

John James Audubon Quotes

*Bird, Men, Beautiful, Nature, May, Art, Drawing, Kindness, Children, Listening,
Thinking, Song, Made, Europe, Father, Wish, Distance, America, Book,
Exercise*

To be a good draftsman was to me a blessing.

~John James Audubon

A true conservationist is a man who knows that the world is not given by his fathers, but borrowed from his children.

~John James Audubon

Hunting, fishing, drawing, and music occupied my every moment. Cares I knew not, and cared naught about them.

~John James Audubon

When the bird and the book disagree, believe the bird.

~John James Audubon

But hopes are shy birds flying at a great distance, seldom reached by the best of guns.

~John James Audubon

One day I caught four Dolphins, how much I have gazed at these beautiful creatures... as they changed their hue in twenty varieties of richest arrangement of tints.

~John James Audubon

I can scarcely manage to scribble a tolerable English letter. I know that I am not a scholar, but meantime I am aware that no man living knows better than I do the habits of our birds.

~John James Audubon

Never give up listening to the sounds of birds.

~John James Audubon

In my deepest troubles, I frequently would wrench myself from the persons around me and retire to some secluded part of our noble forests.

~John James Audubon

During all these years there existed within me a tendency to follow Nature in her walks.

~John James Audubon

The worse my drawings were, the more beautiful did the originals appear.

~John James Audubon

As I grew up I was fervently desirous of becoming acquainted with Nature.

~John James Audubon

My heart swelled with uncontrollable delight.

~John James Audubon

Great men show politeness in a particular way; a smile suffices to assure you that you are welcome, and keep about their avocations as if you were a member of the family.

~John James Audubon

The best recommendation I can have is my own talents, and the fruits of my own labors, and what others will not do for me, I will try and do for myself.

~John James Audubon

I never for a day gave up listening to the songs of our birds, or watching their peculiar habits, or delineating them in the best way I could.

~John James Audubon

There is but one kind of love; God is love, and all his creatures derive theirs from his; only it is modified by the different degrees of intelligence in different beings and creatures.

~John James Audubon

My drawings at first were made altogether in watercolors, but they wanted softness and a great deal of finish.

~John James Audubon

Mathematics was hard, dull work, I thought; geography pleased me more. For my other studies, as well as for dancing, I was quite enthusiastic.

~John James Audubon

If only the bird with the loveliest song sang, the forest would be a lonely place.

~John James Audubon

A Mocking Bird regularly resorts to the south angle of a chimney top and salutes us with sweetest notes from the rising of the moon until about midnight.

~John James Audubon

. . .nature indifferently copied is far superior to the best idealities.

~John James Audubon

The fact is I am growing old too fast, alas! I feel it, and yet work I will, and may God grant me life to see the last plate of my mammoth work finished.

~John James Audubon

Almost every day, instead of going to school when I ought to have gone, I usually made for the fields, where I spent the day.

~John James Audubon

But the moment a bird was dead, no matter how beautiful it had been in life, the pleasure of possession became blunted for me.

~John James Audubon

Because my father was often absent on naval duty, my mother suffered me to do much as I pleased

~John James Audubon

The nature of the place...whether high or low, moist or dry, whether sloping north or south, or bearing tall trees or low shrubs...generally gives hint as to its inhabitants.

~John James Audubon

How could I make a little book, when I have seen enough to make a dozen large books?

~John James Audubon

To have been torn from the study would have been as death; my time was entirely occupied with art.

~John James Audubon

I wish I had eight pairs of hands, and another body to shoot the specimens.

~John James Audubon

I feel fully decided that we should all go to Europe together and to work as if an established Partnership for Life consisting of Husband Wife and Children.

~John James Audubon

On the 17th of May, the Delos put out to sea. I was immediately affected with sea-sickness, which, however, lasted but a short time. I remained on deck constantly, forcing myself to exercise.

~John James Audubon

I cannot help but think a curious event is this life of mine

~John James Audubon

Poor France, thy fine climate, rich vineyards, and the wishes of the learned avail nothing; thou art a destitute beggar, and not the powerful friend thou wert represented to me.

~John James Audubon

To repay evils with kindness is the religion I was taught to practise, and this will forever be my rule.

~John James Audubon

I purchased excellent and beautiful horses, visited all such neighbors as I found in congenial spirits, and was as happy as happy could be.

~John James Audubon

I discover that my friends think only of my apparel, and those upon whom I have conferred acts of kindness prefer to remind me of my errors.

~John James Audubon

The mercantile business did not suit me

~John James Audubon

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