

Tom Wolfe

Quotes

*People, Thinking, Games, Hippie, Doors, Writing, World, Years, Sometimes,
Firsts, Two, Age, Father, Important, Men, Waiting, Fiction, Being Alone, Three,
Loneliness*

A cult is a religion with no political power.

~Tom Wolfe

Love is the ultimate expression of the will to live.

~Tom Wolfe

I still believe nonfiction is the most important literature to come out of the second half of the 20th century.

~Tom Wolfe

A lie may fool someone else, but it tells you the truth: you're weak.

~Tom Wolfe

The problem with fiction, it has to be plausible. That's not true with non-fiction.

~Tom Wolfe

If a conservative is a liberal who's been mugged, a liberal is a conservative who's been arrested.

~Tom Wolfe

It's not just that reporting gives you a bigger slice of life, gives - lends verisimilitude to what you are doing - it's that it feeds the imagination.

~Tom Wolfe

The attitude is we live and let live. This is actually an amazing change in values in a rather short time and it's an example of freedom from religion.

~Tom Wolfe

Dear Mother, I meant to write you before this and I hope you haven't been worried.... I have met some Beautiful People and...

~Tom Wolfe

I never forget. I never forgive. I can wait. I find it very easy to harbor a grudge. I have scores to settle.

~Tom Wolfe

The notion that the public accepts or rejects anything in modern art is merely romantic fiction. The game is completed and the trophies distributed long before the public knows what has happened.

~Tom Wolfe

Sherman made the terrible discovery that men make about their fathers sooner or later.

~Tom Wolfe

You're either on the bus or off the bus.

~Tom Wolfe

Put your good where it will do the most!

~Tom Wolfe

The surest cure for vanity is loneliness.

~Tom Wolfe

Everybody is going to be what they are, and whatever they are, there's not going to be anything to apologize about.

~Tom Wolfe

I do novels a bit backward. I look for a situation, a milieu first, and then I wait to see who walks into it.

~Tom Wolfe

Sometimes we don't even realize what we really care about, because we get so distracted by the symbols.

~Tom Wolfe

Everything was becoming allegorical, understood by the group mind, and especially this: "You're either on the bus...or off the bus.

~Tom Wolfe

People complain about my exclamation points, but I honestly think that's the way people think. I don't think people think in essays; it's one exclamation point to another.

~Tom Wolfe

don't just describe an emotion, arouse it, make them experience it, by manipulating the symbol of the emotion, and sometimes we have to come into awareness through the back door.

~Tom Wolfe

I'm a great believer in outlines.

~Tom Wolfe

Miami is a melting pot in which none of the stones melt. They rattle around.

~Tom Wolfe

Frankly, these days, without a theory to go with it, I can't see a painting.

~Tom Wolfe

(W)hat I write when I force myself is generally just as good as what I write when I'm feeling inspired. It's mainly a matter of forcing yourself to write.

~Tom Wolfe

There are some people who have the quality of richness and joy in them and they communicate it to everything they touch. It is first of all a physical quality; then it is a quality of the spirit.

~Tom Wolfe

On Wall Street he and a few others - how many? three hundred, four hundred, five hundred? had become precisely that... Masters of the Universe.

~Tom Wolfe

I wrote a number of pieces in the year 1966 that were so bad that, although I'm a great collector of my own pieces, I have never collected them.

~Tom Wolfe

Radical Chic, after all, is only radical in Style; in its heart it is part of Society and its traditions.

~Tom Wolfe

My entire career, in fiction or nonfiction, I have reported and written about people who are not like me.

~Tom Wolfe

The first newspaper I worked on was the 'Springfield Union' in Springfield, Massachusetts. I wrote over a hundred letters to newspapers asking for work and got three responses, two no's.

~Tom Wolfe

America is a wonderful country! I mean it! No honest writer would challenge that statement! The human comedy never runs out of material! it never lets you down!

~Tom Wolfe

The world was simply and sheerly divided into 'the aware', those who had the experience of being vessels of the divine, and a great mass of 'the unaware', 'the unmusical', 'the unattuned.

~Tom Wolfe

Vietnam was really an idealistic thing to stop the spread of communism,

which, incidentally, it did. It was a pretty costly way to do it, but it achieved its goal.

~Tom Wolfe

Nonfiction is never going to die.

~Tom Wolfe

Most people don't read editorial pages. I think I must have been 40 before I even looked at an editorial page.

~Tom Wolfe

it is either make this thing permanent inside of you or forever just climb dragged up into the conning tower every time for one short glimpse of the horizon.

~Tom Wolfe

No machines will ever truly fully figure the brain out, because the brain's performance is constantly altered or else constrained by this inanimate, rogue artifact you can't control, namely, speech.

~Tom Wolfe

You can be denounced from the heavens, and it only makes people interested.

~Tom Wolfe

Television reporters aren't really called reporters. They are called researchers. And that's really all they are.

~Tom Wolfe

Even hostile parodies admit from the start that the target has a distinct voice.

~Tom Wolfe

I've never met an American who wanted to build an empire.

~Tom Wolfe

Not long after I published my first book, I quickly found I was terrible at being interviewed.

~Tom Wolfe

I don't think journalists should talk about whom they're voting for.

~Tom Wolfe

God, newspapers have been making up stories forever. This kind of trifling and fooling around is not a function of the New Journalism.

~Tom Wolfe

If you label it this, then it can't be that.

~Tom Wolfe

I think of evolution as a myth, like the Norse myths, the Greek myths - anybody's myths. But it was created for a rational age.

~Tom Wolfe

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