

# Ayn Rand Quotes

*Men, Mean, Thinking, Rights, People, Evil, Sacrifice, Philosophy, Life,  
Inspirational, Liberty, Mind, Reality, Giving, Government, Self, Fighting, Doe,  
Want, Self Esteem*

If the truth shall kill them, let them die.

~Ayn Rand

Potentially, a government is the most dangerous threat to man's rights: it holds a legal monopoly on the use of physical force against legally disarmed victims.

~Ayn Rand

The smallest minority on earth is the individual. Those who deny individual rights cannot claim to be defenders of minorities.

~Ayn Rand

The truth is not for all men, but only for those who seek it.

~Ayn Rand

When you see corruption being rewarded and honesty becoming a self-sacrifice, you may know that your society is doomed

~Ayn Rand

We can evade reality, but we cannot evade the consequences of evading reality

~Ayn Rand

So you think that money is the root of all evil. Have you ever asked what is the root of all money?

~Ayn Rand

Every aspect of Western culture needs a new code of ethics - a rational ethics - as a precondition of rebirth.

~Ayn Rand

You can ignore reality, but you can't ignore the consequences of ignoring reality.

~Ayn Rand

But I don't think of you. - Howard Roark

~Ayn Rand

A creative man is motivated by the desire to achieve, not by the desire to beat others.

~Ayn Rand

The question isn't who is going to let me; it's who is going to stop me.

~Ayn Rand

Money is only a tool. It will take you wherever you wish, but it will not replace you as the driver.

~Ayn Rand

Government 'help' to business is just as disastrous as government persecution... the only way a government can be of service to national prosperity is by keeping its hands off.

~Ayn Rand

The government was set to protect man from criminals, and the Constitution was written to protect man from the government.

~Ayn Rand

The ladder of success is best climbed by stepping on the rungs of opportunity.

~Ayn Rand

Racism is the lowest, most crudely primitive form of collectivism.

~Ayn Rand

Learn to value yourself, which means: fight for your happiness.

~Ayn Rand

Run for your life from any man who tells you that money is evil. That

sentence is the leper's bell of an approaching looter.

~Ayn Rand

The purpose of morality is to teach you, not to suffer and die, but to enjoy yourself and live.

~Ayn Rand

I would give the greatest sunset in the world for one sight of New York's skyline.

~Ayn Rand

Throughout the centuries there were men who took first steps, down new roads, armed with nothing but their own vision.

~Ayn Rand

Do not let your fire go out.

~Ayn Rand

Political freedom cannot exist without economic freedom; a free mind and a free market are corollaries.

~Ayn Rand

To demand 'sense' is the hallmark of nonsense. Nature does not make sense. Nothing makes sense.

~Ayn Rand

The difference between a welfare state and a totalitarian state is a matter of time.

~Ayn Rand

Civilization is the progress toward a society of privacy. The savage's whole existence is public, ruled by the laws of his tribe. Civilization is the process of setting man free from men.

~Ayn Rand

I owe nothing to my brothers, nor do I gather debts from them. I ask none to live for me, nor do I live for any others. I covet no man's soul, nor is my soul theirs to covet.

~Ayn Rand

The spread of evil is the symptom of a vacuum. Whenever evil wins, it is only by default: by the moral failure of those who evade the fact that there can be no compromise on basic principles.

~Ayn Rand

There are two sides to every issue: one side is right and the other is wrong, but the middle is always evil.

~Ayn Rand

Individual rights are not subject to a public vote; a majority has no right to vote away the rights of a minority.

~Ayn Rand

The skyline of New York is a monument of a splendour that no pyramids or palaces will ever equal or approach.

~Ayn Rand

In a capitalist society, all human relationships are voluntary. Men are free to cooperate or not, to deal with one another or not, as their own individual judgments, convictions and interests dictate.

~Ayn Rand

An irresponsible person is a person who makes vague promises, then breaks his word, blames it on circumstances and expects other people to forgive it.

~Ayn Rand

Live a life as a monument to your soul.

~Ayn Rand

Whoever claims the right to redistribute the wealth produced by others is claiming the right to treat human beings as chattel.

~Ayn Rand

Freedom (n.): To ask nothing. To expect nothing. To depend on nothing.

~Ayn Rand

Let no man posture as an advocate of peace if he proposes or supports any social system that initiates the use of force against individual men, in any form.

~Ayn Rand

Even if smog were a risk to human life, we must remember that life in nature, without technology, is wholesale death.

~Ayn Rand

To say 'I love you' one must first be able to say the 'I.'

~Ayn Rand

People are not embracing collectivism because they have accepted bad economics. They are accepting bad economics because they have embraced collectivism.

~Ayn Rand

Individualism regards man-every man-as an independent, sovereign entity who possesses an inalienable right to his own life, a right derived from his nature as a rational being.

~Ayn Rand

Man needs knowledge in order to survive, and only reason can achieve it; men who reject the responsibility of thought and reason, can exist only as parasites on the thinking of others.

~Ayn Rand

If any part of your uncertainty, is a conflict between your heart and your mind - follow your mind.

~Ayn Rand

If you don't know, the thing to do is not to get scared, but to learn.

~Ayn Rand

Any alleged 'right' of one man, which necessitates the violation of the rights of another, is not and cannot be a right.

~Ayn Rand

If one doesn't respect oneself one can have neither love nor respect for others.

~Ayn Rand

He liked to observe emotions; they were like red lanterns strung along the dark unknown of another's personality, marking vulnerable points.

~Ayn Rand

every man is free to rise as far as he's able or willing, but the degree to which he thinks determines the degree to which he'll rise.

~Ayn Rand

"Mediocrity" doesn't mean average intelligence, it means an average intelligence that resents and envies its betters.

~Ayn Rand

A society that robs an individual of the product of his effort ... is not strictly speaking a society, but a mob held together by institutionalized gang violence.

~Ayn Rand

The man who speaks to you of sacrifice, speaks of slaves and masters. And intends to be the master.

~Ayn Rand

The end does not justify the means. No one's rights can be secured by the violation of the rights of others.

~Ayn Rand

We are now moving towards complete collectivism or socialism, a system under which everybody is enslaved to everybody.

~Ayn Rand

What greater wealth is there than to own your life and to spend it on growing? Every living thing must grow. It can't stand still. It must grow or perish.

~Ayn Rand

If you tell an ugly woman that she is beautiful, you offer her the great homage of corrupting the concept of beauty.

~Ayn Rand

The man who does not value himself, cannot value anything or anyone.

~Ayn Rand

Everyone has the right to make his own decisions, but none has the right to force his decision on others.

~Ayn Rand

Serenity comes from the ability to say "Yes" to existence. Courage comes from the ability to say "No" to the wrong choices made by others.

~Ayn Rand

Identify the dominant philosophy of a society and you can predict its future.

~Ayn Rand

I consider promiscuity immoral. Not because sex is evil, but because sex is too good and too important.

~Ayn Rand

Words are a lens to focus one's mind.

~Ayn Rand

The only power any government has is the power to crack down on criminals. Well, when there aren

~Ayn Rand

The conservatives want to rule man's consciousness; the liberals, his body.

~Ayn Rand

To sell your soul is the easiest thing in the world. That's what everybody does every hour of his life. If I asked you to keep your soul - would you understand why that's much harder?

~Ayn Rand

We are born into this world unarmed - our mind is our only weapon.

~Ayn Rand

If a society is to be free, its government has to be controlled.

~Ayn Rand

Defiance, not obedience, is the American's answer to overbearing authority.

~Ayn Rand

The freedom of speech of private individuals includes the right to not agree, not to listen, and not to finance one's own antagonists.

~Ayn Rand

The world you desire can be won, it exists, it is real, it is possible, it is yours.

~Ayn Rand

No one's happiness but my own is in my power to achieve or to destroy.

~Ayn Rand

Every government interference in the economy consists of giving an unearned benefit, extorted by force, to some men at the expense of others.

~Ayn Rand

As we gain knowledge, we do not become more certain, we become certain of more.

~Ayn Rand

You can avoid reality, but you cannot avoid the consequences of avoiding reality.

~Ayn Rand

The evil of the world is made possible by nothing but the sanction you give it.

~Ayn Rand

Statism needs war; a free country does not. Statism survives by looting; a free country survives by producing.

~Ayn Rand

Do not ever say that the desire to 'do good' by force is a good motive. Neither power-lust nor stupidity are good motives.

~Ayn Rand

The hardest thing to explain is the glaringly evident which everybody had decided not to see.

~Ayn Rand

Creation comes before distribution -- or there will be nothing to distribute.

~Ayn Rand

In a free society, one does not have to deal with those who are irrational. One is free to avoid them.

~Ayn Rand

There is a level of cowardice lower than that of the conformist: the fashionable non-conformist.

~Ayn Rand

To arrive at a contradiction is to confess an error in one's thinking; to maintain a contradiction is to abdicate one's mind and to evict oneself from the realm of reality.

~Ayn Rand

A 'mixed economy' is a society in the process of committing suicide.

~Ayn Rand

I swear, by my life and my love of it, that I will never live for the sake of another man, nor ask another man to live for mine.

~Ayn Rand

The Argument from Intimidation is a confession of intellectual impotence.

~Ayn Rand

A man doesn't borrow pieces of his body. A building doesn't borrow hunks of its soul. Its maker gives it the soul and every wall, window and

stairway to express it.

~Ayn Rand

It is a free market that makes monopolies impossible.

~Ayn Rand

To be the kind of writer you want to be, you must first be the kind of thinker you want to be.

~Ayn Rand

A man's ego is the fountainhead of human progress.

~Ayn Rand

Thanksgiving is a typically American holiday...The lavish meal is a symbol of the fact that abundant consumption is the result and reward of production.

~Ayn Rand

Never think of pain or danger or enemies a moment longer than is necessary to fight them.

~Ayn Rand

I need no warrant for being, and no word of sanction upon my being. I am the warrant and the sanction.

~Ayn Rand

Civilization is the process of setting man free from men.

~Ayn Rand

Happiness is that state of consciousness which proceeds from the achievement of one's values.

~Ayn Rand

Wealth is the product of man's capacity to think.

~Ayn Rand

Collectivism is the ancient principle of savagery. ... Collectivism is not the 'New Order of Tomorrow.' It is the order of a very dark yesterday.

~Ayn Rand

A rational man never distorts or corrupts his own standards and judgment in order to appeal to the irrationality, stupidity, or dishonesty of others.

~Ayn Rand

When I disagree with a rational man, I let reality be our final arbiter; if I am right, he will learn; if I am wrong, I will; one of us will win, but both will profit.

~Ayn Rand

The essential characteristic of socialism is the denial of individual property rights.

~Ayn Rand

I got the idea [for Anthem's theme] in my school days, in Soviet Russia, when I heard all the vicious attacks on individualism, and asked myself what the world would be like if men lost the word 'I.'

~Ayn Rand

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