

# James Gleick

## Quotes

*Book, People, Time, Information, Brain, Running, Ideas, Thinking, Technology,  
Doubt, Knowing, Waste, Stories, Blow, Gun, Acting, Quixotic, Enemy, Google,  
Chaos*

Ideas that require people to reorganize their picture of the world provoke hostility.

~James Gleick

In the mind's eye, a fractal is a way of seeing infinity.

~James Gleick

Information is not knowledge and knowledge is not wisdom.

~James Gleick

Everything we care about lies somewhere in the middle, where pattern and randomness interlace.

~James Gleick

It is not the amount of knowledge that makes a brain. It is not even the distribution of knowledge. It is the interconnectedness.

~James Gleick

I have seen the future, and it is still in the future.

~James Gleick

Every new medium transforms the nature of human thought. In the long run, history is the story of information becoming aware of itself.

~James Gleick

When information is cheap, attention becomes expensive.

~James Gleick

Life sucks order from a sea of disorder.

~James Gleick

You can't waste time and you can't save time; you can only choose what you do at any given moment.

~James Gleick

Geniuses of certain kinds - mathematicians, chess players, computer programmers - seem, if not mad, at least lacking in the social skills most easily identified with sanity.

~James Gleick

It sometimes seems as if curbing entropy is our quixotic purpose in this universe.

~James Gleick

Google is where we go for answers. People used to go elsewhere or, more likely, stagger along not knowing.

~James Gleick

To some physicists chaos is a science of process rather than state, of becoming rather than being.

~James Gleick

Running for president is the new selfie.

~James Gleick

The history of life is written in terms of negative entropy.

~James Gleick

We choose mania over boredom every time.

~James Gleick

The universe is computing its own destiny.

~James Gleick

I can't remember the last book that taught me so much, and so well, about what it means to be human.

~James Gleick

He believed in the primacy of doubt, not as a blemish upon our ability to

know, but as the essence of knowing.

~James Gleick

Vengeful conquerors burn books as if the enemy's souls reside there, too.

~James Gleick

Thinking about language, while thinking in language, leads to puzzles and paradoxes.

~James Gleick

We say that time passes, time goes by, and time flows. Those are metaphors. We also think of time as a medium in which we exist.

~James Gleick

Cyberspace, especially, draws us into the instant.

~James Gleick

At its most fundamental, information is a binary choice. In other words, a single bit of information is one yes-or-no choice.

~James Gleick

It is significant that one says book lover and music lover and art lover but not record lover or CD lover or, conversely, text lover.

~James Gleick

The alternative to doubt is authority, against which science had fought for centuries.

~James Gleick

The Internet is like a town that leaves its streets unmarked on the principle that people who don't already know don't belong

~James Gleick

Neither technology nor efficiency can acquire more time for you, because time is not a thing you have lost. It is not a thing you ever had.

~James Gleick

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