

# Catherine the Great Quotes

*Men, People, Want, Writing, Heart, Blame, May, Power, Witty, Change, Praise,  
Rewards, Doe, Wit, Temptation, Feelings, Opinion, Gentle, Faster, Grants*

Happiness and unhappiness are in the heart and spirit of each one of us: If you feel unhappy, then place yourself above that and act so that your happiness does not get to be dependent on anything.

~Catherine the Great

You philosophers are lucky men. You write on paper and paper is patient. Unfortunate Empress that I am, I write on the susceptible skins of living beings.

~Catherine the Great

In politics a capable ruler must be guided by circumstances, conjectures and conjunctions.

~Catherine the Great

Nothing is more difficult, in my opinion, than to avoid something that fundamentally attracts you.

~Catherine the Great

The more a man knows, the more he forgives.

~Catherine the Great

I sincerely want peace, not because I lack resources for war, but because I hate bloodshed.

~Catherine the Great

A great wind is blowing, and that gives you either imagination or a headache.

~Catherine the Great

One does not always do the best there is. One does the best one can.

~Catherine the Great

it is better to inspire a reform than to enforce it.

~Catherine the Great

Power without a nation's confidence is nothing.

~Catherine the Great

I am one of the people who love the why of things.

~Catherine the Great

I shall be an autocrat: that's my trade. And the good Lord will forgive me: that's his.

~Catherine the Great

I may be kindly, I am ordinarily gentle, but in my line of business I am obliged to will terribly what I will at all.

~Catherine the Great

I beg you take courage; the brave soul can mend even disaster.

~Catherine the Great

I like to praise and reward loudly, to blame quietly.

~Catherine the Great

Don't worry about things you cannot alter

~Catherine the Great

the title of Queen rang sweet to my ears, child though I was. ... This idea of a crown began running in my head then like a tune, and has been running a lot in it ever since.

~Catherine the Great

You were in a mood to quarrel. Please inform me once the inclination passes.

~Catherine the Great

you must be gay; only thus can life be endured. I speak from experience for I have had to endure much, and have only been able to

endure it because I have always laughed whenever I had the chance.

~Catherine the Great

I cannot live one day without love.

~Catherine the Great

If I may venture to be frank I would say about myself that I was every inch a gentleman.

~Catherine the Great

God, grant us our desires, and grant them quickly.

~Catherine the Great

[On Peter III:] He did not have a bad heart; but a weak man usually has not.

~Catherine the Great

I will live to make myself not feared.

~Catherine the Great

bad news travels faster than good.

~Catherine the Great

Tell a thousand people to draft a letter, let them debate every phrase, and see how long it takes and what you get.

~Catherine the Great

If Russians knew how to read, they would write me off.

~Catherine the Great

All punishments by which the human body might be maimed are barbarism.

~Catherine the Great

self-interest usually brings injustice with it.

~Catherine the Great

Your wits make others witty.

~Catherine the Great

The most sure, but at the same time the most difficult expedient to mend the morals of the people, is a perfect system of education.

~Catherine the Great

Praise is the only gift for which people are really grateful. Marguerite, Countess of Blessington I praise loudly; I blame softly.

~Catherine the Great

Men make love more intensely at 20, but make love better, however, at 30.

~Catherine the Great

I praise loudly and I blame softly.

~Catherine the Great

In my position you have to read when you want to write and to talk when you would like to read.

~Catherine the Great

I do not love strife, because I have always found that in the end each remains of the same opinion.

~Catherine the Great

What right can give anyone authority to inflict torture upon a citizen when it is still unknown whether he is innocent or guilty?

~Catherine the Great

The use of torture is contrary to sound judgment and common sense.

Humanity itself cries out against it, and demands it to be utterly abolished.

~Catherine the Great

Your wit makes others witty.

~Catherine the Great

I like to praise and reward in a loud voice and to scold in a whisper.

~Catherine the Great

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