

# Isaac Asimov

## Quotes

*Science, Thinking, Writing, Men, People, Believe, Ignorance, Book, Mind, Life, Way, Atheist, World, Knowledge, Past, May, Robots, Two, Law, Humanity*

People who think they know everything are a great annoyance to those of us who do.

~Isaac Asimov

The saddest aspect of life right now is that science gathers knowledge faster than society gathers wisdom.

~Isaac Asimov

When stupidity is considered patriotism, it is unsafe to be intelligent.

~Isaac Asimov

So the universe is not quite as you thought it was. You'd better rearrange your beliefs, then. Because you certainly can't rearrange the universe.

~Isaac Asimov

In life, unlike chess, the game continues after checkmate.

~Isaac Asimov

People think of education as something that they can finish.

~Isaac Asimov

There are no nations! There is only humanity. And if we don't come to understand that right soon, there will be no nations, because there will be no humanity.

~Isaac Asimov

A robot may not injure a human being, or, through inaction, allow a human being to come to harm.

~Isaac Asimov

Violence is the last refuge of the incompetent.

~Isaac Asimov

A robot must protect its own existence as long as such protection does not conflict with the First or Second Laws.

~Isaac Asimov

While he lives, he must think; while he thinks, he must dream.

~Isaac Asimov

Self-education is, I firmly believe, the only kind of education there is.

~Isaac Asimov

It has been my philosophy of life that difficulties vanish when faced boldly.

~Isaac Asimov

The most exciting phrase to hear in science, the one that heralds new discoveries, is not 'Eureka!' but 'That's funny...'

~Isaac Asimov

The day you stop learning is the day you begin decaying.

~Isaac Asimov

I don't believe in an afterlife, so I don't have to spend my whole life fearing hell, or fearing heaven even more. For whatever the tortures of hell, I think the boredom of heaven would be even worse.

~Isaac Asimov

It pays to be obvious, especially if you have a reputation for subtlety.

~Isaac Asimov

Maybe happiness is this: not feeling like you should be elsewhere, doing something else, being someone else.

~Isaac Asimov

Properly read, the Bible is the most potent force for atheism ever

conceived.

~Isaac Asimov

Uncertainty that comes from knowledge (knowing what you don't know) is different from uncertainty coming from ignorance.

~Isaac Asimov

All you have to do is take a close look at yourself and you will understand everyone else.

~Isaac Asimov

It is not only the living who are killed in war.

~Isaac Asimov

The easiest way to solve a problem is to deny it exists.

~Isaac Asimov

Since emotions are few and reasons are many (said the robot Giscard) the behavior of a crowd can be more easily predicted than the behavior of one person.

~Isaac Asimov

I am not a speed reader. I am a speed understander.

~Isaac Asimov

The intelligent man is never bored.

~Isaac Asimov

If you have talent, you will receive some measure of success - but only if you persist.

~Isaac Asimov

There never can be a man so lost as one who is lost in the vast and intricate corridors of his own lonely mind, where none may reach and

none may save.

~Isaac Asimov

Self-education is, I firmly believe, the only kind of education there is. The only function of a school is to make self-education easier; failing that, it does nothing.

~Isaac Asimov

To make discoveries, you have to be curious about why the universe is the way it is.

~Isaac Asimov

And above all things, never think that you're not good enough yourself. A man should never think that. My belief is that in life people will take you at your own reckoning.

~Isaac Asimov

To succeed, planning alone is insufficient. One must improvise as well.

~Isaac Asimov

If knowledge can create problems, it is not through ignorance that we can solve them.

~Isaac Asimov

The greatest weapons in the conquest of knowledge are an understanding mind and the inexorable curiosity that drives it on.

~Isaac Asimov

If my doctor told me I had only six minutes to live, I wouldn't brood. I'd type a little faster.

~Isaac Asimov

Democracy cannot survive overpopulation.

~Isaac Asimov

Life is pleasant. Death is peaceful. It's the transition that's troublesome.

~Isaac Asimov

The cure for advanced gullibility is to go to sleep and consider matters again the next day.

~Isaac Asimov

My feeling is, quite simply, that if there is a God, He has done such a bad job that he isn't worth discussing.

~Isaac Asimov

Any teacher that can be replaced by a computer should be replaced by a computer.

~Isaac Asimov

There is no belief, however foolish, that will not gather its faithful adherents who will defend it to the death.

~Isaac Asimov

The advance of genetic engineering makes it quite conceivable that we will begin to design our own evolutionary progress.

~Isaac Asimov

It is the writer who might catch the imagination of young people, and plant a seed that will flower and come to fruition.

~Isaac Asimov

Any book worth banning is a book worth reading.

~Isaac Asimov

Humanity has the stars in its future, and that future is too important to be lost under the burden of juvenile folly and ignorant superstition.

~Isaac Asimov

Creationists make it sound as though a 'theory' is something you dreamt up after being drunk all night.

~Isaac Asimov

Writing, to me, is simply thinking through my fingers.

~Isaac Asimov

There are no happy endings in history, only crisis points that pass.

~Isaac Asimov

The great secret of the successful fool is that he's no fool at all

~Isaac Asimov

Science can amuse and fascinate us all, but it is engineering that changes the world.

~Isaac Asimov

It is not so much that I have confidence in scientists being right, but that I have so much in nonscientists being wrong.

~Isaac Asimov

Never let your sense of morals get in the way of doing what's right.

~Isaac Asimov

There is a single light of science, and to brighten it anywhere is to brighten it everywhere.

~Isaac Asimov

Computerization eliminates the middleman

~Isaac Asimov

In my life there have been several individuals whose presence made it easier for me to think, pleasanter to make my responses.

~Isaac Asimov

And in man is a three-pound brain which, as far as we know, is the most complex and orderly arrangement of matter in the universe.

~Isaac Asimov

Inspect every piece of pseudoscience and you will find a security blanket.

~Isaac Asimov

The true delight is in the finding out rather than in the knowing.

~Isaac Asimov

Man's greatest asset is the unsettled mind.

~Isaac Asimov

Life originated in the sea, and about eighty percent of it is still there.

~Isaac Asimov

The human brain, then, is the most complicated organization of matter that we know.

~Isaac Asimov

True literacy is becoming an arcane art, and the nation is steadily "dumbing down."

~Isaac Asimov

You show me someone who can't understand people and I'll show you someone who has built up a false image of himself.

~Isaac Asimov

Life is a journey, but don't worry, you'll find a parking spot at the end.

~Isaac Asimov

The first law of dietetics seems to be: if it tastes good, it's bad for you.

~Isaac Asimov



... you just can't differentiate between a robot and the very best of humans.

~Isaac Asimov

Any fool can tell a crisis when it arrives. The real service to the state is to detect it in embryo.

~Isaac Asimov

If I am right, then (religious fundamentalists) will not go to Heaven, because there is no Heaven. If they are right, then they will not go to Heaven, because they are hypocrites.

~Isaac Asimov

The closer to the truth, the better the lie, and the truth itself, when it can be used, is the best lie.

~Isaac Asimov

There is an art to science, and a science in art; the two are not enemies, but different aspects of the whole.

~Isaac Asimov

Courtiers don't take wagers against the king's skill. There is the deadly danger of winning.

~Isaac Asimov

It's the writing that teaches you.

~Isaac Asimov

Science is a mechanism, a way of trying to improve your knowledge of nature. It's a system for testing your thoughts against the universe, and seeing whether they match.

~Isaac Asimov

I am an atheist, out and out. It took me a long time to say it.

~Isaac Asimov

Science is a set of rules to keep us from telling lies to each other. All scientists really have is a reputation for telling the truth.

~Isaac Asimov

To insult someone we call him 'bestial. For deliberate cruelty and nature, 'human' might be the greater insult.

~Isaac Asimov

It is almost impossible to think of something no one has thought of before, but it is always possible to add different frills.

~Isaac Asimov

I do not fear computers. I fear the lack of them.

~Isaac Asimov

I am the beneficiary of a lucky break in the genetic sweepstakes.

~Isaac Asimov

John Dalton's records, carefully preserved for a century, were destroyed during the World War II bombing of Manchester. It is not only the living who are killed in war.

~Isaac Asimov

You wait for the war to happen like vultures. If you want to help, prevent the war. Don't save the remnants. Save them all.

~Isaac Asimov

There is nothing frightening about an eternal dreamless sleep. Surely it is better than eternal torment in Hell and eternal boredom in Heaven.

~Isaac Asimov

It seems to me that God is a convenient invention of the human mind

~Isaac Asimov

To surrender to ignorance and call it God has always been premature, and it remains premature today.

~Isaac Asimov

All evil is good become cancerous.

~Isaac Asimov

Anything you make forbidden gains sexual attractiveness. Would you be particularly interested in women's breasts if you lived in a society in which they were displayed at all times?

~Isaac Asimov

I expect death to be nothingness and, for removing me from all possible fears of death, I am thankful to atheism.

~Isaac Asimov

Robots will neither be common nor very good in 2014, but they will be in existence.

~Isaac Asimov

Every religion seems like a fantasy to outsiders, but as holy truth to those of the faith.

~Isaac Asimov

Many a prophecy, by the mere force of its being believed, is transmuted to fact.

~Isaac Asimov

Jokes of the proper kind, properly told, can do more to enlighten questions of politics, philosophy, and literature than any number of dull arguments.

~Isaac Asimov

I write for the same reason I breathe - because if I didn't, I would die.

~Isaac Asimov

Having no unusual coincidence is far more unusual than any coincidence could possibly be.

~Isaac Asimov

The world of A.D. 2014 will have few routine jobs that cannot be done better by some machine than by any human being. Mankind will therefore have become largely a race of machine tenders.

~Isaac Asimov

A subtle thought that is in error may yet give rise to fruitful inquiry that can establish truths of great value.

~Isaac Asimov

There seems to be a feeling that anything that is natural is good. Strychnine is natural.

~Isaac Asimov

Nonsense! The most hopelessly stupid man is he who is not aware that he is wise.

~Isaac Asimov

I figure that if God actually does exist, he is big enough to understand an honest difference of opinion.

~Isaac Asimov

Scientific apparatus offers a window to knowledge, but as they grow more elaborate, scientists spend ever more time washing the windows.

~Isaac Asimov

What is really amazing, and frustrating, is mankind's habit of refusing to see the obvious and inevitable until it is there, and then muttering about

unforeseen catastrophes.

~Isaac Asimov

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