

Paul Bowles

Quotes

*People, Dark, Thinking, Sky, Moving, Ifs, Night, Ego, Men, Fiction, Differences,
Stars, Writing, Years, Moments, Bumps, Dry, Change, Sleep, Life Is Short*

How fragile we are under the sheltering sky. Behind the sheltering sky is a vast dark universe, and we're just so small.

~Paul Bowles

Life is lived only once. And the less seriously the better.

~Paul Bowles

Everyone is isolated from everyone else. The concept of society is like a cushion to protect us from the knowledge of that isolation. A fiction that serves as an anesthetic.

~Paul Bowles

The sky hides the night behind it and shelters the people beneath from the horror that lies above.

~Paul Bowles

A black star appears, a point of darkness in the night sky's clarity. Point of darkness and gateway to repose. Reach out, pierce the fine fabric of the sheltering sky, take repose.

~Paul Bowles

Security is a false God. Begin to make sacrifices to it and you are lost.

~Paul Bowles

Illness reduces man to his basic state: a cloaca in which the chemical processes continue. The meaningless hegemony of the involuntary.

~Paul Bowles

The only effort worth making is the one it takes to learn the geography of one's own nature.

~Paul Bowles

She was saved from prettiness by the intensity of her gaze.

~Paul Bowles

If people and their manner of living were alike everywhere, there would not be much point in moving from one place to another.

~Paul Bowles

Since the world began has any man ever been able to know what would happen tomorrow? The world of men is today. I'm asking you to open your heart today. Tomorrow belongs to Allah.

~Paul Bowles

It's unnecessary and destructive to think of oneself at all. People ask me, 'What do you think of yourself as?' My answer is, 'Nothing.'

~Paul Bowles

How many more times will you watch the full moon rise? Perhaps twenty. And yet it all seems limitless.

~Paul Bowles

We've never managed, either one of us, to get all the way into life. We're hanging on to the outside for all we're worth, convinced we're going to fall off at the next bump.

~Paul Bowles

The soul is the weariest part of the body.

~Paul Bowles

One never took the time to savour the details; one said: another day, but always with the hidden knowledge that each day was unique and fatal, that there never would be a return, another time.

~Paul Bowles

If you don't know why you like a thing, it is usually worth your while to attempt to find out.

~Paul Bowles

Not all the ravages caused by our merciless age are tangible ones. The subtler forms of destruction, those involving only the human spirit, are the most to be dreaded.

~Paul Bowles

There is a way to master silence
Control its curves, inhabit its dark
corners
And listen to the hiss of time outside

~Paul Bowles

Fiction should always steer clear of political considerations.

~Paul Bowles

Publishers are thieves, they are on the other side of the barricade.

~Paul Bowles

Every second, ten stars set behind the black water in the west.

~Paul Bowles

I wanted to meet other artists. I suppose I simply felt that I was taking pot shots at clay pipes. Pop! Down goes Gertrude, down goes Jean Cocteau, down goes Andr   Gide.

~Paul Bowles

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