

Angela Carter Quotes

*Men, Mother, Heart, Eye, Life, Literature, Book, Thinking, Country, Writing,
Women, Girl, Long, Father, Mean, Night, Children, Lovely, Years, Shadow*

In the mythic schema of all relations between men and women, man proposes, and woman is disposed of.

~Angela Carter

Nostalgia, the vice of the aged. We watch so many old movies our memories come in monochrome.

~Angela Carter

I think it's one of the scars in our culture that we have too high an opinion of ourselves. We align ourselves with the angels instead of the higher primates.

~Angela Carter

I haven't changed much, over the years. I use less adjectives, now, and have a kinder heart, perhaps.

~Angela Carter

I see her as a series of marvellous shapes formed at random in the kaleidoscope of desire.

~Angela Carter

What a joy it is to dance and sing!

~Angela Carter

Reading a book is like re-writing it for yourself. You bring to a novel, anything you read, all your experience of the world. You bring your history and you read it in your own terms.

~Angela Carter

We must all make do with the rags of love we find flapping on the scarecrow of humanity.

~Angela Carter

Language is power, life and the instrument of culture, the instrument of

domination and liberation.

~Angela Carter

If Miss means respectably unmarried, and Mrs. respectably married, then Ms. means nudge, nudge, wink, wink.

~Angela Carter

His wedding gift, clasped round my throat. A choker of rubies, two inches wide, like an extraordinarily precious slit throat.

~Angela Carter

Cities have sexes: London is a man, Paris a woman, and New York a well-adjusted transsexual.

~Angela Carter

Moonlight, white satin, roses. A bride.

~Angela Carter

A day without an argument is like an egg without salt.

~Angela Carter

Strangers used to gather together at the cinema and sit together in the dark, like Ancient Greeks participating in the mysteries, dreaming the same dream in unison.

~Angela Carter

Is not this world an illusion? And yet it fools everybody.

~Angela Carter

She stood lost in eternity wearing a crazy dress, watching the immense sky.

~Angela Carter

A book is simply the container of an idea-like a bottle; what is inside the

book is what matters.

~Angela Carter

The kind of power mothers have is enormous.

~Angela Carter

A mother is always a mother, since a mother is a biological fact, whilst a father is a movable feast.

~Angela Carter

I think the adjective post-modernist really means mannerist. Books about books is fun but frivolous.

~Angela Carter

Nostalgia, the vice of the aged.

~Angela Carter

Anxiety is the beginning of conscience, which is the parent of the soul but is not compatible with innocence.

~Angela Carter

She herself is a haunted house. She does not possess herself; her ancestors sometimes come and peer out of the windows of her eyes and that is very frightening. from "The Lady of the Haunted House

~Angela Carter

Not many people can boast a photo of their grandmother posing for kiddiporn.

~Angela Carter

Just because we're sisters under the skin doesn't mean we've got much in common.

~Angela Carter

Drosselmeier had unwittingly exposed himself to an overdose of reality, and it had destroyed his reason.

~Angela Carter

Your thin white face, chÃ©rie; he said, as if he saw it for the first time. Your thin white face, with its promise of debauchery only a connoisseur could detect.

~Angela Carter

There are lots of things that you can brush under the carpet about yourself until you're faced with somebody whose needs won't be put off.

~Angela Carter

At the best of times, spring hurts depressives.

~Angela Carter

Aeneas carried his aged father on his back from the ruins of Troy and so do we all, whether we like it or not, perhaps even if we have never known them.

~Angela Carter

Soon, nostalgia will be another name for Europe.

~Angela Carter

The bed is now as public as the dinner table and governed by the same rules of formal confrontation.

~Angela Carter

Comedy is tragedy that happens to other people.

~Angela Carter

The wolf is carnivore incarnate and he's as cunning as he is ferocious; once he's had a taste of flesh then nothing else will do.

~Angela Carter

The notion of a universality of human experience is a confidence trick and the notion of a universality of female experience is a clever confidence trick.

~Angela Carter

There is a striking resemblance between the act of love and the ministrations of a torturer.

~Angela Carter

It shone on everyone, whether they had a contract or not. The most democratic thing I'd ever seen, that California sunshine.

~Angela Carter

It's every woman's tragedy, that, after a certain age, she looks like a female impersonator. Mind you, we've known some lovely female impersonators, in our time.

~Angela Carter

Reading a book is like re-writing it for yourself.

~Angela Carter

Love is desire sustained by unfulfilment.

~Angela Carter

If the Barbarians are destroyed, who will we then be able to blame for the bad things?

~Angela Carter

Irish was a man of parts even if some of them didn't work too well.

~Angela Carter

In a secular age, an authentic miracle must purport to be a hoax, in

order to gain credit in the world.

~Angela Carter

Hollywood... was the place where the United States perpetrated itself as a universal dream and put the dream into mass production.

~Angela Carter

The child's laughter is pure until he first laughs at a clown.

~Angela Carter

Nothing is a matter of life and death except life and death.

~Angela Carter

It is far easier for a woman to lead a blameless life than it is for a man; all she has to do is to avoid sexual intercourse like the plague.

~Angela Carter

Women's sexy underwear is a minor but significant growth industry of late-twentieth-century Britain in the twilight of capitalism.

~Angela Carter

What would the daughters of the rich do with themselves if the poor ceased to exist?

~Angela Carter

To pin your hopes upon the future is to consign those hopes to a hypothesis, which is to say, a nothingness. Here and now is what we must contend with.

~Angela Carter

This lack of imagination gives his heroism to the hero.

~Angela Carter

Our fingernails match our toenails, match our lipstick match our

rouge...The habit of applying warpaint outlasts the battle.

~Angela Carter

I desire therefore I exist.

~Angela Carter

They were connoisseurs of boredom. They savoured the various bouquets of the subtly differentiated boredoms which rose from the long, wasted hours at the dead end of night.

~Angela Carter

In a world where women are commodities, a woman who refuses to sell herself will have the thing she refuses to sell taken away from her by force

~Angela Carter

Reciprocity of sensation is not possible because to share is to be robbed.

~Angela Carter

The end of exile is the end of being.

~Angela Carter

Sad; so sad, those smoky-rose, smoky-mauve evenings of late Autumn, sad enough to pierce the heart.

~Angela Carter

ordered me a sky from a florist

~Angela Carter

The clown may be the source of mirth, but - who shall make the clown laugh?

~Angela Carter

Those are the voices of my brothers, darling; I love the company of wolves.

~Angela Carter

He was a lovely man in many ways. But he kept on insisting on forgiving me when there was nothing to forgive.

~Angela Carter

Some cities are women and must be loved; others are men and can only be admired or bargained with

~Angela Carter

A broken heart is never a tragedy. Only untimely death is a tragedy.

~Angela Carter

How far does a pretence of feeling, maintained with absolute conviction, become authentic?

~Angela Carter

Proposition one: time is a man, space is a woman.

~Angela Carter

I think I want to be in love with you but I don't know how.

~Angela Carter

I had the brief notion that his heart, pressed flat as a flower, crimson and thin as tissue paper, lay in this file. It was a very thin one.

~Angela Carter

For hours, for days, for years, she had wandered endlessly within herself but never met anybody, nobody.

~Angela Carter

His main principles were indeed as follows: everything it is possible to

imagine can also exist.

~Angela Carter

It is, perhaps, a better thing to be valued only as an object of passion than never to be valued at all.

~Angela Carter

we must not blame our poor symbols if they take forms that seem trivial to us, or absurd, ... however paltry they may be; the nature of our life alone has determined their forms.

~Angela Carter

The lovely Hazard girls', they used to call them. Huh. Lovely is as lovely does; if they looked like what they behave like, they'd frighten little children.

~Angela Carter

I should have liked to have had him beside me in a glass coffin, so that I could watch him all the time and he would not have been able to get away from me.

~Angela Carter

I know that whenever a group of women are gathered together, the grandmother always makes a phantom appearance, hovering above them.

~Angela Carter

It may be the first in what I trust will be a rapidly growing and influential genre--the novel designed on purpose to be excluded from the Booker short-list.

~Angela Carter

The invisible is only another unexplored country, a brave new world.

~Angela Carter

The only time I ever iron the sheets or make meringues is when there is an ... urgent deadline in the offing.

~Angela Carter

I will tell you what Jeanne was like. She was like a piano in a country where everyone has had their hands cut off.

~Angela Carter

[T]ea, that uniquely English meal, that unnecessary collation at which no stimulants--neither alcohol nor meat--are served, that comforting repast of which to partake is as good as second childhood.

~Angela Carter

One beast and only one howls in the woods by night.

~Angela Carter

Before he can become a wolf, the lycanthrope strips naked. If you spy a naked man among the pines, you must run as if the Devil were after you.

~Angela Carter

Losing their names, these things underwent a process of uncreation.

~Angela Carter

Hope for the best, expect the worst.

~Angela Carter

Art need no longer be an account of past sensations.

~Angela Carter

Stars on our door, stars in our eyes, stars exploding in the bits of our brains where the common sense should have been

~Angela Carter

He is, I think, already pondering a magisterial project: that of bugging the English language, the ultimate revenge of the colonised.

~Angela Carter

Out of the frying pan into the fire! What is marriage but prostitution to one man instead of many? No different!

~Angela Carter

I drew the curtains to conceal the sight of my father's farewell; my spite was sharp as broken glass.

~Angela Carter

Pornography is a satire on human pretensions.

~Angela Carter

Among the monsters, I am well hidden; who looks for a leaf in a forest?

~Angela Carter

Midnight, and the clock strikes. It is Christmas Day, the werewolves birthday, the door of the solstice still wide enough open to let them all slink through.

~Angela Carter

The tiger will never lie down with the lamb; he acknowledges no pact that is not reciprocal. The lamb must learn to run with the tigers.

~Angela Carter

I am entirely alone. I and my shadow fill the universe.

~Angela Carter

Home is where the heart is and hence a movable feast.

~Angela Carter

There was a house we all had in common and it was called the past,

even though we'd lived in different rooms.

~Angela Carter

A fairy tale is the kind of story in which one king goes to another king to borrow a cup of sugar

~Angela Carter

Anticipation is the greater part of pleasure.

~Angela Carter

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