

Jean Baudrillard

Quotes

*Real, Reality, Men, America, Love, World, Giving, Thinking, Sex, Simulacrum,
Power, New York, Taken, Heart, Events, Dream, Photography, Technology,
Culture, Desert*

We live in a world where there is more and more information, and less and less meaning.

~Jean Baudrillard

Seduction is always more singular and sublime than sex and it commands the higher price.

~Jean Baudrillard

The desert is a natural extension of the inner silence of the body.

~Jean Baudrillard

Deep down, the US, with its space, its technological refinement, its bluff good conscience, even in those spaces which it opens up for simulation, is the only remaining primitive society.

~Jean Baudrillard

At male strip shows, it is still the women that we watch, the audience of women and their eager faces. They are more obscene than if they were dancing naked themselves.

~Jean Baudrillard

Art does not die because there is no more art. It dies because there is too much.

~Jean Baudrillard

Illusion is no longer possible, because the real is no longer possible.

~Jean Baudrillard

Today's terrorism is not the product of a traditional history of anarchism, nihilism, or fanaticism. It is instead the contemporary partner of globalization.

~Jean Baudrillard

What I am, I don't know. I am the simulacrum of myself.

~Jean Baudrillard

There is no aphrodisiac like innocence.

~Jean Baudrillard

Disneyland is presented as imaginary in order to make us believe that the rest is real.

~Jean Baudrillard

History that repeats itself turns to farce. Farce that repeats itself turns to history.

~Jean Baudrillard

The simulacrum is never that which conceals the truth--it is the truth which conceals that there is none. The simulacrum is true.

~Jean Baudrillard

Nothing is wholly obvious without becoming enigmatic. Reality itself is too obvious to be true .

~Jean Baudrillard

Philosophy leads to death, sociology leads to suicide.

~Jean Baudrillard

When the real is no longer what it used to be, nostalgia assumes its full meaning.

~Jean Baudrillard

Driving is a spectacular form of amnesia. Everything is to be discovered, everything to be obliterated.

~Jean Baudrillard

It only takes a politician believing in what he says for the others to stop believing him.

~Jean Baudrillard

[I]nside every computer, there is a hidden man being bored.

~Jean Baudrillard

Every woman is like a time-zone. She is a nocturnal fragment of your journey. She brings you unflaggingly closer to the next night.

~Jean Baudrillard

Democracy is the menopause of Western society, the Grand Climacteric of the body social. Fascism is its middle-aged lust.

~Jean Baudrillard

The only thing worse than being bored is being boring.

~Jean Baudrillard

Photography is our exorcism. Primitive society had its masks, bourgeois society its mirrors. We have our images.

~Jean Baudrillard

Santa Barbara is a paradise; Disneyland is a paradise; the U.S. is a paradise. Paradise is just paradise. Mournful, monotonous, and superficial though it may be, it is paradise. There is no other.

~Jean Baudrillard

The surprises of thought are like those of love: they wear out. But here too you can carry on for a long time doing your conjugal duty.

~Jean Baudrillard

Television knows no night. It is perpetual day. TV embodies our fear of the dark, of night, of the other side of things.

~Jean Baudrillard

If you say, I love you, then you have already fallen in love with

language, which is already a form of break up and infidelity.

~Jean Baudrillard

In the same way that we need statesmen to spare us the abjection of exercising power, we need scholars to spare us the abjection of learning.

~Jean Baudrillard

Never resist a sentence you like, in which language takes its own pleasure and in which, after having abused it for so long, you are stupefied by its innocence.

~Jean Baudrillard

One of the pleasures of travel is to dive into places where others are compelled to live and come out unscathed, full of the malicious pleasure of abandoning them to their fate.

~Jean Baudrillard

The opposite of knowledge is not ignorance, but deceit and fraud.

~Jean Baudrillard

We shall never resolve the enigma of the relation between the negative foundations of greatness and that greatness itself.

~Jean Baudrillard

The great person is ahead of their time, the smart make something out of it, and the blockhead, sets themselves against it.

~Jean Baudrillard

All societies end up wearing masks.

~Jean Baudrillard

There is nothing funny about Halloween. This sarcastic festival reflects, rather, an infernal demand for revenge by children on the adult world.

~Jean Baudrillard

It is the task of radical thought, since the world is given to us unintelligibly, to make it more unintelligible, more enigmatic, more fabulous.

~Jean Baudrillard

The need to speak, even if one has nothing to say, becomes more pressing when one has nothing to say, just as the will to live becomes more urgent when life has lost its meaning.

~Jean Baudrillard

Information can tell us everything. It has all the answers. But they are answers to questions we have not asked, and which doubtless don't even arise.

~Jean Baudrillard

Cowardice and courage are never without a measure of affectation. Nor is love. Feelings are never true. They play with their mirrors.

~Jean Baudrillard

The new shopping malls make possible the synthesis of all consumer activities, not least of which are shopping, flirting with objects, idle wandering, and all the permutations of these.

~Jean Baudrillard

It is always the same: once you are liberated, you are forced to ask who you are.

~Jean Baudrillard

Sadder than the beggar is the man who eats alone in public.

~Jean Baudrillard

Feelings are never true. They play with their mirrors.

~Jean Baudrillard

Challenge, and not desire, lies at the heart of seduction.

~Jean Baudrillard

All of [the] activities here have a surreptitious end-of-the-world feel to them:... these joggers sleepwalking in the mist like shadow's who have escaped from Plato's cave

~Jean Baudrillard

Fiction is not imagination. It is what anticipates imagination by giving it the form of reality.

~Jean Baudrillard

You are born modern, you do not become so.

~Jean Baudrillard

At the heart of pornography is sexuality haunted by its own disappearance.

~Jean Baudrillard

The secret of theory is that truth does not exist.

~Jean Baudrillard

Information...exhausts itself in the staging of meaning...[and leads] not at all to a surfeit of innovation but to the very contrary, to total entropy

~Jean Baudrillard

A negative judgment gives you more satisfaction than praise, provided it smacks of jealousy.

~Jean Baudrillard

Like dreams, statistics are a form of wish fulfillment.

~Jean Baudrillard

I hesitate to deposit money in a bank. I am afraid I shall never dare to take it out again

~Jean Baudrillard

What you have to do is enter the fiction of America, enter America as fiction. It is, indeed, on this fictive basis that it dominates the world.

~Jean Baudrillard

It is the real, and not the map, whose vestiges subsist here and there, in the deserts which are no longer those of the Empire but our own: The desert of the real itself.

~Jean Baudrillard

Boredom is like a pitiless zooming in on the epidermis of time. Every instant is dilated and magnified like the pores of the face.

~Jean Baudrillard

It is the corpse of the bourgeoisie that separates us. With us, it is that class that is the carrier of the chromosome of banality.

~Jean Baudrillard

In our culture, futility plays the role of transgression and fashion is condemned for having within it the force of the pure sign which signifies nothing.

~Jean Baudrillard

What is a society without a heroic dimension?

~Jean Baudrillard

Governing today means giving acceptable signs of credibility. It is like advertising and it is the same effect that is achieved - commitment to a scenario.

~Jean Baudrillard

Postmodernity is the simultaneity of the destruction of earlier values and their reconstruction. It is renovation within ruination.

~Jean Baudrillard

Prophesying catastrophe is incredibly banal. The more original move is to assume that it has already happened.

~Jean Baudrillard

So-called "realist" photography does not capture the "what is." Instead, it is preoccupied with what should not be, like the reality of suffering for example.

~Jean Baudrillard

Power is only too happy to make football bear a diabolical responsibility for stupefying the masses.

~Jean Baudrillard

The world is not dialectical - it is sworn to extremes, not to equilibrium, sworn to radical antagonism, not to reconciliation or synthesis. This is also the principle of evil.

~Jean Baudrillard

This is what terrorism is occupied with as well: making real, palpable violence surface in opposition to the invisible violence of security.

~Jean Baudrillard

Images have become our true sex objects. It is this promiscuity and the ubiquity of images, this viral contamination of images which are the fatal characteristics of our culture.

~Jean Baudrillard

The abjection of our political situation is the only true challenge today. Only facing up to this situation in all its desperation can help us get out of it.

~Jean Baudrillard

Simulation is the situation created by any system of signs when it becomes sophisticated enough, autonomous enough, to abolish its own referent and to replace it with itself.

~Jean Baudrillard

It is not enough for theory to describe and analyze, it must itself be an event in the universe it describes.

~Jean Baudrillard

We are no longer dealing with historical events, but with places of collapse.

~Jean Baudrillard

The price we pay for the complexity of life is too high.

~Jean Baudrillard

Imagine the amazing good fortune of the generation that gets to see the end of the world. This is as marvelous as being there in the beginning.

~Jean Baudrillard

The sad thing about artificial intelligence is that it lacks artifice and therefore intelligence.

~Jean Baudrillard

A series of accidents creates a positively light-hearted state, out of consideration for this strange power.

~Jean Baudrillard

If you are prepared to accept the consequences of your dreams then you must still regard America today with the same naive enthusiasm as the generations that discovered the New World.

~Jean Baudrillard

Animals have no unconscious, because they have a territory. Men have only had an unconscious since they lost a territory.

~Jean Baudrillard

Americans may have no identity, but they do have wonderful teeth.

~Jean Baudrillard

The order of the world is always right - such is the judgment of God. For God has departed, but he has left his judgment behind, the way the Cheshire Cat left his grin.

~Jean Baudrillard

Forgetting the extermination is part of the extermination itself.

~Jean Baudrillard

Smile and others will smile back.

~Jean Baudrillard

One has never said better how much "humanism", "normality", "quality of life" were nothing but the vicissitudes of profitability.

~Jean Baudrillard

Genius is childhood recaptured.

~Jean Baudrillard

the neighborhood is nothing but a protective zone- remodeling, disinfection, a snobbish and hygienic design- but above all in a figurative sense: it is a machine for making emptiness.

~Jean Baudrillard

The confrontation between America and Europe reveals not so much a rapprochement as a distortion, an unbridgeable rift. There isn't just a gap between us, but a whole chasm of modernity.

~Jean Baudrillard

There is no human reason to be here, except for the sheer ecstasy of being crowded together.

~Jean Baudrillard

With the truth, you need to get rid of it as soon as possible and pass it on to someone else. As with illness, this is the only way to be cured of it. The person who keeps truth in his hands has lost.

~Jean Baudrillard

The desert is no longer a landscape, it is a pure form produced by the abstraction of all others.

~Jean Baudrillard

You have to know how to disappear.

~Jean Baudrillard

Power floats like money, like language, like theory.

~Jean Baudrillard

Art is no longer anything more than a kind of meta-language for banality.

~Jean Baudrillard

It is in love with its limitless horizontality, as New York may be with its verticality.

~Jean Baudrillard

The sickly cultural pathos which the whole of France indulges in, that fetishism of the cultural heritage.

~Jean Baudrillard

Y a-t-il plus belle parodie de l'Ã©thique de la valeur que de se soumettre avec toute l'intransigeance de la vertu aux donnÃ©es du hasard ou Ã l'absurditÃ© d'une rÃ"gle?

~Jean Baudrillard

In its artless cruelty, Dallas is superior to any "intelligent" critique that can be made of it. That is why intellectual snobbery meets its match here.

~Jean Baudrillard

It is exciting to hear one of your fondest ideas formulated in one fell swoop, better than you could have done yourself.

~Jean Baudrillard

Laughter on American television has taken the place of the chorus in Greek tragedy. It is unrelenting; the news, the stock-exchange reports, and the weather forecast are about the only things spared.

~Jean Baudrillard

Welcome to the Desert of the Real.

~Jean Baudrillard

If you assume any rate of improvement at all then the games will become indistinguishable from reality. It would seem to follow that the odds that we are in base reality would be one in billions.

~Jean Baudrillard

You think you photograph a particular scene for the pleasure it gives. In fact it's the scene that wants to be photographed. You're merely an extra in the production.

~Jean Baudrillard

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