

Robert A. Heinlein

Quotes

Men, People, Thinking, Sex, Self, Law, War, Long, Children, Love, Life, Running, Way, Believe, Religion, Fighting, Race, Mind, Government, Writing

If a grasshopper tries to fight a lawnmower, one may admire his courage but not his judgement.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Love is that condition in which the happiness of another person is essential to your own.

~Robert A. Heinlein

You can sway a thousand men by appealing to their prejudices quicker than you can convince one man by logic.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Never underestimate the power of human stupidity.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Women and cats will do as they please, and men and dogs should relax and get used to the idea.

~Robert A. Heinlein

I never learned from a man who agreed with me.

~Robert A. Heinlein

A generation which ignores history has no past and no future.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Don't ever become a pessimist... a pessimist is correct oftener than an optimist, but an optimist has more fun, and neither can stop the march of events.

~Robert A. Heinlein

May you live as long as you wish and love as long as you live.

~Robert A. Heinlein

It is a truism that almost any sect, cult, or religion will legislate its creed

into law if it acquires the political power to do so.

~Robert A. Heinlein

One man's theology is another man's belly laugh.

~Robert A. Heinlein

The supreme irony of life is that hardly anyone gets out of it alive.

~Robert A. Heinlein

One should not attend even the end of the world without a good breakfast.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Anyone who considers protocol unimportant has never dealt with a cat.

~Robert A. Heinlein

In the absence of clearly-defined goals, we become strangely loyal to performing daily trivia until ultimately we become enslaved by it.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Democracy is four wolves and a sheep voting on dinner.

~Robert A. Heinlein

There is no such thing as luck; there is only adequate or inadequate preparation to cope with a statistical universe.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Men are more sentimental than women. It blurs their thinking.

~Robert A. Heinlein

There are no dangerous weapons; there are only dangerous men.

~Robert A. Heinlein

One of the sanest, surest, and most generous joys of life comes from

being happy over the good fortune of others.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Remember though, your best weapon is between your ears and under your scalp -provided it's loaded.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Ability is a wonderful thing, but its value is greatly enhanced by dependability. Ability implies repeatability and accountability.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Tilting at windmills hurts you more than the windmills.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Don't handicap your children by making their lives easy.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Once you get to earth orbit, you're halfway to anywhere in the solar system.

~Robert A. Heinlein

You have attributed conditions to villainy that simply result from stupidity.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Butterflies are self propelled flowers.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Progress isn't made by early risers. It's made by lazy men trying to find easier ways to do something.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Be wary of strong drink. It can make you shoot at tax collectors... and miss.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Have you ever noticed how much they look like orchids? lovely!

~Robert A. Heinlein

A competent and self-confident person is incapable of jealousy in anything. Jealousy is invariably a symptom of neurotic insecurity.

~Robert A. Heinlein

I don't see how an article of clothing can be indecent. A person, yes.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Ninety percent of all human wisdom is the ability to mind your own business.

~Robert A. Heinlein

A child's life is like a piece of paper on which every person leaves a mark.

~Robert A. Heinlein

There is no worse tyranny than to force a man to pay for what he does not want merely because you think it would be good for him.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Never attribute to malice that which can be adequately explained by stupidity. Never underestimate the power of human stupidity.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Reason is poor propaganda when opposed by the yammering, unceasing lies of shrewd and evil and self-serving men.

~Robert A. Heinlein

The lessons of history teach us - if the lessons of history teach us anything - that nobody learns the lessons that history teaches us.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Pacifism is a shifty doctrine under which a man accepts the benefits of the social group without being willing to pay; and claims a halo for his dishonesty.

~Robert A. Heinlein

If a country can't save itself through the volunteer service of its own free people, then I say : Let the damned thing go down the drain!

~Robert A. Heinlein

Love your country, but never trust its government.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Being right too soon is socially unacceptable.

~Robert A. Heinlein

The United States has become a place where entertainers and professional athletes are mistaken for people of importance.

~Robert A. Heinlein

A dying culture invariably exhibits personal rudeness. Bad manners. Lack of consideration for others in minor matters. A loss of politeness, of gentle manners, is more significant than is a riot.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Everything is theoretically impossible, until it is done.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Democracy can survive anything except Democrats

~Robert A. Heinlein

As it says in Bible, God fights on side of heaviest artillery.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Courage is the complement of fear. A man who is fearless cannot be courageous. [He is also a fool.]

~Robert A. Heinlein

Secrecy is the beginning of tyranny

~Robert A. Heinlein

The greatest fallacy of democracy is that everyone's opinion is worth the same.

~Robert A. Heinlein

A society that gets rid of all its troublemakers goes downhill.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Beware of altruism. It is based on self-deception, the root of all evil.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Nursing does not diminish the beauty of a woman's breasts; it enhances their charm by making them look lived in and happy.

~Robert A. Heinlein

A woman is not property, and husbands who think otherwise are living in a dreamworld.

~Robert A. Heinlein

An armed society is a polite society. Manners are good when one may have to back up his acts with his life.

~Robert A. Heinlein

There ain't no such thing as a free lunch.

~Robert A. Heinlein

I am free, no matter what rules surround me. If I find them tolerable, I tolerate them; if I find them too obnoxious, I break them.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Anyone who can worship a trinity and insist that his religion is a monotheism can believe anything.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Once a man gets a reputation as a liar, he might as well be struck dumb, for people do not listen to the wind.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Sin lies only in hurting others unnecessarily. All other "sins" are invented nonsense.

~Robert A. Heinlein

You do not truly own anything that you can't carry in both arms at a dead run

~Robert A. Heinlein

Happiness consists in getting enough sleep. Just that, nothing more.

~Robert A. Heinlein

A critic is a man who creates nothing and thereby feels qualified to judge the work of creative men. There is logic in this; he is unbiased, he hates all creative people equally.

~Robert A. Heinlein

You're in bad shape when your emotions force you into acts which you know are foolish.

~Robert A. Heinlein

A managed democracy is a wonderful thing... for the managers... and its greatest strength is a 'free press' when 'free' is defined as 'responsible' and the managers define what is 'irresponsible'.

~Robert A. Heinlein

That old saw about the early bird just proves that the worm should have stayed in bed.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Being a mother is an attitude, not a biological relation.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Figure out for yourself what you want to be really good at, know that you'll never really satisfy yourself that you've made it, and accept that that's okay.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Never try to outstubborn a cat.

~Robert A. Heinlein

No intelligent man has any respect for an unjust law.

~Robert A. Heinlein

First you must learn to control your self. The rest follows. Blessed is he who knows himself and commands himself, for the world is his and love and happiness and peace walk with him wherever he goes.

~Robert A. Heinlein

You can have peace. Or you can have freedom. Don't ever count on having both at once.

~Robert A. Heinlein

If you happen to be one of the fretful minority who can do creative work, never force an idea; you'll abort it if you do. Be patient and you'll give birth to it when the time is ripe. Learn to wait.

~Robert A. Heinlein

One man's 'magic' is another man's engineering. 'Supernatural' is a null word.

~Robert A. Heinlein

It may be better to be a live jackal than a dead lion, but it is better still to be a live lion. And usually easier.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Ignorance is curable, stupid is forever.

~Robert A. Heinlein

No matter where or what, there are makers, takers, and fakers.

~Robert A. Heinlein

I think perhaps of all the things a police state can do to its citizens, distorting history is possibly the most pernicious.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Thinking doesn't pay. Just makes you discontented with what you see around you.

~Robert A. Heinlein

The universe never did make sense; I suspect it was built on government contract.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Always listen to experts. They'll tell you what can't be done, and why. Then do it.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Faith strikes me as intellectual laziness.

~Robert A. Heinlein

The most noble fate a man can endure is to place his own mortal body between his loved home and the war's desolation.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Stupidity cannot be cured. Stupidity is the only universal capital crime; the sentence is death. There is no appeal, and execution is carried out automatically and without pity.

~Robert A. Heinlein

The right to figure things out for yourself is the only true freedom everyone shares. Go use it.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Your enemy is never a villain in his own eyes.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Anyone who cannot cope with mathematics is not fully human. At best, he is a tolerable subhuman who has learned to wear his shoes, bathe, and not make messes in the house.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Everything in excess! To enjoy the flavor of life, take big bites. Moderation is for monks.

~Robert A. Heinlein

The Ten Commandments are for lame brains. The first five are solely for the benefit of the priests and the powers that be; the second five are half truths, neither complete nor adequate.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Never pick up a stray kitten . . . unless you've already made up your mind to be owned by it.

~Robert A. Heinlein

No statement should be believed because it is made by an authority.

~Robert A. Heinlein

You can't conquer a free man; the most you can do is kill him.

~Robert A. Heinlein

When one teaches, two learn.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Most people can't think, most of the remainder won't think, and the small fraction who do think mostly can't do it very well.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Your enemy is never a villain in his own eyes. Keep this in mind; it may offer a way to make him your friend. If not, you can kill him without hate â€” and quickly.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Between being 'right' and being kind, I know which way I vote.

~Robert A. Heinlein

For me, politeness is a sine qua non of civilization.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Never tease an old dog; he might have one bite left.

~Robert A. Heinlein

The moral difference between a soldier and a civilian is that the soldier accepts personal responsibility for the safety of the body politic of which he is a member. The civilian does not.

~Robert A. Heinlein

Money problems can always be solved by a man not frightened by them.

~Robert A. Heinlein

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