

# James Joyce

## Quotes

*Heart, Men, Art, Life, Writing, Eye, Love, Mind, Long, Soul, Beautiful, Running,  
Fall, Country, People, Past, Thinking, Giving, Book, Night*

People trample over flowers, yet only to embrace a cactus.

~James Joyce

Shut your eyes and see.

~James Joyce

Absence, the highest form of presence.

~James Joyce

Mistakes are the portals of discovery.

~James Joyce

There is not past, no future; everything flows in an eternal present.

~James Joyce

Your mind will give back to you exactly what you put into it.

~James Joyce

The supreme question about a work of art is out of how deep a life does it spring.

~James Joyce

Think you're escaping and run into yourself. Longest way round is the shortest way home.

~James Joyce

I am tomorrow, or some future day, what I establish today. I am today what I established yesterday or some previous day.

~James Joyce

All Moanday, Tearday, Wailsday, Thumpsday, Frightday, Shatterday.

~James Joyce

I've put in so many enigmas and puzzles that it will keep the professors

busy for centuries arguing over what I meant, and that's the only way of insuring one's immortality.

~James Joyce

Fall if you will, but rise you must.

~James Joyce

The artist, like the God of the creation, remains within or behind or beyond or above his handiwork, invisible, refined out of existence, indifferent, paring his fingernails.

~James Joyce

Your battles inspired me - not the obvious material battles but those that were fought and won behind your forehead.

~James Joyce

He wanted to cry quietly but not for himself: for the words, so beautiful and sad, like music.

~James Joyce

History, Stephen said, is a nightmare from which I am trying to awake.

~James Joyce

One great part of every human existence is passed in a state which cannot be rendered sensible by the use of wideawake language, cutanddry grammar and goahead plot.

~James Joyce

A man of genius makes no mistakes; his errors are volitional and are the portals of discovery.

~James Joyce

They lived and laughed and loved and left.

~James Joyce

Love me. Love my umbrella.

~James Joyce

Love loves to love love.

~James Joyce

No one who has any self-respect stays in Ireland, but flees afar as though from a country that has undergone the visitation of an angered Jove.

~James Joyce

I think a child should be allowed to take his father's or mother's name at will on coming of age. Paternity is a legal fiction.

~James Joyce

My words in her mind: cold polished stones sinking through a quagmire.

~James Joyce

Better pass boldly into that other world, in the full glory of some passion, than fade and wither dismally with age.

~James Joyce

You can still die when the sun is shining.

~James Joyce

The heaventree of stars hung with humid nightblue fruit.

~James Joyce

Thought is the thought of thought.

~James Joyce

A way a lone a last a loved a long the riverrun, past Eve and Adam's, from swerve of shore to bend of bay, brings us by a commodius vicus

of recirculation back to Howth Castle and Environs.

~James Joyce

Men are governed by lines of intellect - women: by curves of emotion.

~James Joyce

The light music of whiskey falling into glasses made an agreeable interlude.

~James Joyce

Bury the dead. Say Robinson Crusoe was true to life. Well then Friday buried him. Every Friday buries a Thursday if you come to look at it.

~James Joyce

Civilization may be said indeed to be the creation of its outlaws.

~James Joyce

To learn one must be humble. But life is the great teacher.

~James Joyce

For myself, I always write about Dublin, because if I can get to the heart of Dublin I can get to the heart of all the cities of the world. In the particular is contained the universal.

~James Joyce

It is as painful perhaps to be awakened from a vision as to be born.

~James Joyce

Life is too short to read a bad book.

~James Joyce

An Irishman needs three things : silence, cunning, and exile.

~James Joyce

A man's errors are his portals of discovery.

~James Joyce

His soul swooned slowly as he heard the snow falling faintly through the universe and faintly falling, like the descent of their last end, upon all the living and the dead.

~James Joyce

I am proud to be an emotionalist.

~James Joyce

and yet her name was like a summons to all my foolish blood.

~James Joyce

White pudding and eggs and sausages and cups of tea! How simple and beautiful was life after all!

~James Joyce

Every life is in many days, day after day. We walk through ourselves, meeting robbers, ghosts, giants, old men, young men, wives, widows, brothers-in-love. But always meeting ourselves.

~James Joyce

There's no friends like the old friends.

~James Joyce

Christopher Columbus, as everyone knows, is honored by posterity because he was the last to discover America.

~James Joyce

I have the words already. What I am seeking is the perfect order of words in the sentence. You can see for yourself how many different ways they might be arranged.

~James Joyce

Every jackass going the roads thinks he has ideas.

~James Joyce

Welcome, O life! I go to encounter for the millionth time the reality of experience and to forge in the smithy of my soul the uncreated conscience of my race.

~James Joyce

All things are inconstant except the faith in the soul, which changes all things and fills their inconstancy with light.

~James Joyce

The object of the artist is the creation of the beautiful. What the beautiful is is another question.

~James Joyce

Beware the horns of a bull, the heels of the horse, and the smile of an Englishman.

~James Joyce

Masturbation! The amazing availability of it!

~James Joyce

I have left my book, I have left my room, For I heard you singing Through the gloom.

~James Joyce

Jesus was a bachelor and never lived with a woman. Surely living with a woman is one of the most difficult things a man has to do, and he never did it.

~James Joyce

The pleasures of love lasts but a fleeting but the pledges of life outlasts a lifetime.

~James Joyce

You cannot eat your cake and have it.

~James Joyce

Mr. Duffy lived a short distance from his body.

~James Joyce

I fear those big words, Stephen said, which make us so unhappy.

~James Joyce

No pen, no ink, no table, no room, no time, no quiet, no inclination.

~James Joyce

I am not likely to die of bashfulness but neither am I prepared to be crucified to attest the perfection of my art. I dislike to hear of any stray heroics on the prowl for me.

~James Joyce

And then I asked him with my eyes to ask again yes and then he asked me would I yes and his heart was going like mad and yes I said yes I will yes.

~James Joyce

Wipe your glasses with what you know.

~James Joyce

There is an atmosphere of spiritual effort here. No other city is quite like it. I wake early, often at 5 o'clock, and start writing at once.

~James Joyce

My intention was to write a chapter of the moral history of my country and I chose Dublin for the scene because that city seemed to me the centre of paralysis.



~James Joyce

Children must be educated by love, not punishment.

~James Joyce

There is no heresy or no philosophy which is so abhorrent to the church as a human being.

~James Joyce

Poetry, even when apparently most fantastic, is always a revolt against artifice, a revolt, in a sense, against actuality.

~James Joyce

Shakespeare is the happy hunting ground of all minds that have lost their balance.

~James Joyce

You forget that the kingdom of heaven suffers violence: and the kingdom of heaven is like a woman.

~James Joyce

Love between man and man is impossible because there must not be sexual intercourse and friendship between man and woman is impossible because there must be sexual intercourse.

~James Joyce

Though their life was modest, they believed in eating well.

~James Joyce

Time's ruins build eternity's mansions.

~James Joyce

Ask no questions and you'll hear no lies.

~James Joyce

Tenors get women by the score.

~James Joyce

Whatever else is unsure in this stinking dunghill of a world a mother's love is not.

~James Joyce

Like the tender fires of stars moments of their life together, that no one knew of or would ever know of, broke upon and illuminated his memory.

~James Joyce

As I am. As I am. All or not at all.

~James Joyce

Writing in English is the most ingenious torture ever devised for sins committed in previous lives. The English reading public explains the reason why.

~James Joyce

Redheaded women buck like goats.

~James Joyce

People could put up with being bitten by a wolf but what properly riled them was a bite from a sheep.

~James Joyce

Places remember events.

~James Joyce

You get a decent do at the Brazen Head

~James Joyce

Secrets, silent, stony sit in the dark palaces of both our hearts: secrets

weary of their tyranny: tyrants willing to be dethroned.

~James Joyce

I am, a stride at a time. A very short space of time through very short time of space.

~James Joyce

Very gratefully, with grateful appreciation, with sincere appreciative gratitude, in appreciatively grateful sincerity of regret, he declined.

~James Joyce

God made food; the devil the cooks.

~James Joyce

There's many a true word spoken in jest.

~James Joyce

I'd love to have the whole place swimming in roses

~James Joyce

Sentimentality is unearned emotion.

~James Joyce

What's yours is mine and what's mine is my own.

~James Joyce

So you need hardly spell me how every word will be bound over to carry three score and ten toptypical readings throughout the book of Doublends Jined.

~James Joyce

...rapid motion through space elates one.

~James Joyce

We were always loyal to lost causes...Success for us is the death of the intellect and of the imagination. ~ Professor MacHugh

~James Joyce

Lord, heap miseries upon us yet entwine our arts with laughters low.

~James Joyce

Our souls, shame-wounded by our sins, cling to us yet more, a woman to her lover clinging, the more the more.

~James Joyce

Every age must look for its sanction to its poetry and philosophy, for in these the human mind, as it looks backward or forward, attains to an eternal state.

~James Joyce

My eyes were often full of tears (I could not tell why) and at times a flood from my heart seemed to pour itself out.

~James Joyce

We are all born in the same way but we all die in different ways.

~James Joyce

In the name of Annah the Allmaziful, the Everliving, the Bringer of Plurabilities, haloed be her eve, her singtime sung, her rill be run, unhemmed as it is uneven!

~James Joyce

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