

James Clavell

Quotes

*Men, Karma, Laughter, Important, Hate, Alive, Enemy, Stranger, Real, Strong,
Humans, Beautiful, Stupid, Shoguns, Titles, Joy, Horse, Believe, Atheism,
Sufferers*

All stories have a beginning, a middle and an ending, and if they're any good, the ending is a beginning.

~James Clavell

Anger is something you should only vent in front of intimates, and friends and relations. Never be angry in front of strangers because you lose face.

~James Clavell

You never know . . . that's what makes life interesting.

~James Clavell

So much of 'normal, civilized' life is bull that you can't imagine... What frightens you, doesn't frighten me, what frightens me, you'd laugh at.

~James Clavell

Guard yourself and your conscience no one else will and know that a bad decision at the right time can destroy you far more surely than any bullet!

~James Clavell

What can I do to help thee?" he asked. "Believe there is a tomorrow.

~James Clavell

Life and death are the same...Leave karma to karma.

~James Clavell

How beautiful life is and how sad! How fleeting, with no past and no future, only a limitless now.

~James Clavell

The search for the truth is the most important work in the whole world - and the most dangerous.

~James Clavell

.., by universal custom, your enemy is never more polite than when he is planning or has planned your destruction.

~James Clavell

Only by living at the edge of death can you understand the indescribable joy of life - Shogun.

~James Clavell

Wars are fought by teenagers, you realize that. They really ought to be fought by the politicians and old people who start these wars.

~James Clavell

The more I know, the more sure I am I know so little. The eternal paradox.

~James Clavell

Changi for me - of course it's easy to be wise after the event, and to discuss it cleverly after the event - was about as near as you can get to being dead and still be alive.

~James Clavell

There is no dignity for either the sufferer or the torturer

~James Clavell

What are clouds, but an excuse for the sky? What is life, but an escape from death?

~James Clavell

Horses are far worse than men for treachery.

~James Clavell

First the priests arrive. Then the conquistadores.

~James Clavell

Of what real value is a title? The power is the only important thing

~James Clavell

Isn't it only laughter we can stay human?

~James Clavell

How can a man be so brave and so stupid, so gentle and so cruel, so warming and so detestable -- all at the same time?

~James Clavell

Christ, it's so good to be alive.

~James Clavell

You've committed murder just as much as Helene did. You killed a fly with a human head. She killed a human with a fly head.

~James Clavell

Isn't man but a blossom taken by wind, and only the mountains and the sea and the stars and this land of the gods everlasting?

~James Clavell

What you do with strangers is ignore them for. No second chance, no sorry I did it, never accept an apology, but never, ever get angry with strangers.

~James Clavell

God gives us intelligence to uncover the wonders of nature. Without the gift, nothing is possible.

~James Clavell

The scarcity of years does not necessitate lack of wisdom.

~James Clavell

Anger is one of the most intimate of emotions and to expose it to

strangers is one of the most stupid and sickening things to do. Never get angry with strangers because they are strangers.

~James Clavell

It's always important to take time to study men -- important men. Friends and enemies.

~James Clavell

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