

# Lafcadio Hearn

## Quotes

*Literature, Men, Beautiful, Art, Race, Europe, People, Want, Mean, Lasts, Book, Religious, America, Passion, Heaven, Father, Chinese, Ideas, Romance, Poet*

The Western poet and writer of romance has exactly the same kind of difficulty in comprehending Eastern subjects as you have in comprehending Western subjects.

~Lafcadio Hearn

All good work is done the way ants do things: Little by little.

~Lafcadio Hearn

Contemporary literature in the West has shown some signs of ethical change.

~Lafcadio Hearn

In order to comprehend the beauty of a Japanese garden, it is necessary to understand - or at least to learn to understand - the beauty of stone.

~Lafcadio Hearn

No man can possibly know what life means, what the world means, until he has a child and loves it. And then the whole universe changes and nothing will ever again seem exactly as it seemed before.

~Lafcadio Hearn

The proverbial philosophy of a people helps us to understand more about them than any other kind of literature.

~Lafcadio Hearn

To ancient Chinese fancy, the Milky Way was a luminous river, - the River of Heaven, - the Silver Stream.

~Lafcadio Hearn

Broad tolerance in the matter of beliefs is necessarily a part of the new ethics.

~Lafcadio Hearn

A great many things which in times of lesser knowledge we imagined to be superstitious or useless, prove today on examination to have been of immense value to mankind.

~Lafcadio Hearn

One thing is always wrong-always: to cause suffering in others for the purpose of gratifying one's own pleasures; that is everlastingly wrong.

~Lafcadio Hearn

The time of illusion, then, is the beautiful moment of passion; it represents the artistic zone in which the poet or romance writer ought to be free to do the very best that he can.

~Lafcadio Hearn

How sweet Japanese woman is! All the possibilities of the race for goodness seem to be concentrated in her.

~Lafcadio Hearn

At last, in 1611, was made, under the auspices of King James, the famous King James version; and this is the great literary monument of the English language.

~Lafcadio Hearn

There is one type of ideal woman very seldom described in poetry - the old maid, the woman whom sorrow or misfortune prevents from fulfilling her natural destiny.

~Lafcadio Hearn

Accordingly the Northern races of Europe found their inspiration in the Bible; and the enthusiasm for it has not yet quite faded away.

~Lafcadio Hearn

The Shadow-maker shapes forever.

~Lafcadio Hearn

The highest duty of the man is not to his father, but to his wife; and for the sake of that woman he abandons all other earthly ties, should any of these happen to interfere with that relation.

~Lafcadio Hearn

In the world of reality the more beautiful a work of art, the longer, we may be sure, was the time required to make it, and the greater the number of different minds which assisted in its development.

~Lafcadio Hearn

For this reason, to study English literature without some general knowledge of the relation of the Bible to that literature would be to leave one's literary education very incomplete.

~Lafcadio Hearn

One of the great defects of English books printed in the last century is the want of an index.

~Lafcadio Hearn

Of course, the simple explanation of the fact is that marriage is the most important act of man's life in Europe or America, and that everything depends upon it.

~Lafcadio Hearn

Woo the muse of the odd.

~Lafcadio Hearn

Japanese affection is not uttered in words; it scarcely appears even in the tone of voice; it is chiefly shown in acts of exquisite courtesy and kindness.

~Lafcadio Hearn

It has been wisely observed by the greatest of modern thinkers that mankind has progressed more rapidly in every other respect than in

morality.

~Lafcadio Hearn

But what is after all the happiness of mere power? There is a greater happiness possible than to be lord of heaven and earth; that is the happiness of being truly loved.

~Lafcadio Hearn

The more you wish to be, the wiser you are; while the wish to have is apt to be foolish in proportion to its largeness.

~Lafcadio Hearn

Whatever doubts or vexations one has in Japan, it is only necessary to ask one's self: "Well, who are the best people to live with?"

~Lafcadio Hearn

But I confess that "my mind to me a kingdom is" - not! Rather it is a fantastical republic, daily troubled by more revolutions than ever occurred in South America.

~Lafcadio Hearn

A proof of really great art is that it is generally true - it seldom falls into the misapprehensions to which minor art is liable.

~Lafcadio Hearn

Any idealism is a proper subject for art.

~Lafcadio Hearn

Some persons have ventured to say that it is only since Englishmen ceased to believe in the Bible that they began to discover how beautiful it was.

~Lafcadio Hearn

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