

Algernon Charles Swinburne Quotes

*Life, Men, Heart, Hands, Kissing, Sleep, Spring, Sweet, Love, Dream, Flower,
Time, Light, Rain, Rose, Art, Sorrow, Fire, World, Pain*

Heart's ease of pansy, pleasure or thought, Which would the picture give us of these? Surely the heart that conceived it sought Heart's ease.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Body and spirit are twins: God only knows which is which.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Today will die tomorrow.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

White rose in red rose-garden Is not so white; Snowdrops, that plead for pardon And pine for fright Because the hard East blows Over their maiden vows, Grow not as this face grows from pale to bright.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Blossom by blossom the spring begins.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

I remember the way we parted, The day and the way we met; You hoped we were both broken-hearted And knew we should both forget.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

A little soul scarce fledged for earth Takes wing with heaven again for goal, Even while we hailed as fresh from birth A little soul.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

The tadpole poet will never grow into anything bigger than a frog.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

When the hounds of Spring are on winter's traces, The mother of months in meadow or plain Fills the shadows and windy places With lisp of leaves and ripple of rain.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Love, as is told by the seers of old, Comes as a butterfly tipped with gold, Flutters and flies in sunlit skies, Weaving round hearts that were one time cold.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

His life is a watch or a vision Between a sleep and a sleep.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

When I hear that a personal friend has fallen into matrimonial courses, I feel the same sorrow as if I had heard of his lapsing into theism â€” a holy sorrow, unmixed with anger.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

There is no God found stronger than death; and death is a sleep.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

And the best and the worst of this is That neither is most to blame, If you have forgotten my kisses And I have forgotten your name.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Yet leave me not; yet, if thou wilt, be free; love me no more, but love my love of thee.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

The highest spiritual quality, the noblest property of mind a man can have, is this of loyalty.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

To say of shame - what is it? Of virtue - we can miss it; Of sin-we can kiss it, And it's no longer sin.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

The sweetest flowers in all the world- A baby's hands.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Marvellous mercies and infinite love.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Where might is, the right is: Long purses make strong swords. Let weakness learn meekness: God save the House of Lords!

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Faith speaks when hope is disassembled; faith lives when hope dies dead.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Time turns the old days to derision, Our loves into corpses or wives.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Stately, kindly, lordly friend
Condescend Here to sit by me.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Love lies bleeding in the bed whereover
Roses lean with smiling mouths or pleading:
Earth lies laughing where the sun's dart clove her:
Love lies bleeding.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Wherever there is a grain of loyalty there is a glimpse of freedom.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

In hawthorn-time the heart grows light.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Thou has conquered, O pale Galilean.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

To have read the greatest works of any great poet, to have beheld or heard the greatest works of any great painter or musician, is a possession added to the best things of life.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Love is more cruel than lust.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

While three men hold together, the kingdoms are less by three.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Cold autumn, wan with wrath of wind and rain,
Saw pass a soul sweet
as the sovereign tune
That death smote silent when he smote again.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

No blast of air or fire of sun
Puts out the light whereby we run
With
girdled loins our lamplit race,
And each from each takes heart of grace
And spirit till his turn be done.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

There grows No herb of help to heal a coward heart.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Sorrow, on wing through the world for ever,
Here and there for awhile
would borrow
Rest, if rest might haply deliver
Sorrow.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

In fierce March weather
White waves break tether,
And whirled together
At either hand,
Like weeds uplifted,
The tree-trunks rifted
In spars are
drifted,
Like foam or sand.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

When fate has allowed to any man more than one great gift,
accident or
necessity seems usually to contrive that one shall encumber and
impede the other.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

If love were what the rose is, And I were like the leaf, Our lives would grow together In sad or singing weather.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

We are not sure of sorrow, And joy was never sure; Today will die tomorrow; Time stoops to no man's lure.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Love laid his sleepless head On a thorny rose bed: And his eyes with tears were red, And pale his lips as the dead.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

I shall sleep, and move with the moving ships, Change as the winds change, veer in the tide.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

The loves and hours of the life of a man, They are swift and sad, being born of the sea.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

There is no such thing as a dumb poet or a handless painter. The essence of an artist is that he should be articulate.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

In the world of dreams, I have chosen my part.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

His speech is a burning fire.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

There is no safety-net to protect against attraction.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Love, till dawn sunder night from day with fire Dividing my delight and

my desire.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Doubt is faith in the main: but faith, on the whole, is doubt; We cannot believe by proof: but could we believe without?

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

As a god self-slain on his own strange altar, Death lies dead.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

At the door of life by the gate of breath, There are worse things waiting for men than death.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

I that have love and no more Give you but love of you, sweet; He that hath more, let him give; He that hath wings, let him soar; Mine is the heart at your feet Here, that must love you to live.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Life is the lust of a lamp for the light that is dark till the dawn of the day that we die.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

The beast faith lives on its own dung.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Not with dreams, but with blood and with iron, Shall a nation be moulded at last.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Despair the twin-born of devotion.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

A baby's feet, like sea-shells pink Might tempt, should heaven see

meet, An angel's lips to kiss, we think, A baby's feet.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Let weakness learn meekness.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Fate is a sea without a shore, and the soul is a rock that abides.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Hope knows not if fear speaks truth, nor fear whether hope be blind as she.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Time stoops to no man's lure.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Ask nothing more of me sweet; All I can give you I give; Heart of my heart were it more, More would be laid at your feet.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

I have lived long enough, having seen one thing, that love hath an end

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Fear that makes faith may break faith.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

The delight that consumes the desire, The desire that outruns the delight.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

For winter's rains and ruins are over... And in Green under wood and cover Blossom by blossom the spring begins.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

For whom all winds are quiet as the sun,/ All waters as the shore.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

A young man with a very good past. [Fr., Un jeune homme d'un bien beau passe.]

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Our way is where God knows And Love knows where: We are in Love's hand to-day.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

But now, you are twain, you are cloven apart
Flesh of his flesh, but heart of my heart.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Thou hast conquered, O pale Galilean; the world has grown grey from thy breath;/ We have drunken of things Lethean, and fed on the fullness of death

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

There lived a singer in France of old
By the tideless dolorous midland sea.
In a land of sand and rain and gold
There shone one woman, and none but she.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Change lays not her hand upon truth.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Though one were fair as roses His beauty clouds and closes.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Who knows but on their sleep may rise
Such light as never heaven let through
To lighten earth from Paradise?

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Is not Precedent indeed a King of men? A Word from the Psalmist.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

There was a poor poet named Clough, Whom his friends all united to puff,
But the public, though dull, Had not such a skull As belonged to believers in Clough.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

For words divide and rend But silence is most noble till the end.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Forget that I remember And dream that I forget.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

In the world of dreams, I have chosen my part. To sleep for a season
and hear no word Of true love's truth or of light love's art, Only the song
of a secret bird.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Hope thou not much, and fear thou not at all.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

The sun is all about the world we see, the breath and strength of every
spring.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Before the beginning of years There came to the making of man Time
with a gift of tears, Grief with a glass that ran .

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

And lo, between the sundawn and the sun His day's work and his
night's work are undone: And lo, between the nightfall and the light, He
is not, and none knoweth of such an one.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

I will go back to the great sweet mother, Mother and lover of men, the sea. I will go down to her, I and no other, Close with her, kiss her and mix her with me.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Change lays her hand not upon the truth.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

On the mountains of memory by the world's wellsprings, in all man's eyes, where the light of life of him is on all past things, death only dies.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

Sleep; and if life was bitter to thee, pardon, If sweet, give thanks; thou hast no more to live; And to give thanks is good, and to forgive.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

I dore not always touch her, lest the kiss Leave my lips charred. Yea, Lord, a little bliss, Brief, bitter bliss, one hath for a great sin; Nathless thou knowest how sweet a thing it is.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

My loss may shine yet goodlier than your gain When Time and God give judgment.

~Algernon Charles Swinburne

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