Daphne du Maurier Quotes

People, Men, Eye, Fall, World, Book, Writing, Giving, Mind, Children, Sleep, Names, Past, Talent, Wall, Forever, Long, Firsts, Running, Hands But luxury has never appealed to me, I like simple things, books, being alone, or with somebody who understands.

~Daphne du Maurier

Happiness is not a possession to be prized, it is a quality of thought, a state of mind.

~Daphne du Maurier

Men are simpler than you imagine my sweet child. But what goes on in the twisted, tortuous minds of women would baffle anyone.

~Daphne du Maurier

We are all ghosts of yesterday, and the phantom of tomorrow awaits us alike in sunshine or in shadow, dimly perceived at times, never entirely lost.

~Daphne du Maurier

I wish I was a woman of about thirty-six dressed in black satin with a string of pearls.

~Daphne du Maurier

Women want love to be a novel, men a short story.

~Daphne du Maurier

A dreamer, I walked enchanted, and nothing held me back.

~Daphne du Maurier

Life was a series of greetings and farewells, one was always saying good-bye to something, to someone.

~Daphne du Maurier

I am glad it cannot happen twice, the fever of first love. For it is a fever, and a burden, too, whatever the poets may say.

The point is, life has to be endured, and lived. But how to live it is the problem.

~Daphne du Maurier

There is no going back in life. There is no return. No second chance.

~Daphne du Maurier

Writers should be read, but neither seen nor heard.

~Daphne du Maurier

I wondered why it was that places are so much lovelier when one is alone.

~Daphne du Maurier

Writing every book is like a purge; at the end of it one is empty ... like a dry shell on the beach, waiting for the tide to come in again.

~Daphne du Maurier

Because I want to; because I must; because now and forever more this is where I belong to be.

~Daphne du Maurier

I suppose sooner or later in the life of everyone comes a moment of trial. We all of us have our particular devil who rides us and torments us, and we must give battle in the end.

~Daphne du Maurier

Nothing like a cup of tea to make a person feel better, man or woman. ~Daphne du Maurier

Come and see us if you feel like it,' she said. 'I always expect people to ask themselves. Life is too short to send out invitations.

I had build up false pictures in my mind and sat before them. I had never had the courage to demand the truth.

~Daphne du Maurier

All autobiography is self-indulgent.

~Daphne du Maurier

Every moment was a precious thing, having in it the essence of finality. ~Daphne du Maurier

no person will ever get into my blood as a place can ... People and things pass away, but not places.

~Daphne du Maurier

Here was the freedom I desired, long sought-for, not yet known Freedom to write, to walk, to wander, freedom to climb hills, to pull a boat, to be alone.

~Daphne du Maurier

People who mattered could not take the humdrum world. But this was not the world, it was enchantment; and all of it was mine.

~Daphne du Maurier

A bad workman blames his tools.

~Daphne du Maurier

Looking from the window at the fantastic light and colour of my glittering fairy-world of fact that holds no tenderness, no quietude, I long suddenly for peace, for understanding.

~Daphne du Maurier

How lacking in intuition men could be in persuading themselves that mending some stranger's socks, and attending to his comfort, could content a woman. ~Daphne du Maurier

Boredom is a pleasing antidote for fear

~Daphne du Maurier

Why, he wondered, should he remember her suddenly, on such a day, watching the rain falling on the apple trees?

~Daphne du Maurier

How simple life becomes when things like mirrors are forgotten.

~Daphne du Maurier

I have no talent for making new friends, but oh such genius for fidelity to old ones.

~Daphne du Maurier

Will you look into my eyes and tell me that you love me now?

~Daphne du Maurier

The trouble is, walking in Venice becomes compulsive once you start. Just over the next bridge, you say, and then the next one beckons. ~Daphne du Maurier

We're not meant for happiness, you and I.

~Daphne du Maurier

A familiar name on its own, however, does not carry its bearer far unless the talent is there, and the will to work.

~Daphne du Maurier

...but I should say that kindliness, and sincerity, and if I may say so--modesty--are worth far more to a man, to a husband, than all the wit and beauty in the world.

Living as we do in an age of noise and bluster, success is now measured accordingly. We must all be seen, and heard, and on the air. ~Daphne du Maurier

When one is writing a novel in the first person, one must be that person.

~Daphne du Maurier

I could not ask forgiveness for something I had not done. As scapegoat, I could only bear the fault.

~Daphne du Maurier

You had to endure something yourself before it touched you.

~Daphne du Maurier

...the routine of life goes on, whatever happens, we do the same things, go through the little performance of eating, sleeping, washing. No crisis can break through the crust of habit.

~Daphne du Maurier

If you think I'm one of the people who try to be funny at breakfast you're wrong. I'm invariably illtempered in the early morning.

~Daphne du Maurier

Last night I dreamt I went to Manderley again.

~Daphne du Maurier

And I don't like books which are full of name dropping.

~Daphne du Maurier

I held out my arms to him and he came to me like a child.

~Daphne du Maurier

So you see, when war comes to one's village, one's doorstep, it isn't

tragic and impersonal any longer. It is just an excuse to vomit private hatred. That is why I am not a great patriot.

~Daphne du Maurier

No, Mary had no illusions about romance. Falling in love was a pretty name for it, that was all.

~Daphne du Maurier

I would not be young again, if you offered me the world. But then I'm prejudiced.' 'You talk,' I said, 'as if you were ninety-nine.' 'For a woman I very nearly am,' she said. 'I'm thirty five.

~Daphne du Maurier

â€lyou guessed that somewhere, in heaven knew what country and what guise, there was someone who was part of your body and your brain, and that without him you were lost, a straw blown by the wind. ~Daphne du Maurier

If there's one thing that makes a man sick, it's to have his ale poured out of an ugly hand.

~Daphne du Maurier

I felt rather exhausted, and wondered, rather shocked at my callous thought, why old people were sometimes such a strain. Worse than young children or puppies because one had to be polite.

~Daphne du Maurier

He stole horses' you'll say to yourself, 'and he didn't care for women; and but for my pride I'd have been with him now.

~Daphne du Maurier

I would have gone too but I wanted to come straight back to you. I kept thinking of you, waiting here, all by yourself, not knowing what was going to happen.

~Daphne du Maurier

there's something about Paris that gives you a mental slap all the time, and you can't just sit still and do nothing. You've got to work, to keep up with the pace, the sting in the atmosphere.

~Daphne du Maurier

... and through it all and afterwards they would be together, making their own world where nothing mattered but the things they could give to one another, the loveliness, the silence, and the peace. ~Daphne du Maurier

I believe there is a theory that men and women emerge finer and stronger after suffering, an that to advance in this or any world we must endure ordeal by fire." (From Rebecca)

~Daphne du Maurier

It wouldn't make for sanity would it, living with the devil.

~Daphne du Maurier

I thought of all those heroines of fiction who looked pretty when they cried, and what a contrast I must make with a blotched and swollen face, and red rims to my eyes.

~Daphne du Maurier

She knew that this was happiness, this was living as she had always wished to live.

~Daphne du Maurier

Dead men tell no tales, Mary.

~Daphne du Maurier

Time will mellow it, make it a moment for laughter. But now it was not funny, now I did not laugh. It was not the future, it was the present. It

was too vivid and too real. ~Daphne du Maurier

From the very first, I knew that it would be so...I smiled to myself, and said, "That -- and none other.

~Daphne du Maurier

All whispers and echoes from a past that is gone teem into the sleeper's brain, and he is with them, and part of them.

~Daphne du Maurier

Watch that boy. He's going to startle somebody someday. ~Daphne du Maurier

Either you go to America with Mrs. Van Hopper or you come home to Manderley with me." "Do you mean you want a secretary or something?" "No, I'm asking you to marry me, you little fool. ~Daphne du Maurier

Life and death do not wait for legal action.

~Daphne du Maurier

People who travel are always fugitives.

~Daphne du Maurier

When she smiled it was as though she embraced the world.

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