

Stoppard quote

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 26 Apr 2000

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Jeremy Crampton — 26 Apr 2000, 16:53

I've always liked this quote from Tom Stoppard ever since I read it in 1983:

"Meeting a friend in a corridor Wittgenstein said: 'Tell me, why do people always say it was *natural* for men to assume that the sun went round the earth, rather than that the earth was rotating?' His friend said, 'Well, obviously, because it *looks* as if the sun is going round the earth.' To which the philosopher replied, 'Well, what would it have looked like if it had looked as if the earth was rotating?'

--T. Stoppard, *Jumpers*

Jeremy W. Crampton <http://geog.gmu.edu> jcramp to at gmu.edu Dept. of Geography & Earth Science [MS 1E2] 'Tis true; there's magic in the web of it. George Mason University --Othello (III.iv.69) Fairfax, Va 22030