

# Ellen Terry

## Quotes

*Art, Skills, Imagination, Years, Quality, Acting, Circles, Blue, Exercise, Thinking,  
Lost Love, Usefulness, Hands, Eulogy, Knows, Dead Man, Nice, Men,  
Obstacles, Levels*

Only a great actor finds the difficulties of the actor's art infinite.

~Ellen Terry

Before you can be eccentric, you must know where the circle is.

~Ellen Terry

Wonderful women! Have you ever thought how much we all, and women especially, owe to Shakespeare for his vindication of women in these fearless, high-spirited, resolute and intelligent heroines?

~Ellen Terry

Usefulness! It is not a fascinating word, and the quality is not one of which the aspiring spirit can dream o' nights, yet on the stage it is the first thing to aim at.

~Ellen Terry

Conceit is an insuperable obstacle to all progress.

~Ellen Terry

Vary the pace. ... it is one of the foundations of all good acting.

~Ellen Terry

Conceit is an insuperable obstacle to all progress. On the other hand, it is of little use to take criticism in a slavish spirit and to act on it without understanding it.

~Ellen Terry

Eulogy is nice, but one does not learn anything from it.

~Ellen Terry

Not until we have learned to be useful can we afford to do what we like.

~Ellen Terry

The tragedian will always be a limited tragedian if he has not learned how to laugh. The comedian who cannot weep will never touch the highest levels of mirth.

~Ellen Terry

Coroners' inquests by learned societies can't make Shakespeare a dead man.

~Ellen Terry

Imagination! Imagination! I put it first years ago, when I was asked what qualities I thought necessary for success on the stage.

~Ellen Terry

The picture of me is nearly finished, and I think it is magnificent. The green and blue of the dress is splendid, and the expression as Lady Macbeth holds the crown over her head is quite wonderful.

~Ellen Terry

No amount of skill on the part of the actress can make up for the loss of youth.

~Ellen Terry

Security is mortal's chiefest enemy.

~Ellen Terry

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