

Werner Herzog Quotes

*Volcanoes, Thinking, Film, Years, People, Men, Korea, Dream, Way, Country,
Art, Would Be, Real, Cameras, Actors, Book, Cinema, Long, Mean, Done*

I believe the common denominator of the Universe is not harmony, but chaos, hostility and murder.

~Werner Herzog

I don't spend sleepless nights over getting very bad reviews.

~Werner Herzog

People think we had a love-hate relationship. Well, I did not love him, nor did I hate him. We had mutual respect for each other, even as we both planned each other's murder.

~Werner Herzog

I know for sure that there is only one step from insecticide to genocide.

~Werner Herzog

Someone like Jean-Luc Godard is for me intellectual counterfeit money when compared to a good kung fu film.

~Werner Herzog

Read, read, read, read, read, read, read, read, read, read, read, read, read...if you don't read, you will never be a filmmaker.

~Werner Herzog

Money doesn't make films. You just do it and take the initiative.

~Werner Herzog

Facts do not convey truth. That's a mistake. Facts create norms, but truth creates illumination.

~Werner Herzog

Civilization is like a thin layer of ice upon a deep ocean of chaos and darkness.

~Werner Herzog

What would an ocean be without a monster lurking in the dark? It would be like sleep without dreams.

~Werner Herzog

Without dreams we would be cows in a field, and I don't want to live like that. I live my life or I end my life with this project.

~Werner Herzog

At the same time, there's something magnificent about volcanoes; they created the atmosphere that we need for breathing.

~Werner Herzog

I have not seen a film as powerful, surreal, and frightening in at least a decade unprecedented in the history of cinema.

~Werner Herzog

I would travel down to Hell and wrestle a film away from the devil if it was necessary.

~Werner Herzog

Martin Luther was asked, what would you do if tomorrow the world would come to an end, and he said, 'I would plant an apple tree today.' This is a real good answer. I would start shooting a movie.

~Werner Herzog

I think the worst that can happen in filmmaking is if you're working with a storyboard. That kills all intuition, all fantasy, all creativity.

~Werner Herzog

Public life is constantly aware of the volcano.

~Werner Herzog

Film is not the art of scholars, but of illiterates.

~Werner Herzog

The world reveals itself to those who travel on foot.

~Werner Herzog

I shouldn't make movies anymore. I should go to a lunatic asylum.

~Werner Herzog

English is a really wonderful language and I urge you all to investigate it

~Werner Herzog

I see planets that don't exist and landscapes that have only been dreamed.

~Werner Herzog

The universe couldn't care less about us. I say this very clearly in the film ["Into the Inferno"]: our planet is "indifferent to scurrying roaches, retarded reptiles and vapid humans alike."

~Werner Herzog

You should bear in mind that almost all my documentaries are feature films in disguise.

~Werner Herzog

I am torn between the beauty of the natural world, which you see all around us, and the idea that some dumb tornado could blow a telephone pole onto my sweet Camaro.

~Werner Herzog

Every man should pull a boat over a mountain once in his life.

~Werner Herzog

Spirit of immersion and curiosity and awe and participation is something which Timothy Treadwell and I have in common.

~Werner Herzog

One of the most original and poetic works of cinema made anywhere in the seventies.

~Werner Herzog

Never wallow in your troubles; despair must be kept private and brief.

~Werner Herzog

I travel without barely any luggage. Just a second set of underwear and binoculars and a map and a toothbrush.

~Werner Herzog

"Jack Reacher" was easy because the function of the villain was just to spread fear and horror.

~Werner Herzog

I never planned my career in steps. It's all coming at me like burglars in the night.

~Werner Herzog

Facts sometimes have a strange and bizarre power that makes their inherent truth seem unbelievable.

~Werner Herzog

I despise formal restaurants. I find all of that formality to be very base and vile. I would much rather eat potato chips on the sidewalk.

~Werner Herzog

You will learn more by walking from Canada to Guatemala than you will ever learn in film school.

~Werner Herzog

I always loved celluloid cameras in the early days that were sturdy and reliable. Even under tropical conditions and downpour of rain, it would still work.

~Werner Herzog

I like and I love everything that has to do with cinema, writing, directing, editing, creating music, and even acting.

~Werner Herzog

May I propose a Herzog dictum? Those who read own the world, and those who watch television lose it.

~Werner Herzog

Facts do not constitute truth.

~Werner Herzog

I am a product of my failures.

~Werner Herzog

Do you not then hear this horrible scream all around you that people usually call silence.

~Werner Herzog

In the face of the obscene, explicit malice of the jungle, which lacks only dinosaurs as punctuation, I feel like a half-finished, poorly expressed sentence in a cheap novel.

~Werner Herzog

I cannot work fast enough. I cannot cope fast enough, really. And just releasing a film is hard.

~Werner Herzog

You have to be very prudent with what you are doing and what sort of tools you are utilizing. Drones have become a wonderful new tool in filmmaking.

~Werner Herzog

We ought to be grateful that the Universe out there knows no smile.

~Werner Herzog

Fact creates norms, and truth illumination.

~Werner Herzog

When you look at my film you see footage that is unbelievably awesome and beautiful and dangerous looking. It's something that is very, very cinematic.

~Werner Herzog

Everyone who makes films has to be an athlete to a certain degree because cinema does not come from abstract academic thinking; it comes from your knees and thighs.

~Werner Herzog

I think Irish people started to move to the United States - many things that were of consequence. And it was a tiny and mild event compared to what had happened 74,000 years ago.

~Werner Herzog

I'm very, very curious about how people live under the volcano, how they handle the permanence of danger.

~Werner Herzog

You should look straight at a film; that's the only way to see one. Film is not the art of scholars but of illiterates.

~Werner Herzog

If you don't have a deal in two days, you won't have a deal in two years.

~Werner Herzog

Of course, as a German, I wouldn't like to tell the American people how

to handle their criminal justice.

~Werner Herzog

You can't have a helicopter fly over boiling lava. It would've exploded from the heat, and is just way too dangerous. The pilot of a helicopter would've flatly refused anyway.

~Werner Herzog

Along with this rapid growth of forms of communication at our disposal - be it fax, phone, email, internet or whatever - human solitude will increase in direct proportion.

~Werner Herzog

Tourism is a mortal sin.

~Werner Herzog

I love nature but against my better judgment.

~Werner Herzog

Nature is monumentally indifferent.

~Werner Herzog

I like to direct landscapes just as I like to direct actors and animals.

~Werner Herzog

I'm a very professional man. I'm not out for the experience of adventure.

~Werner Herzog

In a way, I managed to get the deepest things, the best things out of people. That's why I'm a filmmaker. If you don't have it in you, you'd better do something else.

~Werner Herzog

I am so used to plunging into the unknown that any other surroundings and form of existence strike me as exotic and unsuitable for human beings.

~Werner Herzog

I am someone who takes everything very literally. I simply do not understand irony, a defect I have had ever since I was able to think independently.

~Werner Herzog

In Germany, you would be hanged if you cracked a joke about Hitler and you would be killed by the state if you were insane in a project of euthanasia.

~Werner Herzog

If you want to do a film, steal a camera, steal raw stock, sneak into a lab and do it!

~Werner Herzog

Tourism is sin, and travel on foot virtue.

~Werner Herzog

I went to volcanoes where I knew that there was a lot of mythology around them; there was something like the creation of gods and monsters and demons.

~Werner Herzog

Film is not analysis, it is the agitation of mind; cinema comes from the country fair and the circus, not from art and academicism.

~Werner Herzog

I think there should be holy war against yoga classes.

~Werner Herzog

I think psychology and self-reflection is one of the major catastrophes of the twentieth century.

~Werner Herzog

[This kind of strange mythology about me.] I've pulled a huge steamboat over a mountain; I've done a feature film with all the actors acting under hypnosis - things that are very unusual.

~Werner Herzog

The power of a volcano when it erupts is so evident, so visible, so palpable.

~Werner Herzog

Strangely enough, there's this mythology sprouting out that I cannot stop.

~Werner Herzog

The collapse of the stellar universe will occur - like creation - in grandiose splendor.

~Werner Herzog

I don't care whether the person is guilty or not guilty. It's not my business to establish guilt or innocence. It's a court of law that does that and a jury does that, but not me.

~Werner Herzog

If I had to climb into hell and wrestle the devil himself for one of my films, I would do it.

~Werner Herzog

If you don't read, you will never be a filmmaker.

~Werner Herzog

We have to articulate ourselves. Otherwise we would be cows in the

field.

~Werner Herzog

I have never been one of those who cares about happiness. Happiness is a strange notion. I am just not made for it. It has never been a goal of mine; I do not think in those terms.

~Werner Herzog

I discover no kinship, no understanding, no mercy. I see only the overwhelming indifference of nature.

~Werner Herzog

It's very strange, for example, in North Korea where the volcano at the Chinese border is some sort of the mythical birthplace of the Korean people.

~Werner Herzog

I have made 70 or so films. In all my films not a single actor, a single extra, was hurt. Not one. So statistics are on my side when I say I'm clinically sane.

~Werner Herzog

I find it interesting that there are impostors out on the Internet pretending to be Werner Herzog.

~Werner Herzog

Sometimes bad luck hits you like in an ancient Greek tragedy, and it's not your own making. When you have a plane crash, it's not your fault.

~Werner Herzog

If you're purely after facts, please buy yourself the phone directory of Manhattan. It has four million times correct facts. But it doesn't illuminate.

~Werner Herzog

I do not recall to [Kim Jong-un], but it was complex. "Dear young leader of the people and chairman of the joint military commission" or something like that.

~Werner Herzog

I do other sorts of things. I act in other people's movies. I direct operas. I write books.

~Werner Herzog

I'm a very circumspect and prudent person, and I eliminate danger as far as it can be done.

~Werner Herzog

I think I would be a good villain in a James Bond movie.

~Werner Herzog

A fairly young, intelligent-looking man with long hair asked me whether filming or being filmed could do harm, whether it could destroy a person. In my heart the answer was yes, but I said no.

~Werner Herzog

I'm not into digital marketing, downloading, or streaming - I've always been a man of the theaters.

~Werner Herzog

When you look at any of my films you will immediately be able to tell this is a [Werner] Herzog film. Even if you didn't have any credits, in two minutes flat you would know.

~Werner Herzog

With actors, normally I don't like to have any conversation about background and about motivations and all this.

~Werner Herzog

I'm quite convinced that cooking is the only alternative to film making. Maybe there's also another alternative, that's walking on foot.

~Werner Herzog

It's not because nature is angry, it's rather that we are stupid. We're not doing the right thing with our planet.

~Werner Herzog

In private I'm not. You will have to ask my wife. She maintains I'm a fluffy husband.

~Werner Herzog

The elections have a different platform, the town hall is the platform for it. But the other question behind all this is should I run for president?

~Werner Herzog

THE ACT OF KILLING invents a new form of cinematic surrealism.

~Werner Herzog

For such an advanced civilization as ours to be without images that are adequate to it is as serious a defect as being without memory.

~Werner Herzog

I wouldn't make a connection between the daily news and volcanoes.

~Werner Herzog

Related Links:

- Volcanoes Quotes
- Thinking Quotes
- Film Quotes
- Years Quotes
- People Quotes
- Men Quotes
- Korea Quotes
- Dream Quotes
- Way Quotes
- Country Quotes
- Art Quotes
- Would Be Quotes
- Real Quotes
- Cameras Quotes
- Actors Quotes
- Book Quotes
- Cinema Quotes
- Long Quotes
- Mean Quotes
- Done Quotes