

Bette Davis

Quotes

Thinking, Men, People, Hollywood, Children, Stars, Actors, Life, Home, Acting, Art, Sex, Women, Inspiration, Wine, Love, Likes, Actresses, Movie, Believe

It's better to be hated for who you are, than to be loved for someone you're not. It's a sign of your worth sometimes, if you're hated by the right people.

~Bette Davis

You should never say bad things about the dead, you should only say good . . . Joan Crawford is dead. Good.

~Bette Davis

There comes a time in every woman's life when the only thing that helps is a glass of champagne.

~Bette Davis

Getting old is not for sissies.

~Bette Davis

Some young Hollywood starlets remind me of my grandmother's old farmhouse -- all painted up nice on the front side, a big swing on the backside, and nothing whatsoever in the attic.

~Bette Davis

You will never be happier than you expect. To change your happiness, change your expectation.

~Bette Davis

If everyone likes you, you're not doing it right.

~Bette Davis

A sure way to lose happiness, I found, is to want it at the expense of everything else.

~Bette Davis

If you've never been hated by your child, you've never been a parent.

~Bette Davis

My passions were all gathered together like fingers that made a fist. Drive is considered aggression today; I knew it then as purpose.

~Bette Davis

The key to life is accepting challenges. Once someone stops doing this, he's dead.

~Bette Davis

I'd marry again if I found a man who had fifteen million dollars, would sign over half to me, and guarantee that he'd be dead within a year.

~Bette Davis

I was thought to be 'stuck up.' I wasn't. I was just sure of myself. This is and always has been an unforgivable quality to the unsure.

~Bette Davis

There may be a heaven, but if Joan Crawford is there, I'm not going.

~Bette Davis

It's true we don't know what we've got until its gone, but we don't know what we've been missing until it arrives. Pleasure of love lasts but a moment, Pain of love lasts a lifetime.

~Bette Davis

Being called very, very difficult is the beginning of success. Until you're called very, very difficult you're really nobody at all.

~Bette Davis

You should know me well enough by now to know I don't ask for things I don't think I can get.

~Bette Davis

I want to die with my high heels on, still in action.

~Bette Davis

Pleasure of love lasts but a moment, Pain of love lasts a lifetime.

~Bette Davis

Basically, I believe the world is a jungle, and if it's not a bit of a jungle in the home, a child cannot possibly be fit to enter the outside world.

~Bette Davis

Life is the past, the present and the perhaps.

~Bette Davis

I am a woman meant for a man, but I never found a man who could compete.

~Bette Davis

If everybody likes you, you're pretty dull.

~Bette Davis

One begins to realize that one is getting old when the birthday candles weigh more than the cake.

~Bette Davis

I have been uncompromising, peppery, intractable, monomaniacal, tactless, volatile, and oftentimes disagreeable... I suppose I'm larger than life.

~Bette Davis

Old age is no place for sissies.

~Bette Davis

I have eyes like a bullfrog, a neck like an ostrich and long, limp hair. You just have to be good to survive with that equipment.

~Bette Davis

The male ego with few exceptions is elephantine to start with.

~Bette Davis

Good actors I've worked with all started out making faces in a mirror, and you keep making faces all your life.

~Bette Davis

Attempt the impossible in order to improve your work.

~Bette Davis

You know what I'm going to have on my gravestone? 'She did it the hard way.'

~Bette Davis

One can make more enemies as a female with a brain, I think.

~Bette Davis

May each of my grandsons know, at an early age, what his life's ambition is -- and may he be successful in his pursuit of that goal.

~Bette Davis

I wouldn't piss on Joan Crawford if she were on fire.

~Bette Davis

Never, never trust anyone who asks for white wine. It means they're phonies.

~Bette Davis

I do not regret one professional enemy I have made. Any actor who doesn't dare to make an enemy should get out of the business.

~Bette Davis

I often think that a slightly exposed shoulder emerging from a long satin nightgown packs more sex than two naked bodies in bed.

~Bette Davis

It's a rare man who can stand being around an intelligent woman, let alone married to her.

~Bette Davis

I'm the nicest goddamn dame that ever lived.

~Bette Davis

You know what nostalgia is, don't you? It's basically a matter of recalling the fun without reliving the pain.

~Bette Davis

It has been my experience that one cannot, in any shape or form, depend on human relations for lasting reward. It is only work that truly satisfies.

~Bette Davis

To fulfill a dream, to be allowed to sweat over lonely labor, to be given a chance to create, is the meat and potatoes of life. The money is the gravy.

~Bette Davis

There was more good acting at Hollywood parties than ever appeared on the screen.

~Bette Davis

People often become actresses because of something they dislike about themselves: They pretend they are someone else.

~Bette Davis

Acting should be bigger than life. Scripts should be bigger than life. It should all be bigger than life.

~Bette Davis

The secret of marriage is: separate bedrooms and separate bathrooms.

~Bette Davis

I was never very interested in boys - and there were plenty of them - vying with one another to see how many famous women they would get into the hay.

~Bette Davis

Success is built on disappointment, and disappointment is inherent in all success.

~Bette Davis

The out-of-work actor wears out more than shoe leather. The very sensibilities that make him an artist are shattered by the disregard he is shown as a human being.

~Bette Davis

Your luck is how you treat people.

~Bette Davis

It's a very independent male creature that lives alone, and a lot of independent females who live alone. It's all very sad but it's much easier for both sexes to do it this way nowadays.

~Bette Davis

You mustn't miss the moment. There's only one first sailing into Rio harbor.

~Bette Davis

One can be respected with the truth in Hollywood just as much as anywhere else you know or else I wouldn't have had a career.

~Bette Davis

The act of sex, gratifying as it may be, is God's joke on humanity. It is man's last desperate stand at superintendency.

~Bette Davis

Home is where you go to when you've nowhere to go.

~Bette Davis

Men become much more attractive when they start looking older. But it doesn't do much for women, though we do have an advantage: make-up.

~Bette Davis

Oh, don't let's ask for the moon. We've already got the stars.

~Bette Davis

Fasten your seat belts, it's going to be a bumpy night! - As Margo Channing in All About Eve

~Bette Davis

An affair now and then is good for a marriage. It adds spice, stops it from getting boring... I ought to know.

~Bette Davis

I will never be below the title.

~Bette Davis

If everybody likes you, you are not a very interesting person.

~Bette Davis

[On gay men:] Let me say, a more artistic, appreciative group of people for the arts does not exist ... They are more knowledgeable, more loving of the arts. They make the average male look stupid.

~Bette Davis

In this business, until you're known as a monster you're not a star.

~Bette Davis

If Hollywood didn't work out, I was prepared to be the best secretary in the world.

~Bette Davis

Among the reasons marriages fail, sex ranks no higher than fourth, behind money, having only one bathroom, and an inability to communicate, reasons one, two and three.

~Bette Davis

Locations are all tough, all miserable. I never left the sound stage for 18 years at Warners. We never went outside the studio, not even for big scenes.

~Bette Davis

I'd luv to kiss ya, but I just washed my hair.

~Bette Davis

If you want a thing done well, get a couple of old broads to do it.

~Bette Davis

The best time I ever had with Joan Crawford was when I pushed her down the stairs in *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?*

~Bette Davis

Hollywood always wanted me to be pretty, but I fought for realism.

~Bette Davis

Sex is God's joke on human beings.

~Bette Davis

The only way you can become a legend is in your coffin

~Bette Davis

Yes, burn your bridges.

~Bette Davis

I didn't forget your breakfast. I didn't bring your breakfast. Because you didn't eat your din-din.

~Bette Davis

The world's all full of thoughts about wars and space, and tragedies to the world. That's what writers are thinking about because that's what the world is thinking about.

~Bette Davis

We movie stars all end up by ourselves. Who knows? Maybe we want to.

~Bette Davis

Everybody has a heart. Except some people.

~Bette Davis

She did it the hard way.

~Bette Davis

I never said anything that was unprintable. Never said anything just for the sake of being startling.

~Bette Davis

I've always liked men better than women.

~Bette Davis

I've lost my faith in science.

~Bette Davis

Without wonder and insight, acting is just a trade. With it, it becomes creation.

~Bette Davis

I would take a bad script and a good director any day against a good script and a bad director.

~Bette Davis

I've been lucky. I'll be lucky again.

~Bette Davis

With the newspaper strike on, I wouldn't consider dying.

~Bette Davis

I never did pal around with actresses. Their talk usually bored me to tears.

~Bette Davis

Gay Liberation? I ain't against it, it's just that there's nothing in it for me.

~Bette Davis

I may not have been wearing a mink coat, but I was traveling with a dog. That should have made you think I was an actress!

~Bette Davis

Almost as many inhumanities are committed in the name of love as in the name of religion.

~Bette Davis

She's the original good time who was had by all.

~Bette Davis

Success only breeds a new goal

~Bette Davis

I survived because I was tougher than anybody else.

~Bette Davis

There is a certain ecstasy in wanting things you can't get.

~Bette Davis

Pray to God and say the lines.

~Bette Davis

Strong women only marry weak men.

~Bette Davis

I was thought to be "stuck up." I wasn't. I was just sure of myself.

~Bette Davis

I am doomed to an eternity of compulsive work. No set goal achieved satisfies. Success only breeds a new goal. The golden apple devoured has seeds. It is endless.

~Bette Davis

I think men have got to change an awful lot. They still prefer the little woman.

~Bette Davis

I was the female Marlon Brando of my generation.

~Bette Davis

I have been at war from the beginning. I've never looked back before. I've never had the time and it has always seemed so dangerous. To look back is to relax one's vigil.

~Bette Davis

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