

# Joseph Wood Krutch

## Quotes

*Men, Nature, Animal, Science, Long, Cat, Facts, Two, Mind, Life, Eye, Believe,  
Art, Gratitude, Can Do, War, Flower, Self, Running, Important*

Both the cockroach and the bird would get along very well without us, although the cockroach would miss us most.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

In a cat's eye, all things belong to cats.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Cats seem to go on the principle that it never does any harm to ask for what you want.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

The advertiser is the overrewarded court jester and court pander at the democratic court.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Cats are rather delicate creatures and they are subject to a good many different ailments, but I have never heard of one who suffered from insomnia.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Happiness is itself a kind of gratitude.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

The snow itself is lonely or, if you prefer, self-sufficient. There is no other time when the whole world seems composed of one thing and one thing only.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

It is not ignorance but knowledge which is the mother of wonder.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

If we do not permit the earth to produce beauty and joy, it will in the end not produce food, either.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Technology made large populations possible; large populations now make technology indispensable.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

It is sometimes easier to head an institute for the study of child guidance than it is to turn one brat into a decent human being.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

The wilderness and the idea of wilderness is one of the permanent homes of the human spirit.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

When a man wantonly destroys one of the works of man we call him a vandal. When he destroys one of the works of god we call him a sportsman.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

If people destroy something replaceable made by mankind, they are called vandals; if they destroy something irreplaceable made by God, they are called developers.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Electronic calculators can solve problems which the man who made them cannot solve; but no government-subsidized commission of engineers and physicists could create a worm.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

To have passed through life and never experienced solitude is to have never known oneself. To have never known oneself is to have never known anyone.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Whenever man forgets that man is an animal, the result is always to make him less humane.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Metaphysics may be, after all, only the art of being sure of something that is not so and logic only the art of going wrong with confidence.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Those whose conscience demands that they defy authority in some ways that involve great consequences must be willing to accept some penalty.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Logic is the art of going wrong with confidence.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Anxiety and distress, interrupted occasionally by pleasure, is the normal course of man's existence.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

The rare moment is not the moment when there is something worth looking at, but the moment when we are capable of seeing.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Nature takes no account of even the most reasonable of human excuses.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Any euphemism ceases to be euphemistic after a time and the true meaning begins to show through. It's a losing game, but we keep on trying.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

As machines get to be more and more like men, men will come to be more like machines.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Civilizations die from philosophical calm, irony, and a sense of fair play quite as surely as they die of debauchery.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

To those who study her, Nature reveals herself as extraordinarily fertile and ingenious in devising means, but she has no ends which the human mind has been able to discover or comprehend.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

The famous balance of nature is the most extraordinary of all cybernetic systems. Left to itself, it is always self-regulated.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Security depends not so much upon how much you have, as upon how much you can do without.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

There is no such thing as a dangerous woman; there are only susceptible men.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

The most serious charge which can be brought against New England is not Puritanism but February.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

An abundance of some good things is perfectly compatible with the scarcity of others; that life is everywhere precarious, man everywhere small.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Life is very persistent and very ingenious in seizing every opportunity.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

If only the fit survive and if the fitter they are the longer they survive,

then Volvox must have demonstrated its superb fitness more conclusively than any higher animal ever has.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Two-legged creatures we are supposed to love as we love ourselves. The four-legged, also, can come to seem pretty important. But six legs are too many from the human standpoint.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

True tragedy may be defined as a dramatic work in which the outward failure of the principal personage is compensated for by the dignity and greatness of his character.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

A book ... unlike a television program, moving picture or any other 'modern means of communication' ... can wait for years, yet be available at any moment when it happens to be needed.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

The cockroach and the bird were both here long before we were. Both could.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Being the inventor of sex would seem to be a sufficient distinction for a creature just barely large enough to be seen by the naked eye.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

A humanist is anyone who rejects the attempt to describe or account for man wholly on the basis of physics, chemistry or animal behaviour.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

February... Now more than ever one must remind oneself that it is wasteful folly to wish that time would pass, or - as the puritanical old saying used to have it - to kill time until it kills you.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Only those within whose own consciousness the sun rise and set, the leaves burgeon and wither, can be said to be aware of what living is.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

August creates as she slumbers, replete and satisfied.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

In the long run our boasted control of nature is a delusion.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

To be individually righteous is the first of all duties, come what may to ones self, to one's country, to society, and to civilization itself.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

It is not a sentimental, but a grimly literal fact that unless we share this terrestrial globe with creatures other than ourselves, we shall not be able to live on it for long.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

What a man knows is everywhere at war with what he wants.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Man is, perhaps, no more prone to war than he used to be and no more inclined to commit other evil deeds. But a given amount of ill will or folly will go further than it used to.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

To be reminded that one is very much like other members of the animal kingdom is often funny...though...I do not too much mind being somewhat like a cat.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Every time a value is born, existence takes on a new meaning; every time one dies, some part of that meaning passes away.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

The typical American believes that no necessity of the soul is free and that there are precious few, if any, which cannot be bought.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Though many have tried, no one has ever yet explained away the decisive fact that science, which can do so much, cannot decide what it ought to do.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

It is disastrous to own more of anything than you can possess, and it is one of the most fundamental laws of human nature that our power actually to possess is limited.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

In our hearts those of us who know anything worth knowing know that in March a new year begins, and if we plan any new leaves, it will be when the rest of Nature is planning them too.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

A tragic writer does not have to believe in God, but he must believe in man.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

The grand paradox of our society is this: we magnify man's right but we minimize his capacities.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Love is ...not a fact in nature of which we become aware, but rather a creation of the human imagination.

~Joseph Wood Krutch



There is no conceivable human action which custom has not at one time justified and at another condemned.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

If we are deprived of hope as well as fear, we are compensated by being given an almost endless patience for enduring or simply for waiting.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

The impulse to mar and to destroy is as ancient and almost as nearly universal as the impulse to create. The one is an easier way than the other of demonstrating power.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

How anyone can profess to find animal life interesting and yet take delight in reducing the wonder of any animal to a bloody mass of fur or feathers?

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Nature, in her blind thirst for life has filled every possible cranny of the rotting earth with some sort of fantastic creature.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

When, in the present world, men behave well, that is no doubt sometimes because they are creatures of habit as well as, sometimes, because they are reasonable.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

And the thing which is missing is love, some feeling for, as well as some understanding of, the inclusive community of rocks and soils, plants and animals, of which we are a part.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Custom has furnished the only basis which ethics have ever had.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Rhetoric takes no real account of the art in literature and morality takes no account of the art in life.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Poetry, mythology, and religion represent the world as man would like to have it, while science represents the world as he gradually comes to discover it.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Happiness is a kind of gratitude and vice versa.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

The human mind can appreciate the One only by seeing it first in the Many.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Not to have known - as most men have not - either the mountain or the desert is not to have known one's self. Not to have known one's self is to have known no one.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Man is the only one in whom the instinct of life falters long enough to enable it to ask the question "Why?"

~Joseph Wood Krutch

Though we face the facts of sex we are more reluctant than ever to face the fact of death or the crueller facts of life, either biological or social.

~Joseph Wood Krutch

### **Related Links:**

- Men Quotes
- Nature Quotes
- Animal Quotes
- Science Quotes
- Long Quotes
- Cat Quotes
- Facts Quotes
- Two Quotes
- Mind Quotes
- Life Quotes
- Eye Quotes
- Believe Quotes
- Art Quotes
- Gratitude Quotes
- Can Do Quotes
- War Quotes
- Flower Quotes
- Self Quotes
- Running Quotes
- Important Quotes