

# Thomas Pynchon Quotes

*Dream, Men, Thinking, Real, War, World, Children, Littles, Eye, Moving, Writing,  
Long, Enemy, Character, Chance, Hands, Law, Believe, Home, America*

If they can get you asking the wrong questions, they don't have to worry about answers.

~Thomas Pynchon

Time is never wasted if you remember to bring along something to read.

~Thomas Pynchon

Why should things be easy to understand?

~Thomas Pynchon

Every weirdo in the world is on my wavelength.

~Thomas Pynchon

Murphy's Law, that brash proletarian restatement of Godel's Theorem.

~Thomas Pynchon

Let the peace of this day be here tomorrow when I wake up.

~Thomas Pynchon

A screaming comes across the sky.

~Thomas Pynchon

The Lord's angel, Gebrail, dictated the Koran to Mohammed the Lord's Prophet. What a joke if all that holy book were only twenty-three years of listening to the desert. A desert which has no voice.

~Thomas Pynchon

Love with your mouth shut, help without breaking your ass or publicizing it: keep cool, but care.

~Thomas Pynchon

It all comes down, as it must, to the desires of individual men. Oh, and women too of course, bless their empty little heads.

~Thomas Pynchon

Someday it'll all be done by machine. Information machines.

~Thomas Pynchon

Oh, this beer here is cold, cold and hop-bitter, no point coming up for air, gulp, till it's all--hahhhh.

~Thomas Pynchon

Idle dreaming is often of the essence of what we do.

~Thomas Pynchon

Behind the hieroglyphic streets there would either be a transcendent meaning, or only the earth.

~Thomas Pynchon

It takes, unhappily, no more than a desk and writing supplies to turn any room into a confessional.

~Thomas Pynchon

Life's single lesson: that there is more accident to it than a man can ever admit to in a lifetime and stay sane.

~Thomas Pynchon

Not me, paranoia's the garlic in life's kitchen, right, you can never have too much.

~Thomas Pynchon

Length is usually intensity. Not time.

~Thomas Pynchon

Real flight and dreams of flight go together. Both are part of the same movement. Not A before B, but all together.

~Thomas Pynchon

There was no difference between the behavior of a god and the operations of pure chance.

~Thomas Pynchon

If there is something comforting - religious, if you want - about paranoia, there is still also anti-paranoia, where nothing is connected to anything, a condition not many of us can bear for long.

~Thomas Pynchon

It is simply wrong to begin with a theme, symbol or other abstract unifying agent, and then try to force characters and events to conform to it.

~Thomas Pynchon

this is america, you live in it, you let it happen. let it unfurl.

~Thomas Pynchon

The general public has long been divided into two parts; those who think that science can do anything and those who are afraid it will.

~Thomas Pynchon

What North Europe thinks of as its history is actually quite provincial and of limited interest. Different sorts of Christian killing each other, and that's about it.

~Thomas Pynchon

My belief is that "recluse" is a code word generated by journalists... meaning, "doesn't like to talk to reporters."

~Thomas Pynchon

Hey, over here! Have your picture taken with a reclusive author! Today only, we'll throw in a free autograph! But wait, there's more!

~Thomas Pynchon

But as with Maxwell's Demon, so now. Either she could not communicate, or he did not exist.

~Thomas Pynchon

Our history is an aggregate of last moments

~Thomas Pynchon

She thought of sunrise over the library slope at Cornell University that nobody out on it had seen because the slope faces west.

~Thomas Pynchon

Explosion without an objective', declared Miles Blundell, 'is politics in its purest form'.

~Thomas Pynchon

Let me be unambiguous. I prefer not to be photographed.

~Thomas Pynchon

To have humanism we must first be convinced of our humanity. As we move further into decadence this becomes more difficult.

~Thomas Pynchon

Through the machineries of greed, pettiness, and the abuse of power, love occurs.

~Thomas Pynchon

There is nothing so loathsome as a sentimental surrealist.

~Thomas Pynchon

Teamwork," Koteks snarled, "is one word for it, yeah. What it really is is a way to avoid responsibility. It's a symptom of the gutlessness of the whole society.

~Thomas Pynchon

Some of us are afraid of dying; others of human loneliness. Profane was afraid of land or seascapes like this, where nothing else lived but himself.

~Thomas Pynchon

Danger's over, Banana Breakfast is saved.

~Thomas Pynchon

All investigations of Time, however sophisticated or abstract, have at their true base the human fear of mortality.

~Thomas Pynchon

Get too conceptual, too cute and remote, and your characters die on the page.

~Thomas Pynchon

If America was a person, and it sat down, Lancaster town would be plunged into a Darkness unbreathable.

~Thomas Pynchon

For every kind of vampire, there is a kind of cross

~Thomas Pynchon

Can't say it often enough "change your hair, change your life.

~Thomas Pynchon

The hand of Providence creeps among the stars, giving Slothrop the finger.

~Thomas Pynchon

Despair came over her, as it will when nobody around has any sexual relevance to you.

~Thomas Pynchon

Perhaps its familiarity rendered it temporarily invisible to you.

~Thomas Pynchon

A woman is only half of something there are usually two sides to.

~Thomas Pynchon

My mother is the war,' declares Roger Mexico, leaning over to open the door.

~Thomas Pynchon

You know what a miracle is. Not what Bakunin said. But another world's intrusion into this one. Most of the time we coexist peacefully, but when we do touch there's cataclysm.

~Thomas Pynchon

I was dreaming ... about my grandfather. A very old man, at least as old as I am now, 91. I thought, when I was a boy, that he had been 91 all his life. Now I feel as if I have been 91 all my life.

~Thomas Pynchon

This spiritualist, this statistician, what are you anyway?

~Thomas Pynchon

Some typewriters in Whitehall, in the Pentagon, killed more civilians than our little A4 could have ever hoped to.

~Thomas Pynchon

All variables are independent.

~Thomas Pynchon

If the world offered nothing, nowhere to support or make bearable whatever her private grief was, then it is that world, and not she, that is at fault.

~Thomas Pynchon

They plot, they plot, sleeping or afoot they never let up.

~Thomas Pynchon

What sort of an age is this where a man becomes one's enemy only when his back is turned?

~Thomas Pynchon

[Oedipa Maas] awoke at last to find herself getting laid.

~Thomas Pynchon

Someday she might replace whatever of her had gone away by some prosthetic device, a dress of a certain color, a phrase in a letter, another lover.

~Thomas Pynchon

He decided that we suffer from great temporal homesickness for the decade we were born in.

~Thomas Pynchon

You may never get to touch the Master, but you can tickle his creatures.

~Thomas Pynchon

Ills are many, blessings few, but dreams tonight will shelter you.

~Thomas Pynchon

Information. What's wrong with dope and women? Is it any wonder the world's gone insane, with information come to be the only real medium of exchange?

~Thomas Pynchon

Shall I project a world?

~Thomas Pynchon



What, I should only trust good people? Man, good people get bought and sold every day. Might as well trust somebody evil once in a while, it makes no more or less sense.

~Thomas Pynchon

But with a sigh he had released her hand, while she was so lost in the fantasy that she hadn't felt it go away, as if he'd known the best moment to let go.

~Thomas Pynchon

What are the stars but points in the body of God where we insert the healing needles of our terror and longing?

~Thomas Pynchon

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