

Anton Chekhov Quotes

*Men, People, Writing, Thinking, Two, Lying, Artist, Art, Years, Literature, Mean,
Beautiful, Eye, Soul, Life, Inspirational, Happiness, Love, Heart, Dog*

Knowledge is of no value unless you put it into practice.

~Anton Chekhov

Any idiot can face a crisis - it's day to day living that wears you out.

~Anton Chekhov

Love, friendship and respect do not unite people as much as common hatred for something.

~Anton Chekhov

Do silly things. Foolishness is a great deal more vital and healthy than our straining and striving after a meaningful life.

~Anton Chekhov

Everything on earth is beautiful, everything -- except what we ourselves think and do when we forget the higher purposes of life and our own human dignity.

~Anton Chekhov

Don't tell me the moon is shining; show me the glint of light on broken glass.

~Anton Chekhov

The task of a writer is not to solve the problem but to state the problem correctly.

~Anton Chekhov

What a fine weather today! Can't choose whether to drink tea or to hang myself.

~Anton Chekhov

People should be beautiful in every way - in their faces, in the way they dress, in their thoughts, and in their innermost selves.

~Anton Chekhov

Life is given only once, and one wants to live it boldly, with full conscious and beauty.

~Anton Chekhov

When a person is born, he can embark on only one of three roads of life: if you go right, the wolves will eat you; if you go left, you'll eat the wolves; if you go straight, you'll eat yourself.

~Anton Chekhov

Doctors are just the same as lawyers; the only difference is that lawyers merely rob you, whereas doctors rob you and kill you too.

~Anton Chekhov

There is nothing more awful, insulting, and depressing than banality.

~Anton Chekhov

Lying is the same as alcoholism. Liars prevaricate even on their deathbeds.

~Anton Chekhov

Perhaps the feelings that we experience when we are in love represent a normal state. Being in love shows a person who he should be.

~Anton Chekhov

Only during hard times do people come to understand how difficult it is to be master of their feelings and thoughts.

~Anton Chekhov

You must trust and believe in people or life becomes impossible.

~Anton Chekhov

My love is like a stone tied round my neck; it's dragging me down to the bottom; but I love my stone. I can't live without it.

~Anton Chekhov

The snow has not yet left the earth but spring is already asking to enter your heart.

~Anton Chekhov

Let us learn to appreciate there will be times when the trees will be bare, and look forward to the time when we may pick the fruit.

~Anton Chekhov

The University brings out all abilities, including incapability.

~Anton Chekhov

Better a debauched canary than a pious wolf.

~Anton Chekhov

For God's sake, have some self-respect and do not run off at the mouth if your brain is out to lunch.

~Anton Chekhov

Moscow is a city that has much suffering ahead of it.

~Anton Chekhov

To Moscow, to Moscow, to Moscow!

~Anton Chekhov

Medicine is my lawful wife and literature my mistress; when I get tired of one, I spend the night with the other.

~Anton Chekhov

A man and a woman marry because both of them do not know what to do with themselves.

~Anton Chekhov

Everyone has the same God; only people differ.

~Anton Chekhov

The thirst for powerful sensations takes the upper hand both over fear and over compassion for the grief of others.

~Anton Chekhov

A good upbringing means not that you won't spill sauce on the tablecloth, but that you won't notice it when someone else does.

~Anton Chekhov

Everything should be first-rate in a person, his face, clothes, soul and thoughts.

~Anton Chekhov

Reason and justice tell me there's more love for humanity in electricity and steam than in chastity and vegetarianism.

~Anton Chekhov

No psychologist should pretend to understand what he does not understand... Only fools and charlatans know everything and understand nothing.

~Anton Chekhov

When a person expends the least amount of motion on one action, that is grace.

~Anton Chekhov

People don't notice whether it's winter or summer when they're happy.

~Anton Chekhov

Hypocrisy is a revolting, psychopathic state.

~Anton Chekhov

Satiation, like any state of vitality, always contains a degree of impudence, and that impudence emerges first and foremost when the sated man instructs the hungry one.

~Anton Chekhov

My own experience is that once a story has been written, one has to cross out the beginning and the end. It is there that we authors do most of our lying.

~Anton Chekhov

Wisdom.... comes not from age, but from education and learning.

~Anton Chekhov

The role of the artist is to ask questions, not answer them.

~Anton Chekhov

It's not a matter of old or new forms; a person writes without thinking about any forms, he writes because it flows freely from his soul.

~Anton Chekhov

The problem is that we attempt to solve the simplest questions cleverly, thereby rendering them unusually complex. One should seek the simple solution.

~Anton Chekhov

Be sure not to discuss your hero's state of mind. Make it clear from his actions.

~Anton Chekhov

A tree is beautiful, but what's more, it has a right to life; like water, the sun and the stars, it is essential. Life on earth is inconceivable without trees.

~Anton Chekhov

Common hypocrites pass themselves off as doves; political and literary hypocrites pose as eagles. But don't be fooled by their eagle-like appearance. These are not eagles, but rats or dogs.

~Anton Chekhov

Money, like vodka, turns a person into an eccentric.

~Anton Chekhov

We shall find peace. We shall hear angels, we shall see the sky sparkling with diamonds.

~Anton Chekhov

Try to reason about love, and you will lose your reason.

~Anton Chekhov

He is an emancipated thinker who is not afraid to write foolish things.

~Anton Chekhov

If I had listened to the critics I'd have died drunk in the gutter

~Anton Chekhov

When all is said and done, no literature can outdo the cynicism of real life; you won't intoxicate with one glass someone who has already drunk up a whole barrel.

~Anton Chekhov

He who desires nothing, hopes for nothing, and is afraid of nothing, cannot be an artist.

~Anton Chekhov

Only entropy comes easy.

~Anton Chekhov

I expect I shall be a student to the end of my days.

~Anton Chekhov

We learn about life not from plusses alone, but from minuses as well.

~Anton Chekhov

Calculating selfishness is the annihilation of self.

~Anton Chekhov

I have the feeling that I've seen everything, but failed to notice the elephants.

~Anton Chekhov

Description should be very brief and have an incidental nature.

~Anton Chekhov

Writers are as jealous as pigeons.

~Anton Chekhov

Life on earth is inconceivable without trees.

~Anton Chekhov

If there's any illness for which people offer many remedies, you may be sure that particular illness is incurable, I think.

~Anton Chekhov

Nothing can be accomplished by logic and ethics.

~Anton Chekhov

There are no small number of people in this world who, solitary by nature, always try to go back into their shell like a hermit crab or a snail.

~Anton Chekhov

When asked, "Why do you always wear black?", he said, "I am mourning for my life.

~Anton Chekhov

A woman can become a man's friend only in the following stages - first an acquaintance, next a mistress, and only then a friend.

~Anton Chekhov

Faith is an aptitude of the spirit. It is, in fact, a talent: you must be born with it.

~Anton Chekhov

The world is, of course, nothing but our conception of it.

~Anton Chekhov

Better to perish from fools than to accept praises from them.

~Anton Chekhov

The illusion which exalts us is dearer to us than ten thousand truths.

~Anton Chekhov

The secret of boring people lies in telling them everything.

~Anton Chekhov

I'm the seagull. No, that's not it. I'm an actress. That's it.

~Anton Chekhov

In nature a repulsive caterpillar turns into a lovely butterfly. But with human beings it is the other way round: a lovely butterfly turns into a repulsive caterpillar.

~Anton Chekhov

In all the universe nothing remains permanent and unchanged but the spirit.

~Anton Chekhov

You will not become a saint through other people's sins.

~Anton Chekhov

There is no national science, just as there is no national multiplication table; what is national is no longer science.

~Anton Chekhov

Three o'clock in the morning. The soft April night is looking at my windows and caressingly winking at me with its stars. I can't sleep, I am so happy.

~Anton Chekhov

Love, respect, and friendship do unite a people as well as a common hatred does.

~Anton Chekhov

..when one has no real life, one lives by mirages. It's still better than nothing.

~Anton Chekhov

One had better not rush, otherwise dung comes out rather than creative work.

~Anton Chekhov

I promise to be a splendid husband, but give me a wife who, like the moon, won't in my sky every day...

~Anton Chekhov

And only now, when he was gray-haired, had he fallen in love properly, thoroughly, for the first time in his life.

~Anton Chekhov

The personal life of every individual is based on secrecy, and perhaps it is partly for that reason that civilized man is so nervously anxious that personal privacy should be respected.

~Anton Chekhov

Narrative prose is a legal wife, while drama is a posturing, boisterous, cheeky and wearisome mistress.

~Anton Chekhov

People are far more sincere and good-humored at speeding their parting guests than on meeting them.

~Anton Chekhov

They say philosophers and wise men are indifferent. Wrong. Indifference is a paralysis of the soul, a premature death.

~Anton Chekhov

Without a knowledge of languages you feel as if you don't have a passport.

~Anton Chekhov

It is not only the prisoners who grow coarse and hardened from corporal punishment, but those as well who perpetrate the act or are present to witness it.

~Anton Chekhov

I don't understand anything about the ballet; all I know is that during the intervals the ballerinas stink like horses.

~Anton Chekhov

If you want to work on your art, work on your life.

~Anton Chekhov

The more simply we look at ticklish questions, the more placid will be our lives and relationships.

~Anton Chekhov

To regard one's immortality as an exchange of matter is as strange as predicting the future of a violin case once the expensive violin it held

has broken and lost its worth.

~Anton Chekhov

There should be more sincerity and heart in human relations, more silence and simplicity in our interactions. Be rude when you're angry, laugh when something is funny, and answer when you're asked.

~Anton Chekhov

The more refined one is, the more unhappy.

~Anton Chekhov

Life is difficult for those who have the daring to first set out on an unknown road. The avant-garde always has a bad time of it.

~Anton Chekhov

I divide all literary works into two categories: Those I like and those I don't like. No other criterion exists for me.

~Anton Chekhov

There is nothing more vulgar than a petty bourgeois life with its halfpence, its victuals, its futile talk, and its useless conventional virtue.

~Anton Chekhov

If in the first act you introduce a gun, by the third act you have to use it.

~Anton Chekhov

It's very hard, feeling that you're no more than a piece of unwanted furniture in this world.

~Anton Chekhov

One must be a god to be able to tell successes from failures without making a mistake.

~Anton Chekhov

To make a face from marble means to remove from the slab everything that is not the face

~Anton Chekhov

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