

Olaf Stapledon

Quotes

*Men, Stars, Olaf, Cosmos, Light, Dog, Spiritual, Rocks, Long, World,
Frustration, Government, Philosophy, Intelligent, Space, Dark, Individuality,
Worst, Frozen, Sick*

The universe now appeared to me as a void wherein floated rare flakes of snow, each flake a universe.

~Olaf Stapledon

We have no government and no laws, if by law is meant a stereotyped convention supported by force, and not to be altered without the aid of cumbersome machinery.

~Olaf Stapledon

A nation . . . is just a society for hating foreigners.

~Olaf Stapledon

Even when all the worlds have frozen or exploded, and all the suns gone dead and cold, there'll still be time. Oh, God, what for?

~Olaf Stapledon

The expansion of the whole cosmos was but the shrinkage of all its physical units and of the wavelengths of light.

~Olaf Stapledon

In you, humanity is precarious; and so, in dread and in shame, you kill the animal in you. And its slaughter poisons you.

~Olaf Stapledon

No visiting angel, or explorer from another planet, could have guessed that this bland orb [Earth] teemed with vermin, with world-mastering, self-torturing, incipiently angelic beasts.

~Olaf Stapledon

The creator, if he should love his creature, would be loving only a part of himself; but the creature, praising the creator, praises an infinity beyond himself.

~Olaf Stapledon

In fact man's career has been less like a mountain torrent hurtling from rock to rock, than a great sluggish river, broken very seldom by rapids.

~Olaf Stapledon

It is better to be destroyed than to triumph in slaying the spirit... We die praising the universe in which at least such an achievement as ours can be.

~Olaf Stapledon

Barren, barren and trivial are these words. But not barren the experience.

~Olaf Stapledon

That strange blend of the commercial traveller, the missionary and the barbarian conqueror, which was the American abroad.

~Olaf Stapledon

Men endured so much for war, but for peace they dared nothing.

~Olaf Stapledon

In a sick world even the hale are sick.

~Olaf Stapledon

My dear, it is a great strength to have faced the worst and to have *felt* it a feature of beauty. Nothing ever after can shake one.

~Olaf Stapledon

The Tibetan missionaries in their mood of bright confidence disconcerted the imperial governments by laughing the new movement into frustration. For a sham faith cannot stand ridicule.

~Olaf Stapledon

Our outworn economic system dooms millions to frustration.

~Olaf Stapledon

So might we ourselves look down into some rock-pool where lowly creatures repeat with naive zest dramas learned by their ancestors
Ålons ago.

~Olaf Stapledon

Without Satan, with God only, how poor a universe, how trite a music!

~Olaf Stapledon

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