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Quotes about Imagination

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The man who has no imagination has no wings.

- Ali, Muhammad

When you stop having dreams and ideals -- well, you might as well stop altogether.

- Anderson, Marian

Act as if you have already achieved your goal and it is yours.

- Anthony, Dr. Robert

Imagination is the highest kite one can fly.

- Bacall, Lauren

To fly as fast as thought, to anywhere that is. He said, you must begin by knowing that you have already arrived.

- Bach, Richard

Man is an imagining being.

- Bachelard, Gaston

The soul without imagination is what an observatory would be without a telescope.

- Beecher, Henry Ward

Sentiment is the ripened fruit of fantasy.

- Belazy, Madame

Nevertheless, the consuming hunger of the uncritical mind for what it imagines to be certainty or finality impels it to feast upon shadows in the prevailing famine of substance.

- Bell, E. T.

The human imagination... has great difficulty in living strictly within the confines of a materialist practice or philosophy. It dreams, like a dog in its basket, of hares in the open.

- Berger, John

If you close your eyes, you could just as well imagine me to be vintage Ali MacGraw, circa 1968.

- Bernhard, Sandra

The way we imagine ourselves to appear to another person is an essential element in our conception of ourselves. In other words, I am not what I think I am, and I am not what you think I am. I am what I think you think I am.

- Bierstedt, Robert

To me this world is all one continued vision of fancy or imagination, and I feel flattered when I am told so. What is it sets Homer, Virgil and Milton in so high a rank of art? Why is the Bible more entertaining and instructive than any other book? Is it not because they are addressed to the imagination, which is spiritual sensation, and but immediately to the understanding or reason?

- Blake, William

What is now proved was only once imagined.

- Blake, William

The human race is governed by its imagination.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Imagination rules the world.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

By going over your day in imagination before you begin it, you can begin acting successfully at any moment.

- Brande, Dorothea

To reduce the imagination to a state of slavery --even though it would mean the elimination of what is commonly called happiness --is to betray all sense of absolute justice within oneself. Imagination alone offers me some intimation of what can be.

- Breton, Andre

The bridges that you cross before you come to them are over rivers that aren't there.

- Brown, Gene

Live out of your imagination instead of out of your memory.

- Brown, Les

Fortunately, somewhere between chance and mystery lies imagination, the only thing that protects our freedom, despite the fact that people keep trying to reduce it or kill it off altogether.

- Bunuel, Luis

Imagination is a poor matter when it has to part company with understanding.

- Carlyle, Thomas

Not our logical faculty, but our imaginative one is king over us. I might say, priest and prophet to lead us to heaven-ward, or magician and wizard to lead us hellward.

- Carlyle, Thomas

If a child is to keep alive his inborn sense of wonder without any such gift from the fairies, he needs the companionship of at least one adult who can share it, rediscovering with him the joy, excitement, and mystery of the world we live in.

- Carson, Rachel

People can die of mere imagination.

- Chaucer, Geoffrey

The great successful men of the world have used their imaginations... they think ahead and create their mental picture, and then go to work materializing that picture in all its details, filling in here, adding a little there, altering this a bit and that a bit, but steadily building -- steadily building.

- Collier, Robert

Visualize this thing that you want, see it, feel it, believe in it. Make your mental blue print, and begin to build.

- Collier, Robert

See the things you want as already yours. Think of them as yours, as belonging to you, as already in your possession.

- Collier, Robert

Pictures help you to form the mental mold...

- Collier, Robert

Make every thought, every fact, that comes into your mind pay you a profit. Make it work and produce for you. Think of things not as they are but as they might be. Don't merely

dream -- but create!

- Collier, Robert

I think my securities far outweigh my insecurities. I am not nearly as afraid of myself and my imagination as I used to be.

- Connelly, Billy

Only in men's imagination does every truth find an effective and undeniable existence. Imagination, not invention, is the supreme master of art as of life.

- Conrad, Joseph

The imaginations which people have of one another are the solid facts of society.

- Cooley, Charles Horton

Death is the tyrant of the imagination.

- Cornwall, Barry

When the imagination and will power are in conflict, are antagonistic, it is always the imagination which wins, without any exception.

- Coue, Emile

Live out of your imagination, not your history.

- Covey, Stephen R.

We are what and where we are because we have first imagined it.

- Curtis, Donald

I noticed an almost universal trait among Super Achievers, and it was what I call Sensory Goal Vision. These people knew what they wanted out of life, and they could sense it multidimensionally before they ever had it. They could not only see it, but also taste it, smell it, and imagine the sounds and emotions associated with it. They pre-lived it before they had it. And the sharp, sensory vision became a powerful driving force in their lives.

- Devore, Stephen

The mind must see visual achievement of the purpose before action is initiated.

- Douglas, Mack R.

Imagination is everything. It is the preview of life's coming attractions.

- Einstein, Albert

To know is nothing at all; to imagine is everything.

- Einstein, Albert

The most evident difference springs from the important part which is played in man by a relatively strong power of imagination and by the capacity to think, aided as it is by language and other symbolically devices.

- Einstein, Albert

Your imagination is your preview of life's coming attractions.

- Einstein, Albert

Imagination is more important than knowledge. For knowledge is limited to all we now know and understand, while imagination embraces the entire world, and all there ever will be to know and understand.

- Einstein, Albert

In that way imagination and intelligence enter into our existence in the part of servants of the primary instincts.

- Einstein, Albert

What is the imagination? Only an arm or weapon of the interior energy; only the precursor of the reason.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

The quality of the imagination is to flow and not to freeze.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

We live by our imagination, our admirations, and our sentiments.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

Science does not know its debt to imagination.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

There are no days in life so memorable as those which vibrate to some stroke of the imagination.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

Imagination is not a talent of some people but is the health of everyone.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

Hold a picture of yourself long and steadily enough in your mind's eye and you will be drawn toward it. Picture yourself vividly as winning and that alone will contribute immeasurably to success. Great living starts with a picture, held in your imagination, of what you would like to do or be.

- Fosdick, Harry Emerson

Image creates desire. You will what you imagine.

- Gallimore, J. G.

Peak performers develop powerful mental images of the behavior that will lead to the desired results. They see in their mind's eye the result they want, and the actions leading to it.

- Garfield, Charles A.

Imagination is the one weapon in the war against reality.

- Gaultier, Jules de

Reason can answer questions, but imagination has to ask them.

- Gerard, Ralph

There is nothing more frightful than imagination without taste.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

My imagination makes me human and makes me a fool; it gives me all the world and exiles me from it.

- Guin, Ursula K. Le

The imagination is literally the workshop wherein are fashioned all plans created by man.

- Hill, Napoleon

Our minds become magnetized with the dominating thoughts we hold in our minds and these magnets attract to us the forces, the people, the circumstances of life which harmonize with the nature of our dominating thoughts.

- Hill, Napoleon

First comes thought; then organization of that thought, into ideas and plans; then transformation of those plans into reality. The beginning, as you will observe, is in your imagination.

- Hill, Napoleon

Capability means imagination...

- Hill, Napoleon

All the breaks you need in life wait within your imagination, Imagination is the workshop of your mind, capable of turning mind energy into accomplishment and wealth.

- Hill, Napoleon

If you want a quality, act as if you already had it. Try the as if technique.

- James, William

Were it not for imagination a man would be as happy in arms of a chambermaid as of a duchess.

- Johnson, Samuel

Imagination is the eye of the soul.

- Joubert, Joseph

One who has imagination without learning has wings without feet.

- Joubert, Joseph

All the works of man have their origin in creative fantasy. What right have we then to depreciate imagination.

- Jung, Carl

Without this playing with fantasy no creative work has ever yet come to birth. The debt we owe to the play of the imagination is incalculable.

- Jung, Carl

My imagination is a monastery and I am its monk.

- Keats, John

The opportunities of man are limited only by his imagination. But so few have imagination that there are ten thousand fiddlers to one composer.

- Kettering, Charles F.

Our imagination is the only limit to what we can hope to have in the future.

- Kettering, Charles F.

Soft focus is an important skill that can effect us metaphorically. In other words, the way we see the future has everything to do with how well we can look up and see the expanded horizon before us.

- Kline, Peter

We are told never to cross a bridge till we come to it, but this world is owned by men who have crossed bridges in their imagination far ahead of the crowd.

- Library, Speakers

Some people have just enough imagination to spoil their judgment.

- Mallory, Paul

Begin to imagine what the desirable outcome would be like. Go over these mental pictures and delineate details and refinements. Play them over and over to yourself.

- Maltz, Maxwell

Study the situation thoroughly, go over in your imagination the various courses of action possible to you and the consequences which can and may follow from each course. Pick out the course which gives the most promise and go ahead.

- Maltz, Maxwell

When you see a thing clearly in your mind, your creative success mechanism within you takes over and does the job much better than you could do it by conscious effort or willpower.

- Maltz, Maxwell

For imagination sets the goal picture which our automatic mechanism works on. We act, or fail to act, not because of will, as is so commonly believed, but because of imagination.

- Maltz, Maxwell

Thus man of all creatures is more than a creature, he is also a creator. Man alone can direct his success mechanism by the use of imagination, or imaging ability.

- Maltz, Maxwell

Imagination grows by exercise, and contrary to common belief, is more powerful in the mature than in the young.

- McCartney, Paul

We have been endowed with the capacity and the power to create desirable pictures within and to find them automatically in the outer world of our environment.

- Mcdonald, John

It is impossible to imagine the universe run by a wise, just and omnipotent God, but it is quite easy to imagine it run by a board of gods. If such a board actually exists it operates precisely like the board of a corporation that is losing money.

- Mencken, H. L.

The most dire disaster in love is the death of imagination.

- Meredith, George

Imagination is the voice of daring. If there is anything Godlike about God it is that. He dared to imagine everything.

- Miller, Henry

You must first clearly see a thing in your mind before you can do it.

- Morrison, Alex

The genius of Man in our time has gone into jet-propulsion, atom-splitting, penicillin-curing, etc. There is none over for works of imagination; of spiritual insight or mystical enlightenment. I asked for bread and was given a tranquilizer. It is important to recognize that in our time man has not written one word, thought one thought, put two notes or two bricks together, splashed color on to canvas or concrete into space, in a manner which will be of any conceivable imaginative interest to posterity.

- Muggeridge, Malcolm

Imagination, the supreme delight of the immortal and the immature, should be limited. In order to enjoy life, we should not enjoy it too much.

- Nabokov, Vladimir

A man may imagine things that are false, but he can only understand things that are true, for if the things be false, the apprehension of them is not understanding.

- Newton, Sir Isaac

I never hit a shot, not even in practice, without having a very sharp, in-focus picture of it in my head. First I see the ball where I want it to finish, nice and white and sitting up high on the bright green grass. Then the scene quickly changes, and I see the ball going there: its path, trajectory, and shape, even its behavior on landing. Then there is a sort of fade-out, and the next scene shows me making the kind of swing that will turn the previous images into reality.

- Nicklaus, Jack

It takes as much imagination to create debt as to create income.

- Orr, Leonard

Imagination decides everything.

- Pascal, Blaise

Imagination disposes of everything; it creates beauty, justice, and happiness, which is everything in this world.

- Pascal, Blaise

It is not that the child lives in a world of imagination, but that the child within us survives and starts into life only at rare moments of recollection, which makes us believe, and it is not true, that, as children, we were imaginative?

- Pavese, Cesare

Celebrate what you want to see more of.

- Peters, Thomas J.

Everything you can imagine is real.

- Picasso, Pablo

It will be found, in fact, that the ingenious are always fanciful, and the truly imaginative never otherwise than analytic.

- Poe, Edgar Allan

It is more than likely that the brain itself is, in origin and development, only a sort of great clot of genital fluid held in suspense or reserved. This hypothesis would explain the enormous content of the brain as a maker or presenter of images.

- Pound, Ezra

Often it is just lack of imagination that keeps a man from suffering very much.

- Proust, Marcel

I have discovered that people with money have no imagination, and people with imagination have no money.

- Rainbow, George Weiss

The imagination equips us to perceive reality when it is not fully materialized.

- Richards, Mary Caroline

It is eminently a wearable faculty, eminently delicate, and incapable of bearing fatigue; so that if we give it too many objects at a time to employ itself upon, or very grand ones for a long time together, it fails under the effort, becomes jaded, exactly as the limbs do by bodily fatigue, and incapable of answering any farther appeal till it has had rest.

- Ruskin, John

The imagination is never governed, it is always the ruling and divine power.

- Ruskin, John

Imaginary evils soon become real one by indulging our reflections on them.

- Ruskin, John

An unimaginative person can neither be reverent or kind.

- Ruskin, John

The imagination is the spur of delights... all depends upon it, it is the mainspring of everything; now, is it not by means of the imagination one knows joy? Is it not of the imagination that the sharpest pleasures arise?

- Sade, Marquis De

How delightful are the pleasures of the imagination! In those delectable moments, the whole world is ours; not a single creature resists us, we devastate the world, we repopulate it with new objects which, in turn, we immolate. The means to every crime is ours, and we employ them all, we multiply the horror a hundredfold.

- Sade, Marquis De

Imagination gallops; judgment merely walks.

- Saying

Let your imagination release your imprisoned possibilities.

- Schuller, Robert H.

The entrepreneur is essentially a visualizer and an actualizer. He can visualize something, and when visualizes it he sees exactly how to make it happen.

- Schwartz, Robert L

Imagination... its limits are only those of the mind itself.

- Serling, Rod

Imagination is the beginning of creation. You imagine what you desire; you will what you imagine; and at last you create what you will.

- Shaw, George Bernard

People often get their imagination's mixed up with their memories.

- Shaw, P.K.

The great instrument of moral good is the imagination.

- Shelley, Percy Bysshe

When you think something, you think in picture. You don't think a thought in words. You think a picture that expresses your thought. Working with this picture will produce it into your experience.

- Speare, Grace

To regard the imagination as metaphysics is to think of it as part of life, and to think of it as part of life is to realize the extent of artifice. We live in the mind.

- Stevens, Wallace

The imagination is man's power over nature.

- Stevens, Wallace

By visualizing your goals, you can get your subconscious to work toward making these mental pictures come true.

- Success Magazine

Before I put a sketch on paper, the whole idea is worked out mentally. In my mind I

change the construction, make improvements, and even operate the device. Without ever having drawn a sketch I can give the measurements of all parts to workmen, and when completed all these parts will fit, just as certainly as though I had made the actual drawings. It is immaterial to me whether I run my machine in my mind or test it in my shop. The inventions I have conceived in this way have always worked. In thirty years there has not been a single exception. My first electric motor, the vacuum wireless light, my turbine engine and many other devices have all been developed in exactly this way.

- Tesla, Nikola

I do not know how to distinguish between our waking life and a dream. Are we not always living the life that we imagine we are?

- Thoreau, Henry David

It is usually the imagination that is wounded first, rather than the heart; it being much more sensitive.

- Thoreau, Henry David

We can gradually grow into any condition we desire, provided we first make ourselves in habitual mental attitude the person who corresponds to those conditions.

- Troward, Thomas

You cannot depend on your judgments when your imagination is out of focus.

- Twain, Mark

Imagination is the pontoon bridge making way for the timid feet of reason.

- Unknown, Source

If you clearly and vividly IMAGINE yourself in the first person doing, being, having the things and qualities you truly want... then you will be using positive imagination to begin a change to fulfilling that image.

- Unknown, Source

You must pre-live the future... not re-live the past... and savor the moment.

- Unknown, Source

Great living starts with a picture held in the imagination, of what you would like to do or be.

- Unknown, Source

It is important to rely on your imagination for your sense of humor and your memory for your truths. Not the other way around.

- Unknown, Source

Anyone who thinks the sky is the limit, has limited imagination.

- Unknown, Source

Anything one man can imagine, other men can make real.

- Verne, Jules

Perhaps in a book review it is not out of place to note that the safety of the state depends on cultivating the imagination.

- Vizinczey, Stephen

I believe that there never was a creator of a philosophical system who did not confess at the end of his life that he had wasted his time. It must be admitted that the inventors of the mechanical arts have been much more useful to men than the inventors of syllogisms. He who imagined a ship towers considerably above him who imagined innate ideas.

- Voltaire

We are what we imagine ourselves to be.

- Vonnegut Jr., Kurt

Understand that you, yourself, are no more than the composite picture of all your thoughts and actions. In your relationships with others, remember the basic and critically important rule: If you want to be loved, be lovable. If you want respect, set a respectable example!

- Waitley, Denis

You have all the reason in the world to achieve your grandest dreams. Imagination plus innovation equals realization.

- Waitley, Denis

If you can imagine it, you can achieve it; if you can dream it, you can become it.

- Ward, William A.

Imagination is always the fabric of social life and the dynamic of history. The influence of real needs and compulsions, of real interests and materials, is indirect because the crowd is never conscious of it.

- Weil, Simone

Imagination and fiction make up more than three quarters of our life.

- Weil, Simone

Imagination is a quality given a man to compensate him for what he is not, and a sense of humor was provided to console him for what he is.

- Wilde, Oscar

What you see is what you get.

- Wilson, Flip

An idea is salvation by imagination.

- Wright, Frank Lloyd

First have being in your mind. Make real in your mind then bring that being into reality.

The genius is he who sees what is not yet and causes it to come to be.

- Zarlenga, Peter Nivio

The Chinese pianist Liu Chi Kung was imprisoned for seven years during the Cultural Revolution, during which time he had no access to a piano. When he returned to giving concerts again after he was released, his playing was better than ever. Asked how this was possible since he had not practice for seven years, he replied: I did practice, every day. I rehearsed every piece I had ever played, note by note, in my mind.

- Zilbergeld, Bernie



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