

NEW AGE QUOTES

The underlying faith is a lack of faith in the orthodoxies of rationalism, of high technology, of routine living. *Otto Friedrich*

Humans are essentially religious creatures, and they don't rest until they have some sort of answer to the fundamental questions. Rationalism and secularism don't answer those questions. *Robert Burrowes*

A remarkable change is taking place in the intellectual climate of our time. The holistic worldview is penetrating our consciousness and superseding the rational materialism which is surely proving inadequate to explain our fantastic universe. *George Trevelyan*

The purely materialistic view of life is obliged increasingly to acknowledge apparently insurmountable problems. *George Trevelyan*

Devotion to the modern ideal of reason often leads to scepticism about truth, and ultimately a scepticism towards reason itself. A diet of the polite scepticism that passes for wisdom leaves most souls spiritually malnourished. It seems, one way or another, people will believe in the supernatural. *John Wauck*

Despair of objective truth had been increasingly insinuated into the scientists; indifference to it, and a concentration on mere power, had been the result. Babble about the *élan vital* and flirtations with panpsychism were bidding fair to restore the *Anima Mundi* of the magicians. Dreams of the far future destiny of man were dragging up from its shallow and unquiet grave the old dream of Man as God.

C.S. Lewis

We are living out the contradictions built into positivistic materialism. If you believe that man is purely material, then you must eventually conclude that pure matter can know, think, feel, and love as men obviously do. Thus, positivistic materialism makes matter "spiritual." Before long, spiritual powers are assigned to rocks and trees, and soon you're off with the Iroquois learning, as a New Age manual on shamanism puts it, "to use natural objects to deepen your personal connection with Earth energies." *John Wauck*

If some of those have a slightly greedy tone, the reason is that New Age fantasies often intersect with mainstream materialism, the very thing that many New Age believers profess to scorn. A surprising number of successful stockbrokers consult astrological charts; a yuppie investment banker who earns \$100,000 a year talks of her previous life as a monk. Some millionaires have their own private gurus who pay house calls to provide comfort and advice. *Otto Friedrich*

At the Healing Mother Earth Expo, the hard-core religious hawkers — the gurus, past-life regressors, Oriental mystics, etc. — were mostly ignored while the good old American self-improvement booths were mobbed. There was something for everyone — weight loss, stress management, a better golf swing. Sun Tzu's *Art of War* — the cultured yuppie's Taoist guide to power — is marketed by the New Age publisher Shambhala. Confucius say: "Get Rich Quick!" Crystals and channeling are already on their way out and will probably remain cultural marginalia along with Tarot cards and Ouija boards, but the broader combination of pagan gnosticism and American capitalism may be hard to beat. *John Wauck*

A different perspective on life, a holistic view of life, it encompasses an enormous spectrum involving the body, mind and spirit, including an increased awareness of nutrition, the rise in ecological thinking, a change in business perspectives, greater emphasis on preventive medicine, a shift to Jungian philosophy, an emphasis on the individual's intuition. Many people see themselves as living in a pretty meaningless world, and there is a profound cry for meaning. We've seen that tendency in churches, because the way religion is presented traditionally has spoken to our inner selves less and less. People want a living, feeling experience of spirituality. They yearn to get in touch with the soul. *Ralph White*

People say that what we're all seeking is a meaning for life. I don't think that's what we're really seeking. I think that what we're seeking is an experience of being alive, so that our life experiences on the purely physical plane will have resonances within our own innermost being and reality, so that we actually feel the rapture of being alive.

Joseph Campbell

The spiritual vacuum left by positivist reason and the decline of mainline religion has been filled by a paganism which was never far below the surface of Western civilization — a perfect illustration of Chesterton's dictum: "When men stop believing in God, they don't believe in nothing; they believe in anything."

John Wauck

Really we are recovering what was called the Ageless Wisdom of the ancient mysteries, which knew that the Universe is Mind and not mechanism, that the Earth is a sentient creature and not just dead mineral, that the human being is in essence spiritual, a droplet of Divinity housed in the temple of the body. This vision, once apprehended, lifts the basic fear of death in our death-ridden culture.

George Trevelyan

I'm just a human being trying to find some answers about what we're doing here, where we came from and where we're going. *Shirley MacLaine*

Whenever I ask people what they want for themselves or the world, the answer is almost always the same — peace. *Shirley MacLaine*

Norman Vincent Peale meets the Maharishi. *John Wauck*

If you follow your bliss, you put yourself on a kind of track that has been there all the while, waiting for you, and the life that you ought to be living is the one you are living. Wherever you are — if you are following your bliss, you are enjoying that refreshment, that life within you, all the time. *Joseph Campbell*

Does the New Age Movement have an ethic? So far this writer has been unable to find one — at least not a sustained and developed articulation of one. To be sure, many New Agers write about "values." For example, Marilyn Ferguson writes in *The Aquarian Conspiracy* about the "etherialization of America," which she defines as "the development of higher, intangible riches as the ultimate growth of a civilization." David Spangler writes about "planetization" and the pursuit of holistic solutions to ecological and social problems. George Trevelyan writes about overcoming the spirit's materialization through the spiritualization of matter by becoming attuned to the "infinite reservoirs of cosmic energy and power," a process which is necessary for the healing of the polluted planet. *Roger Olson*

It's me that makes things happen to me. *Shirley MacLaine*

The most worthwhile journey to take is the journey inside oneself. *Shirley MacLaine*

I believe that through self awareness and self knowledge, people can reach their inner goals and the inner awareness and knowledge of who they are as spiritual beings. *Kevin Ryerson*

It is important to place emphasis back upon the feminine function of feeling, so long displaced by reason in your society. We urge you then to begin to pay attention to the feelings in your body and to what they tell you. For living in your reason will keep you out of touch with the feminine energy. *Seth channeled by Jean Loomis*

You must be committed to living your truth. *Kunda channeled by Marcella Daniels*

One typical New Age magazine, offers "tools and teachings to create your own reality." The New Age movement is not about discovering reality but about making it; it is about power rather than truth. *John Wauck*

Meditation relaxes the body so that the mind can explore itself with clarity. *Kevin Ryerson*

Your planet is out of balance in terms of male and female energies.First of all, enlightened readers, you must know that each and everyone of you can contribute to this rebalancing on a moment-to-moment basis simply by keeping your thoughts in balance. For the primary thoughts which have created the present imbalance are those of scarcity and competition.To this end, we of the nonphysical realms urge you each to rid your belief systems of belief in scarcity and competition and remember that all human wealth is but a product of the mind and can most easily be created without anyone having to lose. *Seth*

There is a form of meditation you are taught ... where you recite the same prayer over and over and over again. That pulls the mind in.It blocks other interests out and allows you to concentrate on one thing, and then, depending on your own powers of imagination, to experience the profundity of this mystery. *Joseph Campbell*

All of the personal and social problems that we now face stem from a world view based on fear and illusion rather than one based on love and truth. *Helen Schucman*

I believe in the power of a thought that reaches critical mass and sends its energy like a wave throughout human consciousness. *Marianne Williamson*

I am more than my physical body. Because I am more than my physical body, I can perceive that which is greater than the physical world. *Robert Monroe*

Our consciousness here is modified to perceive as human. Trying to describe the process of being non human but still in physical form is hard enough. Take it to the next step: try to describe being non human beyond time/space where "being human" is no more than a vague memory or an interesting idea. *Robert Monroe*

It is part of the Cartesian mode to think of consciousness as being something peculiar to the head, that the head is the organ originating consciousness. It isn't. the head is an organ that inflects consciousness in a certain direction, or to a certain set of purposes. But there is a consciousness here in the body. The whole living world is informed by consciousness. I have a feeling that consciousness and energy are the same thing somehow. Where you see real life energy, there's consciousness.
Joseph Campbell

The greatest change, however, was in how I viewed my own existence in a world that I could suddenly, easily comprehend as an illusory construct. I, like many others before me, did not want to 'come back' from the experience, and though I returned reluctantly, my appreciation for the world around me was heightened for days afterward Everyone has two barriers to the out-of-body state. First is the fear barrier. When you became human, you were given an imprint that to survive you must not separate from your physical body in the conscious state. That is death. It's a great fear! The second barrier is belief systems that get in the way. If you believe that you die and go to heaven or hell when you separate from your physical body, that will get in the way of a valid experience. *Robert Monroe*

I am infinite. I perceive myself as finite. *Shirley MacLaine*

Everything in the universe is an expression of the Ultimate, the One, the Absolute, the Ground of Being, Brahman God. *Shirley MacLaine*

My soul, my own subconscious individualized piece of the Universal energy, believed it was a part of everything, even of the crashing tumultuous storm outside.
Shirley MacLaine

God, the God force, or the Divine energy of which all things are a part.
Shirley MacLaine

An undefinable, inconceivable mystery, thought of as a power, that is the source and end and supporting ground of all life and being. *Joseph Campbell*

'God' is an ambiguous word in our language because it appears to refer to something that is known. But the transcendent is unknowable and unknown. God is transcendent, finally, of anything like the name 'God.' God is beyond names and forms. Meister Eckhart said that the ultimate and highest level-taking is leaving God for God, leaving your notion of God for an experience of that which transcends all notions. The mystery of life is beyond all human conception. Everything we know is within the terminology of the concepts of being and not being, many and single, true and untrue. We always think in terms of opposites. But God, the ultimate, is beyond the pairs of opposites, that is all there is to it. *Joseph Campbell*

The story that we have in the West, so far as it is based on the Bible, is based on a view of the universe that belongs to the first millennium B.C. It does not accord with our concept either of the universe or of the dignity of man. It belongs entirely somewhere else. *Joseph Campbell*

You are everything, everything you want to know is inside of you. You are the Universe. *Joseph Campbell*

You and the other are one, you are two aspects of one life. Your apparent separateness is but an effect of the way we experience forms under the conditions of space and time. Our true reality is in our identity and unity with all life.

Joseph Campbell

The Great Mystery was not — Who is God? It is — Who are we? *Shirley MacLaine*

The soul is a reflection of God. The soul and God are eternal. *Shirley MacLaine*

If I am to understand what God is I must know myself.... All people seek peace. The path to inner peace is not through the intellect, but through the inner heart. Within the inner heart one finds God, peace, and oneself. The self knows the divine truth, because the self is itself divine... You are God. You know you are divine. *Shirley MacLaine*

Heaven and hell are within us, and all the gods are within us. *Joseph Campbell*

In God's view you are God; not in your ego, but in your deepest being, where you are at one with the nondual transcendent. *Joseph Campbell*

The most limiting concept of all is to demand reverence for an exterior authority.

Shirley MacLaine

Ramakrishna said that if all you think of are your sins, then you are a sinner....The idea of sin puts you in a servile condition throughout your life. *Joseph Campbell*

Sin is simply a limiting factor that limits your consciousness and fixes it in an inappropriate condition. We are all manifestations of Buddha consciousness or Christ consciousness, only we don't know it. The word 'Buddha' means 'the one who waked up.' We are all to do that — to wake up to the Christ or Buddha consciousness within us. *Joseph Campbell*

Remember your divinity and act accordingly as divine. *Shirley MacLaine*

Don't you think modern Americans have rejected the ancient idea of nature as a divinity because it would have kept us from achieving dominance over nature? How can you cut down trees and uproot the land and turn the rivers into real estate without killing God? *Moyers*

Yes, but that's not simply a characteristic of modern Americans, that is the biblical condemnation of nature which they inherited from their own religion and brought with them, mainly from England. God is separate from nature, and nature is condemned of God. It's right there in Genesis; we are to be the masters of the world. But if you will think of ourselves as coming out of the earth, rather than having been thrown in here from somewhere else, you see that we are the earth, we are the consciousness of the earth. These are the eyes of the earth. And this is the voice of the earth. *Joseph Campbell*

You get a totally different view of living according to whether your myth presents nature as fallen or whether nature is in itself a manifestation of divinity, and the spirit is the revelation of the divinity that is inherent in nature...One of the glorious things about the mother goddess religions is that the world is the body of the goddess, divine in itself, and divinity isn't something ruling over and above a fallen nature...Our story of the Fall in the Garden sees nature as corrupt; and that myth corrupts the whole world for us. Because nature is thought of as corrupt, every spontaneous act is sinful and must not be yielded to. *Joseph Campbell*

I thought when I died that was the end. I believed that what I saw was what there was. I believed that there was nothing more and nothing less than here and now and that was all I had to deal with... Now I find we've been playing parts in some spiritual play with an ongoing script...we will get to play another part after this and another one after that. You will keep on playing parts until you finally get it right. *Shirley MacLaine*

One of the main composites of this self is previous life experiences. A certain group of previous life personalities is selected — and I say that very loosely — to be this 'I' in this lifetime. Evidently, however, the rest of all those life experiences are still available for us to tap into if we so desire. We are composites of personalities. We flicker from one personality to another, but the transition is so smooth we don't even notice it. *Robert Monroe*

The monad puts on various personalities, life after life. Now the reincarnation idea is not that you and I as the personalities that we are will be reincarnated. The personality is what the monad throws off. Then the monad puts on another body, male or female, depending on what experiences are necessary for it to clear itself of this attachment to the field of time.It suggests that you are more than you think you are. There are dimensions of your being and a potential for realization and consciousness that are not included in your concept of yourself. Your life is much deeper and broader than you conceive it to be here. What you are living is but a fractional inkling of what is really within you, what give you life, breadth, and depth. *Joseph Campbell*

We have come forth from the ground of being as manifestations in the field of time.
Joseph Campbell

Whatever action one takes will ultimately return to that person — good and bad — maybe not in this life embodiment, but sometime in the future...What we put in, good and bad, balances out somewhere, sometime...All the misfortunes in life like disease, deformities, injustices and all that were explained by the fact that each life embodiment was a reward or punishment of a preceding life embodiment...Everything happens for a reason. All physical suffering, all happiness, all despair, and all joy happens in relation to the Karmic Laws of Justice.

Shirley MacLaine

That's what the soul does after it passes out of the body. Souls that have died, so to speak, help those who are still in the body. Why, that's what spiritual understanding is all about. *Shirley MacLaine*

Heraclitus said that for God all things are good and right and just, but for man some things are right and others are not. When you are a man, you are in the field of time and decisions. One of the problems of life is to live with the realization of both terms, to say, 'I know the center, and I know that good and evil are simply temporal aberrations and that, in God's view, there is no difference.' *Joseph Campbell*

...Since in Hindu thinking everything in the universe is a manifestation of divinity itself, how should we say no to anything in the world? How should we say no to brutality, to stupidity, to vulgarity, to thoughtlessness? ...For you and for me — the way is to say yes. *Joseph Campbell*

To me the journey most worthwhile taking was the journey through myself.

Everyone's perception of reality is valid.

The real truth is the process of each soul's progression through the ages.

Shirley MacLaine

Follow your bliss. *Joseph Campbell*

Time doesn't really matter, not when you're speaking in an overall sense, with the knowledge that you have already lived and will continue to live a great many lives.

My soul knew it was going to be alright no matter what happened to the body.....My soul knew it would survive, that it was eternal, that it was ongoing and unlimited in its understanding.....This too was a part of the adventure we call life.

Shirley MacLaine

I am periodically gripped by a compulsion to attain 'perfection' and a corresponding feeling of inadequacy at my present state...every time I focus on perfection, I'm led to disliking my imperfections...The state of imperfection consists entirely of my belief that I am imperfect. *Gina Covina*

It emerged in a cultural context in which many gods were respected and in which good and evil were intermingled freely and considered equally necessary parts of reality, expressed in the flow of seasons and in the cycles of decay and renewal, death and birth, that are acted out by all that lives. It was the rise of Christianity with its insistence on just one god, a god who is only good and has no darkness in him, that forced the separation of good and evil. The contents of the dark realm were not to be looked at. *Gina Covina*

What did come next was the pointer's suggestion that I set aside the Ouija board and speak its words directly, I did not gracefully oblige. Rather, I felt very threatened and frightened by the prospect as I saw it, of setting aside not only the Ouija board, but my very own personality and conscious self, while some stranger inhabited my throat..It was at this point that I realized I would never venture further into the Beyond, or let the Unknown enter me, until I had moved further in two directions...one, I obviously did not believe I lived in a safe universe. I had to remake my beliefs about the Beyond until they could no longer hurt me. At the same time there had to be less of me to be hurt. I needed to empty my personality still further, eventually down to the point at which there would be nothing of me to lose in the infinite. *Gina Covina*