

Abraham Cowley

Quotes

*Men, Life, World, Lying, Book, Time, Night, Country, Doe, Wise, Art, Garden,
Past, Sleep, May, Humble, Cities, Running, House, Fate*

And I myself a Catholic will be, So far at least, great saint, to pray to thee. Hail, Bard triumphant! and some care bestow On us, the Poets militant below.

~Abraham Cowley

Life is an incurable disease.

~Abraham Cowley

For the whole world, without a native home, Is nothing but a prison of larger room.

~Abraham Cowley

Of all ills that one endures, hope is a cheap and universal cure.

~Abraham Cowley

Nothing is there to come, and nothing past, But an eternal Now does always last.

~Abraham Cowley

A mighty pain to love it is, And 'tis a pain that pain to miss; But, of all pains, the greatest pain Is to love, but love in vain.

~Abraham Cowley

Solitude can be used well by very few people. They who do must have a knowledge of the world to see the foolishness of it, and enough virtue to despise all the vanity.

~Abraham Cowley

I would not fear nor wish my fate, but boldly say each night, to-morrow let my sun his beams display, or in clouds hide them; I have lived today.

~Abraham Cowley

As for being much known by sight, and pointed out, I cannot

comprehend the honor that lies withal; whatsoever it be, every
mountebank has it more than the best doctor.

~Abraham Cowley

Nothing so soon the drooping spirits can raise As praises from the men,
whom all men praise.

~Abraham Cowley

The Sunflow'r, thinking 'twas for him foul shame To nap by daylight,
strove t' excuse the blame; It was not sleep that made him nod, he said,
But too great weight and largeness of his head.

~Abraham Cowley

Gold begets in brethren hate; Gold in families debate; Gold does
friendship separate; Gold does civil wars create.

~Abraham Cowley

May I a small house and large garden have; And a few friends, And
many books, both true.

~Abraham Cowley

Vain, weak-built isthmus, which dost proudly rise Up between two
eternities!

~Abraham Cowley

Stones of small worth may lie unseen by day, But night itself does the
rich gem betray.

~Abraham Cowley

This only grant me, that my means may lie, too low for envy, for
contempt to high.

~Abraham Cowley

Enjoy the present hour, Be thankful for the past, And neither fear nor

wish Th' approaches of the last.

~Abraham Cowley

Neither the praise nor the blame is our own.

~Abraham Cowley

s a scene of changes, and to be constant in Nature were inconstancy.

~Abraham Cowley

Curiosity does, no less than devotion, pilgrims make.

~Abraham Cowley

There have been fewer friends on earth than kings.

~Abraham Cowley

What a brave privilege is it to be free from all contentions, from all envying or being envied, from receiving or paying all kinds of ceremonies!

~Abraham Cowley

Lukewarmness I account a sin, as great in love as in religion.

~Abraham Cowley

Nay, in death's hand, the grape-stone proves As strong as thunder is in Jove's.

~Abraham Cowley

Thus each extreme to equal danger tends, Plenty, as well as Want, can sep'rate friends.

~Abraham Cowley

But what is woman? Only one of nature's agreeable blunders.

~Abraham Cowley

Who that has reason, and his smell, Would not among roses and
jasmin dwell?

~Abraham Cowley

The world's a scene of changes.

~Abraham Cowley

God the first garden made, and the first city Cain.

~Abraham Cowley

The present is an eternal now.

~Abraham Cowley

It is a hard and nice subject for a man to speak of himself: it grates his
own heart to say anything of disparagement, and the reader's ear to
hear anything of praise from him.

~Abraham Cowley

Who lets slip fortune, her shall never find: Occasion once past by, is
bald behind.

~Abraham Cowley

The present is all the ready money Fate can give.

~Abraham Cowley

Unbind the charms that in slight fables lie and teach that truth is truest
poesy.

~Abraham Cowley

Much will always wanting be To him who much desires.

~Abraham Cowley

All the world's bravery that delights our eyes is but thy several liveries.

~Abraham Cowley

The getting out of doors is the greatest part of the journey.

~Abraham Cowley

To be a husbandman, is but a retreat from the city; to be a philosopher, from the world; or rather, a retreat from the world, as it is man's, into the world, as it is God's.

~Abraham Cowley

Beauty, thou wild fantastic ape Who dost in every country change thy shape!

~Abraham Cowley

The monster London laugh at me.

~Abraham Cowley

Plenty, as well as Want, can separate friends.

~Abraham Cowley

I confess I love littleness almost in all things. A little convenient estate, a little cheerful house, a little company, and a little feast.

~Abraham Cowley

Hope! fortune's cheating lottery; when for one prize an hundred blanks there be!

~Abraham Cowley

His time's forever, everywhere his place.

~Abraham Cowley

Why to mute fish should'st thou thyself discover
And not to me, thy no less silent lover?

~Abraham Cowley

When Israel was from bondage led,
Led by the Almighty's hand
From out

of foreign land, The great sea beheld and fled.

~Abraham Cowley

Ah! Wretched and too solitary he who loves not his own company.

~Abraham Cowley

Sleep is a god too proud to wait in palaces, and yet so humble too as not to scorn the meanest country cottages.

~Abraham Cowley

Come, my best Friends! my Books! and lead me on.

~Abraham Cowley

His faith, perhaps, in some nice tenets might Be wrong; his life, I'm sure, was in the right.

~Abraham Cowley

Poets by Death are conquer'd but the wit Of poets triumphs over it.

~Abraham Cowley

All this world's noise appears to me a dull, ill-acted comedy!

~Abraham Cowley

Does not the passage of Moses and the Israelites into the Holy Land yield incomparably more poetic variety than the voyages of Ulysses or Aeneas?

~Abraham Cowley

There is some help for all the defects of fortune; for, if a man cannot attain to the length of his wishes, he may have his remedy by cutting of them shorter.

~Abraham Cowley

Life for delays and doubts no time does give, None ever yet made

haste enough to live.

~Abraham Cowley

Acquaintance I would have, but when it depends; not on number, but the choice of friends.

~Abraham Cowley

What shall I do to be for ever known, And make the age to come my own?

~Abraham Cowley

Build yourself a book-nest to forget the world without.

~Abraham Cowley

Hope is the most hopeless thing of all.

~Abraham Cowley

Man is too near all kinds of beasts,--a fawning dog, a roaring lion, a thieving fox, a robbing wolf, a dissembling crocodile, a treacherous decoy, and a rapacious vulture.

~Abraham Cowley

Fill the bowl with rosy wine, around our temples roses twine, And let us cheerfully awhile, like wine and roses, smile.

~Abraham Cowley

Thus would I double my life's fading space; For he that runs it well, runs twice his race.

~Abraham Cowley

Our yesterday's to-morrow now is gone, And still a new to-morrow does come on. We by to-morrow draw out all our store, Till the exhausted well can yield no more.

~Abraham Cowley

Books should, not Business, entertain the Light; And Sleep, as undisturb'd as Death, the Night.

~Abraham Cowley

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