

# Henning Mankell

## Quotes

*People, Children, Writing, Believe, Country, Book, World, Thinking, Dream,  
Silence, Coffee, Reality, Men, Wise, Animal, Leaving, Political, Shoes,  
Historical, Mean*

I know paradise has many gates, just as hell does. One has to learn to distinguish between them, or one is lost.

~Henning Mankell

People always leave traces. No person is without a shadow.

~Henning Mankell

Justice doesn't only mean that the people who commit crime are punished. It also means that we can never give up seeking the truth.

~Henning Mankell

We don't have time to argue. Nobody has time.

~Henning Mankell

Many people make the mistake of confusing information with knowledge. They are not the same thing. Knowledge involves the interpretation of information. Knowledge involves listening.

~Henning Mankell

Dreams can be of value even if you don't have an opportunity to turn them into reality.

~Henning Mankell

Every secret we confide in another person can be a burden to them

~Henning Mankell

Life is a flimsy branch over an abyss.

~Henning Mankell

â€žNot having time for a person, not being able to sit in silence together with somebody, that's the same as rejecting them, as being scornful about them.

~Henning Mankell

You can have more than one home. You can carry your roots with you, and decide where they grow.

~Henning Mankell

To grow up is to wonder about things; to be grown up is to slowly forget the things you wondered about as a child.

~Henning Mankell

An oppressed people will always rise.

~Henning Mankell

I am a very radical person - as radical now as I was when I was younger. So my books all have in common my search for understanding of the terrible world we are living in and ways to change it.

~Henning Mankell

I remembered her once saying that life was like your shoes. You couldn't simply expect or imagine that your shoes would fit perfectly. Shoes that pinched your feet were a fact of life.

~Henning Mankell

They pondered the importance of coffee in silence.

~Henning Mankell

It's only when we can work with something that brings out our strengths that we're of any real use.

~Henning Mankell

Police work wouldn't be possible without coffee.

~Henning Mankell

I am not afraid of dying. I have lived longer than most people in the world. What scares me is to have a body that works but a brain that is

waving goodbye. If that happens, I hope I die quickly.

~Henning Mankell

Each person searches for the most beautiful jump which will be the final before leaving this world.

~Henning Mankell

At the time of independence in 1975, Mozambique was extremely poor. Many Portuguese residents abandoned the country, leaving only a handful of well-educated Mozambicans to try to run the country.

~Henning Mankell

We used to send whole flocks of birds shooting out of our mouths and never managed to grab them by their wings.

~Henning Mankell

For me Oliver Twist is a political novel. It is a furious critique of the treatment of orphans and poor children who were forced to spend their early lives in ghastly institutions.

~Henning Mankell

The stories I create are never as awful as reality.

~Henning Mankell

Many people say I smile more in Africa than in Sweden.

~Henning Mankell

It was a clear, starry night, dead calm. Whenever I see a sky like that, I wish I could write music

~Henning Mankell

We only have the past that we have. Not all of our deeds were incorrect.

~Henning Mankell

I love Sherlock Holmes. There's still an awful lot to steal from Conan Doyle. But within a tradition you can work in many different ways.

~Henning Mankell

You think you know everything about a person, but the truth often comes as a surprise.

~Henning Mankell

Police work wouldn't be possible without coffee," Wallander said. "No work would be possible without coffee." They pondered the importance of coffee in silence.

~Henning Mankell

When one historical period is replaced by another, there is always a group of people left over from the old society

~Henning Mankell

Sweden is still a very peaceful country to live in. I think that people in Britain have created this mythology about Sweden, that it's a perfect democratic society full of erotically charged girls.

~Henning Mankell

Novels are . . . an unsurpassed form to understand people.

~Henning Mankell

The evil always comes from details.

~Henning Mankell

I'm not very much of a reader really, because I find much of it very bad, very uninteresting, very speculative.

~Henning Mankell

One of the agonies of being an author is to know when to stop writing.

~Henning Mankell

I do not understand how on earth you can become a writer without seeing the world.

~Henning Mankell

When someone asks me to list the 10 best novels ever written, I always refuse to answer.

~Henning Mankell

I came to Mozambique in 1986, when I first became involved with Teatro Avenida - a theatre company that stages plays concerned with political and social issues.

~Henning Mankell

Our exile organizations have been our way of replacing the cities and villages we have lost.

~Henning Mankell

Africa was the most exotic place I could conceive of - the end of the world - and I knew I would go there one day.

~Henning Mankell

I think my Wallander stories give a fairly good image of the world in the 1990s. I don't regret anything about that - on the contrary!

~Henning Mankell

What annoys a person who suicides? The life itself. Boredom. Tiredness that descends on every morning when you look at yourself at the mirror.

~Henning Mankell

Shakespeare is in many ways an African writer and 'Hamlet' would be seen as a very accurate historical saga about an African kingdom.

~Henning Mankell

He was so excessively polite that Wallendar suspected he had endured many humiliations in his life.

~Henning Mankell

My mother did what many men do. She left.

~Henning Mankell

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