

Joseph Conrad

Quotes

*Men, Heart, Life, Darkness, Art, Sea, Dream, Literature, Reality, Lying, Writing,
World, Ocean, Memories, Book, Love, Inspirational, Moving, Desire, Soul*

Being a woman is a terribly difficult task, since it consists principally in dealing with men.

~Joseph Conrad

The air of the New World seems favorable to the art of declamation.

~Joseph Conrad

It is not the clear-sighted who rule the world. Great achievements are accomplished in a blessed, warm fog.

~Joseph Conrad

I don't like work... but I like what is in work - the chance to find yourself. Your own reality - for yourself, not for others - which no other man can ever know.

~Joseph Conrad

The belief in a supernatural source of evil is not necessary; men alone are quite capable of every wickedness.

~Joseph Conrad

We penetrated deeper and deeper into the heart of darkness

~Joseph Conrad

If you don't make mistakes, you don't make anything .

~Joseph Conrad

There is nothing more enticing, disenchanting, and enslaving than the life at sea.

~Joseph Conrad

To a teacher of languages there comes a time when the world is but a place of many words and man appears a mere talking animal not much more wonderful than a parrot.

~Joseph Conrad

They talk of a man betraying his country, his friends, his sweetheart. There must be a moral bond first. All a man can betray is his conscience.

~Joseph Conrad

You shall judge a man by his foes as well as by his friends.

~Joseph Conrad

What makes mankind tragic is not that they are the victims of nature, it is that they are conscious of it.

~Joseph Conrad

I do not know whether I have been a good seaman, but I know I have been a very faithful one.

~Joseph Conrad

All a man can betray is his conscience.

~Joseph Conrad

The question is not how to get cured, but how to live.

~Joseph Conrad

The ethical view of the universe involves us in so many cruel and absurd contradictions that I have come to suspect that the aim of creation cannot be ethical at all.

~Joseph Conrad

But it is like a running blaze on a plain, like a flash of lightning in the clouds. We live in the flicker - may it last as long as the old earth keeps rolling!

~Joseph Conrad

Words, as is well known, are the great foes of reality.

~Joseph Conrad

We live as we dream - alone.

~Joseph Conrad

The sea has never been friendly to man. At most it has been the accomplice of human restlessness.

~Joseph Conrad

There is something haunting in the light of the moon.

~Joseph Conrad

My task, which I am trying to achieve is, by the power of the written word, to make you hear, to make you feel--it is, before all, to make you see.

~Joseph Conrad

Imagination, not invention, is the supreme master of art as of life.

~Joseph Conrad

I slipped the book into my pocket. I assure you to leave off reading was like tearing myself away from the shelter of an old and solid friendship.

~Joseph Conrad

I am afraid that if you want to go down into history you'll have to do something for it.

~Joseph Conrad

Gossip is what no one claims to like, but everybody enjoys.

~Joseph Conrad

Who knows what true loneliness is - not the conventional word but the naked terror? To the lonely themselves it wears a mask. The most miserable outcast hugs some memory or some illusion.

~Joseph Conrad

All creative art is magic, is evocation of the unseen in forms persuasive, enlightening, familiar and surprising.

~Joseph Conrad

I suppose everybody must be always just a little homesick.

~Joseph Conrad

He struggled with himself, too. I saw it -- I heard it. I saw the inconceivable mystery of a soul that knew no restraint, no faith, and no fear, yet struggling blindly with itself.

~Joseph Conrad

It is the mark of an inexperienced man not to believe in luck.

~Joseph Conrad

Any fool can carry on, but a wise man knows how to shorten sail in time.

~Joseph Conrad

There is something haunting in the light of the moon; it has all the dispassionateness of a disembodied soul, and something of its inconceivable mystery.

~Joseph Conrad

All roads are long which lead to one's heart's desire.

~Joseph Conrad

It's only those who do nothing that make no mistakes, I suppose.

~Joseph Conrad

In order to move others deeply we must deliberately allow ourselves to be carried away beyond the bounds of our normal sensibility.

~Joseph Conrad

I take it that what all men are really after is some form or perhaps only some formula of peace.

~Joseph Conrad

Facing it, always facing it, that's the way to get through. Face it.

~Joseph Conrad

I have wrestled with death. It is the most unexciting contest you can imagine.

~Joseph Conrad

Vanity plays lurid tricks with our memory.

~Joseph Conrad

Protection is the first necessity of opulence and luxury.

~Joseph Conrad

There is no credulity so eager and blind as the credulity of covetousness, which, in its universal extent, measures the moral misery and the intellectual destitution of mankind.

~Joseph Conrad

As a general rule, a reputation is built on manner as much as on achievement.

~Joseph Conrad

All ambitions are lawful except those which climb upward on the miseries or credulities of mankind.

~Joseph Conrad

A word carries far, very far, deals destruction through time as the bullets go flying through space.

~Joseph Conrad

The revolutionary spirit is mighty convenient in this, that it frees one from all scruples as regards ideas.

~Joseph Conrad

We live as we dream - alone. While the dream disappears, the life continues painfully.

~Joseph Conrad

The reaches opened before us and closed behind, as if the forest had stepped leisurely across the water to bar the way for our return. We penetrated deeper and deeper into the heart of darkness.

~Joseph Conrad

We can never cease to be ourselves.

~Joseph Conrad

You can't, in sound morals, condemn a man for taking care of his own integrity. It is his clear duty.

~Joseph Conrad

He who wants to persuade should put his trust not in the right argument, but in the right word. The power of sound has always been greater than the power of sense.

~Joseph Conrad

Your strength is just an accident owed to the weakness of others.

~Joseph Conrad

They were conquerors, and for that you want only brute force--nothing to boast of, when you have it, since your strength is just an accident arising from the weakness of others.

~Joseph Conrad

It is to be remarked that a good many people are born curiously unfitted

for the fate waiting them on this earth.

~Joseph Conrad

Kisses are the remnants of paradise.

~Joseph Conrad

Every age is fed on illusions, lest men should renounce life early and the human race come to an end.

~Joseph Conrad

Everybody had to be thoroughly understood before being accepted.

~Joseph Conrad

Reality, as usual, beats fiction out of sight.

~Joseph Conrad

History repeats itself, but the special call of an art which has passed away is never reproduced. It is as utterly gone out of the world as the song of a destroyed wild bird.

~Joseph Conrad

A writer without interest or sympathy for the foibles of his fellow man is not conceivable as a writer.

~Joseph Conrad

The atmosphere of officialdom would kill anything that breathes the air of human endeavour, would extinguish hope and fear alike in the supremacy of paper and ink.

~Joseph Conrad

It is respectable to have no illusions, and safe, and profitable and dull.

~Joseph Conrad

Vanity plays lurid tricks with our memory, and the truth of every passion

wants some pretence to make it live.

~Joseph Conrad

It is my belief no man ever understands quite his own artful dodges to escape from the grim shadow of self knowledge.

~Joseph Conrad

To have his path made clear for him is the aspiration of every human being in our beclouded and tempestuous existence.

~Joseph Conrad

The end (goal) of art is to figure the hidden meaning of things and not their appearance; for in this profound truth lies their true reality, which does not appear in their external outlines.

~Joseph Conrad

He has to live in the midst of the incomprehensible, which is also detestable.

~Joseph Conrad

One must explore deep and believe the incredible to find the new particles of truth floating in an ocean of insignificance.

~Joseph Conrad

I let him run on, this papier-maché Mephistopheles, and it seemed to me that if I tried I could poke my forefinger through him, and would find nothing inside but a little loose dirt, maybe.

~Joseph Conrad

Give me the right word and the right accent and I will move the world.

~Joseph Conrad

The humblest craft that floats makes its appeal to a seaman by the faithfulness of her life.

~Joseph Conrad

A writing may be lost; a lie may be written; but what the eye has seen is truth and remains in the mind!

~Joseph Conrad

Follow your bliss. Find where it is and don't be afraid to follow it.

~Joseph Conrad

The discovery of America was the occasion of the greatest outburst of cruelty and reckless greed known in history.

~Joseph Conrad

The mind of man is capable of anything.

~Joseph Conrad

Each blade of grass has its spot on earth whence it draws its life, its strength; and so is man rooted to the land from which he draws his faith together with his life.

~Joseph Conrad

Everything belonged to him--but that was a trifle. The thing to know was what he belonged to, how many powers of darkness claimed him for their own.

~Joseph Conrad

To be a great autocrat you must be a great barbarian.

~Joseph Conrad

The terrorist and the policeman both come from the same basket.

~Joseph Conrad

Perhaps life is just that... a dream and a fear.

~Joseph Conrad

In the empty immensity of earth, sky, and water, there she was, incomprehensible, firing into a continent.

~Joseph Conrad

For there is nothing mysterious to a seaman unless it be the sea itself, which is the mistress of his existence.

~Joseph Conrad

As to honor - you know - it's a very fine mediaeval inheritance which women never got hold of. It wasn't theirs.

~Joseph Conrad

A man's most open actions have a secret side to them.

~Joseph Conrad

Any work that aspires, however humbly, to the condition of art should carry its justification in every line.

~Joseph Conrad

Few men realize that their life, the very essence of their character, their capabilities and their audacities, are only the expression of their belief in the safety of their surroundings.

~Joseph Conrad

The sky over Patusan was blood-red, immense, streaming like an open vein. An enormous sun nestled crimson amongst the treetops, and the forest below had a black and forbidding face.

~Joseph Conrad

It is not Justice the servant of men, but accident, hazard, Fortune-the ally of patient Time-that holds an even and scrupulous balance.

~Joseph Conrad

Even extreme grief may ultimately vent itself in violence--but more

generally takes the form of apathy

~Joseph Conrad

Only in men's imagination does every truth find an effective and undeniable existence. Imagination, not invention, is the supreme master of art as of life.

~Joseph Conrad

The last thing a woman will consent to in a man whom she loves, or on whom she simply depends, is want of courage.

~Joseph Conrad

The conquest of the earth... is not a pretty thing when you look into it too much. What redeems it is the idea only... not a sentimental pretence but an idea.

~Joseph Conrad

... it was written I should be loyal to the nightmare of my choice.

~Joseph Conrad

Art is long and life is short, and success is very far off.

~Joseph Conrad

The real significance of crime is in its being a breach of faith with the community of mankind.

~Joseph Conrad

A man is a worker. If he is not that he is nothing.

~Joseph Conrad

Mathematics commands all my respect, but I have no use for engines.

~Joseph Conrad

Action is consolatory. It is the enemy of thought and the friend of

flattering illusions.

~Joseph Conrad

Resignation, not mystic, not detached, but resignation open-eyed, conscious, and informed by love, is the only one of our feelings for which it is impossible to become a sham.

~Joseph Conrad

It is a maudlin and indecent verity that comes out through the strength of wine.

~Joseph Conrad

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