laws.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Creative minds are uneven, and the best of fabrics have their dull spots.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Disintegration is quite painless, I assure you.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Toil without song is like a weary journey without an end.

~H. P. Lovecraft

In London there is a man who screams when the church bells ring.

~H. P. Lovecraft

That which we call substance and reality is shadow and illusion, and that which we call shadow and illusion is substance and reality.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Memory sometimes makes merciful deletions.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Life has never interested me so much as the escape from life.

~H. P. Lovecraft

The appeal of the spectrally macabre is generally narrow because it demands from the reader a certain degree of imagination and a capacity for detachment from everyday life.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Uncertainty and danger are always closely allied, thus making any kind of an unknown world a world of peril and evil possibilities.

~H. P. Lovecraft

All I want is to know things. The black gulph of the infinite is before me.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Pleasure to me is wonder—the unexplored, the unexpected, the thing that is hidden and the changeless thing that lurks behind superficial mutability.

~H. P. Lovecraft

The trees grew too thickly, and their trunks were too big for any healthy New England wood. There was too much silence in the dim alleys between them.

~H. P. Lovecraft

All great humorists are sad... I cannot help seeing beyond the tinsel of humour, and recognising the pitiful basis of jest - the world is indeed comic, but the joke is on mankind.

~H. P. Lovecraft

There are probably seven persons, in all, who really like my work; and they are enough. I should write even if I were the only patient reader, for my aim is merely self-expression.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Men of broader intellect know that there is no sharp distinction betwixt the real and the unreal

~H. P. Lovecraft

In my dreams I found a little of the beauty I had vainly sought in life, and wandered through old gardens and enchanted woods.

~H. P. Lovecraft

From even the greatest of horrors irony is seldom absent.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Since all motives at bottom are selfish and ignoble, we may judge acts and qualities only by their effects.

~H. P. Lovecraft

There now ensued a series of incidents which transported me to the opposite extremes of ecstasy and horror; incidents which I tremble to recall and dare not seek to interpret.

~H. P. Lovecraft

It is true that I have sent six bullets through the head of my best friend, and yet I hope to show by this statement that I am not his murderer.

~H. P. Lovecraft

To the scientist there is the joy in pursuing truth which nearly counteracts the depressing revelations of truth.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Heaven knows where I'll end up - but it's a safe bet that I'll never be at the top of anything! Nor do I particularly care to be.

~H. P. Lovecraft

It is better to laugh at man from outside the universe, than to weep for him within.

~H. P. Lovecraft

It was from the artists and poets that the pertinent answers came, and I know that panic would have broken loose had they been able to compare notes.

~H. P. Lovecraft

There are horrors beyond life's edge that we do not suspect, and once in a while man's evil prying calls them just within our range.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Man's relations to man do not captivate my fancy. It is man's relation to the cosmos--to the unknown--which alone arouses in me the spark of creative imagination.

~H. P. Lovecraft

West of Arkham the hills rise wild, and there are valleys with deep woods that no axe has ever cut.

~H. P. Lovecraft

I could not help feeling that they were evil things -- mountains of madness whose farther slopes looked out over some accursed ultimate abyss.

~H. P. Lovecraft

There was really nothing for serious men to do in cases of wild gossip, for superstitious rustics will say and believe anything.

~H. P. Lovecraft

When Randolph Carter was thirty he lost the key of the gate of dreams.

~H. P. Lovecraft

There be those who say that things and places have souls, and there be those who say they have not; I dare not say, myself, but I will tell of The Street.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Nyarlathep . . . the crawling chaos . . . I am the last . . . I will tell the audient void. . . .

~H. P. Lovecraft

There are black zones of shadow close to our daily paths, and now and then some evil soul breaks a passage through. When that happens, the man who knows must strike before reckoning the consequences.

~H. P. Lovecraft

I have looked upon all the universe has to hold of horror, and even the skies of spring and flowers of summer must ever afterward be poison to me.

~H. P. Lovecraft

The dog is a peasant and the cat is a gentleman.

~H. P. Lovecraft

In search of Truth the hopeful zealot goes, But all the sadder turns, the more he knows!

~H. P. Lovecraft

It might, too, have been the singular cold that alienated me; for such chilliness was abnormal on so hot a day, and the abnormal always excites aversion, distrust, and fear.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Unhappy is he to whom the memories of childhood bring only fear and sadness.

~H. P. Lovecraft

I love to dream, but I never try to dream and think at the same time.

~H. P. Lovecraft

Sometimes I believe that this less material life is our truer life, and that our vain presence on the terraqueous globe is itself the secondary or merely virtual phenomenon.

~H. P. Lovecraft

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