

# Stanley Kubrick

## Quotes

*Thinking, Men, People, Film, Art, Light, Years, Views, Reality, Ideas, Jobs, War,  
Film Directing, Heart, Trying, Doe, Darkness, Fear, Writing, Giving*

Never say no to an idea - you never know how that idea will ignite another idea.

~Stanley Kubrick

However vast the darkness, we must supply our own light.

~Stanley Kubrick

All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.

~Stanley Kubrick

The great nations have always acted like gangsters, and the small nations like prostitutes.

~Stanley Kubrick

The test of a work of art is, in the end, our affection for it, not our ability to explain why it is good.

~Stanley Kubrick

I do not always know what I want, but I do know what I don't want.

~Stanley Kubrick

You're an idealist, and I pity you as I would the village idiot.

~Stanley Kubrick

A film is - or should be - more like music than like fiction. It should be a progression of moods and feelings. The theme, what's behind the emotion, the meaning, all that comes later.

~Stanley Kubrick

Be suspicious of people who have, or crave, power. Never, ever go near power. Don't become friends with anyone who has real power. It's dangerous.

~Stanley Kubrick

The very meaninglessness of life forces man to create his own meaning.

~Stanley Kubrick

Perhaps it sounds ridiculous, but the best thing that young filmmakers should do is to get hold of a camera and some film and make a movie of any kind at all.

~Stanley Kubrick

The truth of a thing is in the feel of it, not in the think of it.

~Stanley Kubrick

If it can be written, or thought, it can be filmed.

~Stanley Kubrick

Everything has already been done. every story has been told every scene has been shot. it's our job to do it one better.

~Stanley Kubrick

There's something in the human personality which resents things that are clear, and conversely, something which is attracted to puzzles, enigmas, and allegories.

~Stanley Kubrick

It's crazy how you can get yourself in a mess sometimes and not even be able to think about it with any sense and yet not be able to think about anything else.

~Stanley Kubrick

The best education in film is to make one

~Stanley Kubrick

Nothing is as dangerous as a sure thing.

~Stanley Kubrick

There are few things more fundamentally encouraging and stimulating than seeing someone else die.

~Stanley Kubrick

You either connect or you don't connect. It's not the end of the world. It's a movie.

~Stanley Kubrick

Don't get obsessed with not liking a movie.

~Stanley Kubrick

I love editing. I think I like it more than any other phase of film making. If I wanted to be frivolous, I might say that everything that precedes editing is merely a way of producing film to edit.

~Stanley Kubrick

Either you care, or you don't. There's no in-between. And if you care, then go all of the way.

~Stanley Kubrick

The first really important book I read about filmmaking was The Film Technique by Pudovkin. This was some time before I had ever touched a movie camera and it opened my eyes to cutting and montage.

~Stanley Kubrick

[Making movies] you're not trying to capture reality, you're trying to capture a photograph of reality.

~Stanley Kubrick

The feel of the experience is the important thing, not the ability to verbalize or analyze it.

~Stanley Kubrick

I never learned anything at all in school and didn't read a book for

pleasure until I was 19 years old.

~Stanley Kubrick

The screen is a magic medium. It has such power that it can retain interest as it conveys emotions and moods that no other art form can hope to tackle.

~Stanley Kubrick

Regret isn't going to get me anywhere. It's like being obsessed with something. It doesn't bring you anywhere.

~Stanley Kubrick

One man writes a novel. One man writes a symphony. It is essential that one man make a film.

~Stanley Kubrick

It's a mistake to confuse pity with love.

~Stanley Kubrick

The destruction of this planet would have no significance on a cosmic scale.

~Stanley Kubrick

A filmmaker has almost the same freedom as a novelist has when he buys himself some paper.

~Stanley Kubrick

A satirist is someone who has a very skeptical view of human nature, but who still has the optimism to make some sort of a joke out of it. However brutal that joke might be.

~Stanley Kubrick

If you can talk brilliantly about a problem, it can create the consoling illusion that it has been mastered.

~Stanley Kubrick

No philosophy based on an incorrect view of the nature of man is likely to produce social good.

~Stanley Kubrick

Bad films gave me the courage to try making a movie

~Stanley Kubrick

A film needs more than you can give it in a lifetime.

~Stanley Kubrick

You're constantly changing man. But the film's not changing. The film stays the same. That's the beautiful aspect of it.

~Stanley Kubrick

I'm just an old man and I smell bad, remember?

~Stanley Kubrick

I've never laid a cane on the back of a lord before, but if you force me to I shall speedily become used to the practice.

~Stanley Kubrick

Chess teaches you to control the initial excitement you feel when you see something that looks good and it trains you to think objectively when you're in trouble

~Stanley Kubrick

Here's to five miserable months on the wagon and the irreparable harm that it's caused me.

~Stanley Kubrick

Any time you take a chance you better be sure the rewards are worth the risk because they can put you away just as fast for a ten dollar heist

as they can for a million dollar job.

~Stanley Kubrick

I haven't had one sexual thought since the court martial.

~Stanley Kubrick

Sanitised violence in movies has been accepted for years. What seems to upset everybody now is the showing of the consequences of violence.

~Stanley Kubrick

I don't like doing interviews. There is always the problem of being misquoted or, what's even worse, of being quoted exactly.

~Stanley Kubrick

The very meaninglessness of life forces man to create his own meaning. If it can be written or thought, it can be filmed.

~Stanley Kubrick

The screen is a magic medium.

~Stanley Kubrick

The lasting and ultimately most important reputation of a film is not based on reviews, but on what, if anything, people say about it over the years, and on how much affection for it they have.

~Stanley Kubrick

I'm happy - at times - making films. I'm certainly unhappy not making films.

~Stanley Kubrick

A film is - or should be - more like music than like fiction.

~Stanley Kubrick

Like the man said, can happiness buy money?

~Stanley Kubrick

I've got a peculiar weakness for criminals and artists. Neither takes life as it is. Any tragic story has to be in conflict with things as they are.

~Stanley Kubrick

Gee, I wish we had one of them doomsday machines things.

~Stanley Kubrick

Take a stress pill and think things over-- HAL in 2001

~Stanley Kubrick

I used and abused drugs and alcohol. When I stopped doing that it became a lot clearer that life goes from inside to giving as opposed to taking and destroying.

~Stanley Kubrick

The dead know only one thing, it is better to be alive

~Stanley Kubrick

Art consists of reshaping life but it does not create life, nor cause life.

~Stanley Kubrick

My period as a young teenager when you really listen to music so you can get understand a little bit more about what the music is was, say, 1965 to 1968. I was just lucky to be in those times.

~Stanley Kubrick

Everybody has their black moments.

~Stanley Kubrick

My reputation has grown slowly.

~Stanley Kubrick



Have you ever had a single moment's thought about my responsibilities?

~Stanley Kubrick

What do you take me for? A fourteen karat sucker?

~Stanley Kubrick

I'm a slave to my imagination in terms of making narrative films.

~Stanley Kubrick

Critical opinion on my films has always been salvaged by what I would call subsequent critical opinion.

~Stanley Kubrick

God has a hard-on for a Marine because we kill everything we see. He plays His game, we play ours.

~Stanley Kubrick

One does not have to make Frank Capra movies to like people.

~Stanley Kubrick

The most terrifying fact about the universe not that it is hostile but that it is indifferent

~Stanley Kubrick

If you can talk brilliantly about a problem

~Stanley Kubrick

Know what it is the emotional statement to convey, and use taste and judgement to help the actors give their best possible performance.

~Stanley Kubrick

Private Joker is silly and he's ignorant but he's got guts and guts is enough.

~Stanley Kubrick

Suppose by chance you do get picked up. What have you done? You shot a horse; that isn't first degree murder; in fact, it isn't even murder; in fact, I don't know what it is.

~Stanley Kubrick

I'm not afraid of dying tomorrow, only of being killed.

~Stanley Kubrick

Shooting a movie is the worst milieu for creative work ever devised by man.

~Stanley Kubrick

Don't do anything. Just tolerate me and let me suffer, knowing how you feel.

~Stanley Kubrick

How does anybody ever think of anything?

~Stanley Kubrick

It's impossible to tell you what I'm going to do except to say that I expect to make the best movie ever made.

~Stanley Kubrick

Anybody who runs is a VC. Anybody who stands still is a well-disciplined VC.

~Stanley Kubrick

I'm not saying we wouldn't get our hair mussed, Mr. President, but I do say not more than ten to twenty million dead depending upon the breaks.

~Stanley Kubrick

I, uh, don't think it's quite fair to condemn a whole program because of a single slip-up, sir.

~Stanley Kubrick

I didn't want murder. It's all gone wrong.

~Stanley Kubrick

All my life I've always spoiled the things that meant the most to me.

~Stanley Kubrick

You either care or you don't.

~Stanley Kubrick

If Gary Cooper and Henry Fonda had a baby, it would be Matthew Modine.

~Stanley Kubrick

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