

Thomas Nagel

Quotes

Psychology, Believe, World, Mind, Reality, Views, Consciousness, May, Wake Up, Interesting, Want, Choices, Thinking, Determined, Problem, Common Sense, Admitting, Real, Together, Manifestation

Absurdity is one of the most human things about us: a manifestation of our most advanced and interesting characteristics.

~Thomas Nagel

Philosophy is the childhood of the intellect, and a culture that tries to skip it will never grow up.

~Thomas Nagel

Materialism is incomplete even as a theory of the physical world, since the physical world includes conscious organisms among its most striking occupants.

~Thomas Nagel

Life may be not only meaningless but absurd.

~Thomas Nagel

What is it like to be a bat? What is it like for a bat to be a bat?

~Thomas Nagel

Each of our lives is a part of the lengthy process of the universe gradually waking up and becoming aware of itself.

~Thomas Nagel

A person may be greedy, envious, cowardly, cold, ungenerous, unkind, vain, or conceited, but behave perfectly by a monumental act of the will.

~Thomas Nagel

Everyone is entitled to commit murder in the imagination once in a while, not to mention lesser infractions.

~Thomas Nagel

Perhaps the belief in God is the belief that the universe is intelligible, but not to us.

~Thomas Nagel

fundamentally an organism has conscious mental states if and only if there is something that it is like to be that organism--something it is like for the organism.

~Thomas Nagel

Altruism itself depends on a recognition of the reality of other persons, and on the equivalent capacity to regard oneself as merely one individual among many.

~Thomas Nagel

There is a tendency to seek an objective account of everything before admitting its reality.

~Thomas Nagel

every subjective phenomenon is essentially connected with a single point of view, and it seems inevitable that an objective, physical theory will abandon that point of view.

~Thomas Nagel

Once we see an aspect of what we or someone else does as something that happens, we lose our grip on the idea that it has been done and that we can judge the doer and not just the happening.

~Thomas Nagel

I conceive ethics as a branch of psychology.

~Thomas Nagel

I should not really object to dying were it not followed by death.

~Thomas Nagel

We are an episode between two oblivions.

~Thomas Nagel

If I thought that everything I did was determined by my circumstance and my psychological condition, I would feel trapped.

~Thomas Nagel

I'm not sure I understand how responsibility for our choices makes sense if they are not determined.

~Thomas Nagel

Without consciousness the mind-body problem would be much less interesting. With consciousness it seems hopeless.

~Thomas Nagel

Common sense doesn't have the last word in ethics or anywhere else, but it has, as J. L. Austin said about ordinary language, the first word: it should be examined before it is discarded.

~Thomas Nagel

Consciousness is what makes the mind-body problem really intractable.

~Thomas Nagel

A theory of motivation is defective if it renders intelligible behaviour which is not intelligible.

~Thomas Nagel

If life is not real, life is not earnest, and the grave is its goal, perhaps it's ridiculous to take ourselves so seriously.

~Thomas Nagel

Any reductionist program has to be based on an analysis of what is to be reduced. If the analysis leaves something out, the problem will be falsely posed.

~Thomas Nagel

If you want the truth rather than merely something to say, you will have a good deal less to say.

~Thomas Nagel

To look for a single general theory of how to decide the right thing to do is like looking for a single theory of how to decide what to believe.

~Thomas Nagel

The more details we learn about the chemical basis of life and the intricacy of the genetic code, the more unbelievable the standard historical account becomes

~Thomas Nagel

It is *prima facie* highly implausible that life as we know it is the result of a sequence of physical accidents together with the mechanism of natural selection.

~Thomas Nagel

Leading a human life is a full-time occupation, to which everyone devotes decades of intense concern.

~Thomas Nagel

The external view [of agency] forces itself on us at the same time that we resist it. One way this occurs is through the gradual erosion of what we do by the subtraction of what happens.

~Thomas Nagel

It isn't just that I don't believe in God, and naturally, hope there is no God. I don't want there to be a God; I don't want the universe to be like that.

~Thomas Nagel

equally real at all stages of his life; specifically, the fact that a particular stage is present cannot be regarded as conferring on it any special

status.

~Thomas Nagel

Related Links:

- Psychology Quotes
- Believe Quotes
- World Quotes
- Mind Quotes
- Reality Quotes
- Views Quotes
- Consciousness Quotes
- May Quotes
- Wake Up Quotes
- Interesting Quotes
- Want Quotes
- Choices Quotes
- Thinking Quotes
- Determined Quotes
- Problem Quotes
- Common Sense Quotes
- Admitting Quotes
- Real Quotes
- Together Quotes
- Manifestation Quotes