

# Dorothy Parker Quotes

*Book, People, Writing, Men, Thinking, Two, Art, Heart, Love, Funny, Fun,  
Women, Hands, Reading, Eye, Running, Age, Home, Would Be, Nice*

Of course I talk to myself. I like a good speaker, and I appreciate an intelligent audience.

~Dorothy Parker

The first thing I do in the morning is brush my teeth and sharpen my tongue.

~Dorothy Parker

The only dependable law of life - everything is always worse than you thought it was going to be.

~Dorothy Parker

Creativity is a wild mind and a disciplined eye.

~Dorothy Parker

I like to have a martini/Two at the very most/After three I'm under the table/After four I'm under my host.

~Dorothy Parker

Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician.

~Dorothy Parker

Men seldom make passes at girls who wear glasses.

~Dorothy Parker

If you want to know what God thinks about money, just look at the people He gives it to.

~Dorothy Parker

Never throw mud: you can miss the target, but your hands will remain dirty.

~Dorothy Parker

Years are only garments, and you either wear them with style all your

life, or else you go dowdy to the grave.

~Dorothy Parker

If you wear a short enough skirt, the party will come to you.

~Dorothy Parker

Brevity is the soul of lingerie.

~Dorothy Parker

You can't teach an old dogma new tricks.

~Dorothy Parker

I hate writing, I love having written.

~Dorothy Parker

If you don't have anything nice to say, come sit by me.

~Dorothy Parker

The cure for boredom is curiosity. There is no cure for curiosity.

~Dorothy Parker

I'm not a writer with a drinking problem, I'm a drinker with a writing problem.

~Dorothy Parker

I require only three things of a man. He must be handsome, ruthless and stupid.

~Dorothy Parker

Q: What's the difference between an enzyme and a hormone? A: You can't hear an enzyme.

~Dorothy Parker

Every year, back comes Spring, with nasty little birds yapping their fool

heads off and the ground all mucked up with plants.

~Dorothy Parker

You can lead a horticulture, but you can't make her think.

~Dorothy Parker

If love is blind, why is lingerie so popular?

~Dorothy Parker

There's a hell of a distance between wisecracking and wit. Wit has truth in it; wisecracking is simply calisthenics with words.

~Dorothy Parker

Those who have mastered etiquette, who are entirely, impeccably right, would seem to arrive at a point of exquisite dullness.

~Dorothy Parker

A hangover is the wrath of grapes.

~Dorothy Parker

Take me or leave me; or, as is the usual order of things, both.

~Dorothy Parker

I was the toast of two continents: Greenland and Australia.

~Dorothy Parker

That would be a good thing for them to cut on my tombstone: Wherever she went, including here, it was against her better judgment.

~Dorothy Parker

Love is like quicksilver in the hand. Leave the fingers open and it stays. Clutch it and it darts away.

~Dorothy Parker

I can't write five words but that I change seven.

~Dorothy Parker

This is not a novel to be tossed aside lightly. It should be thrown with great force.

~Dorothy Parker

Four be the things I'd have been better without: love, curiosity, freckles and doubt.

~Dorothy Parker

If you looked for things to make you feel hurt and wretched and unnecessary, you were certain to find them.

~Dorothy Parker

Ducking for apples -- change one letter and it's the story of my life.

~Dorothy Parker

If all the young ladies who attended the Yale promenade dance were laid end to end, no one would be the least surprised.

~Dorothy Parker

Oh, life is a glorious cycle of song, a medley of extemporanea, And love is a thing that can never go wrong, and I am Marie of Romania.

~Dorothy Parker

That woman speaks eighteen languages, and can't say 'No' in any of them.

~Dorothy Parker

Now I know the things I know, and I do the things I do; and if you do not like me so, to hell, my love, with you!

~Dorothy Parker

I'd like to have money. And I'd like to be a good writer. These two can come together, and I hope they will, but if that's too adorable, I'd rather have money.

~Dorothy Parker

Genius can write on the back of old envelopes but mere talent requires the finest stationery available.

~Dorothy Parker

Writing is the art of applying the ass to the seat.

~Dorothy Parker

A little bad taste is like a nice dash of paprika.

~Dorothy Parker

It is that word 'hunny,' my darlings, that marks the first place in The House at Pooh Corner at which Tonstant Weader fwowed up.

~Dorothy Parker

It turns out that, at social gatherings, as a source of entertainment, conviviality, and good fun, I rank somewhere between a sprig of parsley and a single ice-skate.

~Dorothy Parker

I hate almost all rich people, but I think I'd be darling at it.

~Dorothy Parker

By the time you swear you're his, Shivering and sighing. And he vows his passion is, Infinite, undying. Lady make note of this -- One of you is lying.

~Dorothy Parker

Misfortune, and recited misfortune especially, can be prolonged to the point where it ceases to excite pity and arouses only irritation.

~Dorothy Parker

I like to have a martini/Two at the very most.

~Dorothy Parker

Don't look at me in that tone of voice.

~Dorothy Parker

The best way to keep children at home is to make the home atmosphere pleasant, and let the air out of the tires.

~Dorothy Parker

You do what you can, and you do it because you should. But all you can do is all you can do.

~Dorothy Parker

Now, look, baby, 'Union' is spelled with 5 letters. It is not a four-letter word.

~Dorothy Parker

The cleverest woman on earth is the biggest fool on earth with a man.

~Dorothy Parker

Salary is no object: I want only enough to keep body and soul apart.

~Dorothy Parker

Telegram to a friend who had just become a mother after a prolonged pregnancy: Good work, Mary. We all knew you had it in you.

~Dorothy Parker

Writing well is the best revenge.

~Dorothy Parker

Honesty means nothing until you are tested under circumstances where

you are sure you could get away with dishonesty.

~Dorothy Parker

I like best to have one book in my hand, and a stack of others on the floor beside me, so as to know the supply of poppy and mandragora will not run out before the small hours.

~Dorothy Parker

[On Katharine Hepburn's stage performance:] She ran the whole gamut of emotions, from A to B.

~Dorothy Parker

But I don't give up; I forget why not.

~Dorothy Parker

Where's the man could ease a heart Like a satin gown?

~Dorothy Parker

Heterosexuality is not normal, it's just common.

~Dorothy Parker

I wouldn't touch a superlative again with an umbrella.

~Dorothy Parker

Bewildered is the fox who lives to find that grapes beyond reach can be really sour.

~Dorothy Parker

The Monte Carlo casino refused to admit me until I was properly dressed so I went and found my stockings, and then came back and lost my shirt.

~Dorothy Parker

Most good women are hidden treasures who are only safe because



nobody looks for them.

~Dorothy Parker

Drink and dance and laugh and lie, Love, the reeling midnight through,  
For tomorrow we shall die! (But, alas, we never do.)

~Dorothy Parker

If I didn't care for fun and such, I'd probably amount to much. But I shall  
stay the way I am, Because I do not give a damn.

~Dorothy Parker

My land is bare of chattering folk; / the clouds are low along the ridges,  
/ and sweet's the air with curly smoke / from all my burning bridges.

~Dorothy Parker

[On hearing that Clare Boothe Luce was invariably kind to her inferiors:]  
And where does she find them?

~Dorothy Parker

Constant use had not worn ragged the fabric of their friendship.

~Dorothy Parker

What ever beauty may be it has for its basis order and for its essence  
unity Beauty is only skin deep, but ugly goes clean to the bone.

~Dorothy Parker

And if my heart be scarred and burned, The safer, I, for all I learned.

~Dorothy Parker

If all the girls attending [the Yale prom] were laid end to end, I wouldn't  
be at all surprised.

~Dorothy Parker

I was always sweet, at first. Oh, it's so easy to be sweet to people

before you love them.

~Dorothy Parker

Yet, as only New Yorkers know, if you can get through the twilight, you'll live through the night.

~Dorothy Parker

Scratch a lover, and find a foe.

~Dorothy Parker

Women and elephants never forget.

~Dorothy Parker

Vice is nice, but liquor is quicker.

~Dorothy Parker

[On the ringing of her doorbell or telephone:] What fresh hell is this?

~Dorothy Parker

I know this will come as a shock to you, Mr. Goldwyn, but in all history, which has held billions and billions of human beings, not a single one ever had a happy ending.

~Dorothy Parker

Where unwilling dies the rose; buds the new another year.

~Dorothy Parker

It was written without fear and without research.

~Dorothy Parker

I misremember who first was cruel enough to nurture the cocktail party into life. But perhaps it would be not too much to say, in fact it would be not enough to say, that it was not worth the trouble.

~Dorothy Parker

The sweeter the apple, the blacker the core. Scratch a lover and find a foe!

~Dorothy Parker

Of Orson Welles: It's like meeting God without dying.

~Dorothy Parker

[On being shown an apartment by a real estate agent:] Oh, dear, that's much too big. All I need is room enough to lay a hat and a few friends.

~Dorothy Parker

Age before beauty, and pearls before swine.

~Dorothy Parker

Hollywood money isn't money. It's congealed snow, melts in your hand, and there you are.

~Dorothy Parker

His voice was as intimate as the rustle of sheets.

~Dorothy Parker

Oh, seek, my love, your newer way; I'll not be left in sorrow. So long as I have yesterday, Go take your damned tomorrow!

~Dorothy Parker

The best way to avoid a hangover is to stay drunk.

~Dorothy Parker

Why is it no one sent me yet one perfect limousine, do you suppose?  
Ah no, it's always just my luck to get one perfect rose.

~Dorothy Parker

Her mind lives tidily, apart from cold and noise and pain. And bolts the door against her heart, out wailing in the rain.

~Dorothy Parker

The writer's way is rough and lonely, and who would choose it while there are vacancies in more gracious professions, such as, say, cleaning out ferryboats?

~Dorothy Parker

Quick!! Act as if nothing has happened!

~Dorothy Parker

[After she and Clare Boothe Luce met in a doorway and the latter said, 'Age before beauty':] Pearls before swine.

~Dorothy Parker

They sicken of the calm who know the storm.

~Dorothy Parker

It's not the tragedies that kill us; it's the messes.

~Dorothy Parker

The ones I like are 'à la carte' and 'à la mode'.

~Dorothy Parker

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