

Charlotte Perkins Gilman Quotes

*Men, Mother, Children, Home, Atheism, Thinking, Believe, Mind, Soul, People,
Evil, House, Work, Years, Sex, Facts, Religious, Feelings, Peace, Hot*

When all usefulness is over, when one is assured of an unavoidable and imminent death, it is the simplest of human rights to choose a quick and easy death in place of a slow and horrible one.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Life is a verb, not a noun.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

We grovel and "worship" and pray to God to do what we ourselves ought to have done a thousand years ago, and can do now, as soon as we choose.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

The labor of women in the house, certainly, enables men to produce more wealth than they otherwise could; and in this way women are economic factors in society. But so are horses.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

To swallow and follow, whether old doctrine or new propaganda, is a weakness still dominating the human mind.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Love grows by service.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Eternity is not something that begins after you are dead. It is going on all the time.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

If a woman is really injured by her marriage, she should sue under the employer liability act. She should claim damages--not alimony.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

A man's honor always seems to want to kill a woman to satisfy it.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

I used to lie awake as a child and get more entertainment and terror out of blank walls and plain furniture than most children could find in a toy-store.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

When the mother of the race is free, we shall have a better world, by the easy right of birth and by the calm, slow, friendly forces of evolution.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

It would have saved trouble had I remained Perkins from the first, this changing of women's names is a nuisance we are now happily outgrowing.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

In New York City, everyone is an exile, none more so than the Americans.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

The first duty of a human being is to assume the right functional relationship to society - more briefly, to find your real job, and do it.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

But reason has no power against feeling, and feeling older than history is no light matter.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Only as we live, think, feel, and work outside the home, do we become humanly developed, civilized, socialized.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

What would have been the effect upon religion if it had come to us

through the minds of women?

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

The time is approaching when we shall consider it abhorrent to our civilization to allow a human being to die in prolonged agony which we should mercifully end in any other creature.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

The softest, freest, most pliable and changeful living substance is the brain-the hardest and most iron-bound as well.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Maternal instinct, merely as an instinct, is unworthy of our superstitious reverence.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

The most familiar facts are often hardest to understand.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Death? Why this fuss about death? Use your imagination, try to visualize a world without death! Death is the essential condition of life, not an evil.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Concepts antedate facts.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Never in all her life had she imagined that this idolized millinery could look, to those who paid for it, like the decorations of an insane monkey.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Exciting literature after supper is not the best digestive.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

The people people have for friends Your common sense appall
But the people people marry Are the queerest folk of all.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Through it [literature] we know the past, govern the present, and influence the future.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Death is the essential condition of life, not an evil.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

A concept is stronger than a fact.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

The women who do the most work get the least money, and the women who have the most money do the least work.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Said I, in scorn all burning hot, In rage and anger high, "You ignominious idiot, Those wings are made to fly!

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

A house does not need a wife any more than it needs a husband.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Until we see what we are, we cannot take steps to become what we should be.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

What we do modifies us more than what is done to us.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

In a sick society, women who have difficulty fitting in are not ill but demonstrating a healthy and positive response.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Now why should that man have fainted? But he did, and right across my path by the wall, so that I had to creep over him every time!

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

The home is a human institution. All human institutions are open to improvement.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

A normal feminine influence in recasting our religious assumptions will do more than any other one thing to improve the world.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

It is the same woman, I know, for she is always creeping, and most women do not creep by daylight.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

The one predominant duty is to find one's work and do it.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

However, one cannot put a quart in a pint cup.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Let us inquire what glory there was in an omnipotent being torturing forever a puny little creature who could in no way defend himself? Would it be to the glory of a man to fry ants?

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

One religion after another has accepted and perpetuated man's original mistake in making a private servant of the mother of the race.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Audiences are always better pleased with a smart retort, some joke or

epigram, than with any amount of reasoning.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

California is a state peculiarly addicted to swift enthusiasms. It is a seed-bed of all manner of cults and theories, taken up, and dropped, with equal speed.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

The best proof of man's dissatisfaction with the home is found in his universal absence from it.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

And woman should stand beside man as the comrade of his soul, not the servant of his body.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

But we were made to believe and not allowed to think. We were told to obey, rather than to experiment and investigate.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

It will be a great thing for the human soul when it finally stops worshipping backwards.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

I do not want to be a fly, I want to be a worm!

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

There was a time when Patience ceased to be a virtue. It was long ago.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

There should be an end to the bitterness of feeling which has arisen between the sexes in this century.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

If fifty men did all the work, / And gave the price to five, / And let those five make all the rules - / You'd say the fifty men were fools, / Unfit to be alive.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

There's heaven. There it is. What more do we mean? People, free to come together, and in beauty - for growth.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

(I would not say it to a living soul, of course, but this is dead paper and a great relief to my mind

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

While we flatter ourselves that things remain the same, they are changing under our very eyes from year to year, from day to day.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

There are things in that paper that nobody knows but me, or ever will.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Fine blunderers in ethics we are, so generally conveying to children the basic impression that pleasantness must be wrong, and right doing unpleasant!

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

The mother- poor invaded soul- finds even the bathroom door no bar to hammering little hands.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

But I MUST say what I feel and think in some way â€” it is such a relief! But the effort is getting to be greater than the relief.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

In great cities where people of ability abound, there is always a feverish

urge to keep ahead, to set the pace, to adopt each new fashion in thought and theory as well as in dress - or undress.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

I ran against a Prejudice that quite cut off the view.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

As for mother Eve - I wasn't there and can't deny the story, but I will say this. If she brought evil into the world, we men have had the lion's share of keeping it going ever since.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

It is not for nothing that a man's best friends sigh when he marries, especially if he is a man of genius.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Not woman, but the condition of woman, has always been a doorway of evil.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

I was climbing up a mountain-path
With many things to do, Important
business of my own, And other people's too,
When I ran against a
Prejudice That quite cut off the view.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Legitimate sex-competition brings out all that is best in man.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

We have built into the constitution of the human race the habit and desire of taking, as divorced from its natural precursor and concomitant of making.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

To be surrounded by beautiful things has much influence upon the

human creature; to make beautiful things has more.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

At any given period in history the ideas of the common mind are found to antedate the facts. The facts of the twentieth century are approached with the ideas, feelings, prejudices of the tenth.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

In business life, that is, in its material processes, we eagerly accept the new. In social life, in all our social processes, we piously, valiantly, obdurately, maintain the old.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

I'm sure I never used to be so sensitive. I think it is due to this nervous condition.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

The difference is great between one's outside "life," the things which happen to one, incidents, pains and pleasures, and one's "living."

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Woman" in the abstract is young, and, we assume, charming. As they get older they pass off the stage, somehow, into private ownership mostly, or out of it altogether.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Specialization and organization are the basis of human progress.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

A family unity which is only bound together with a table-cloth is of questionable value.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

I cry at nothing, and cry most of the time.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

The home is the centre and circumference, the start and the finish, of most of our lives.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Where young boys plan for what they will achieve and attain, young girls plan for whom they will achieve and attain.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

This is the woman's century, the first chance for the mother of the world to rise to her full place . . . and the world waits while she powders her nose.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

To attain happiness in another world we need only to believe something, while to secure it in this world we must do something.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

I have preferred chloroform to cancer

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

The female of genus homo is economically dependent on the male. He is her food supply.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

To speak broadly, the troubles of life as we find them are mainly traceable to the heart or the purse.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Until mothers earn their livings, women will not

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

A man does not have to stay at home all day, in order to love it; why

should a woman?

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

The world is quite right. It does not have to be consistent.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

For men obsessed with women's underwear, a course in washing, ironing and mending is recommended.

~Charlotte Perkins Gilman

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