

Emile M. Cioran

Quotes

*Men, World, Ideas, Mind, Suffering, People, Thinking, Suicide, Solitude, Giving,
Insomnia, Believe, Writing, Night, Book, Ifs, Self, Country, Sleep, Time*

The universal view melts things into a blur.

~Emile M. Cioran

There is no other world. Nor even this one. What, then, is there? The inner smile provoked in us by the patent nonexistence of both.

~Emile M. Cioran

Do I look like someone who has something to do here on earth?'
â€”That's what I'd like to answer the busybodies who inquire into my activities.

~Emile M. Cioran

By all evidence we are in the world to do nothing.

~Emile M. Cioran

You are done for - a living dead man - not when you stop loving but stop hating. Hatred preserves: in it, in its chemistry, resides the mystery of life.

~Emile M. Cioran

Our first intuitions are the true ones.

~Emile M. Cioran

Impossible to spend sleepless nights and accomplish anything: if, in my youth, my parents had not financed my insomnias, I should surely have killed myself.

~Emile M. Cioran

The fact that life has no meaning is a reason to live - moreover, the only one.

~Emile M. Cioran

The only way of enduring one disaster after the next is to love the very idea of disaster: if we succeed, there are no further surprises, we are

superior to whatever occurs, we are invincible victims.

~Emile M. Cioran

The aphorism is cultivated only by those who have known fear in the midst of words, that fear of collapsing with all the words.

~Emile M. Cioran

The multiplication of our kind borders on the obscene; the duty to love them, on the preposterous.

~Emile M. Cioran

Only optimists commit suicide, optimists who no longer succeed at being optimists. The others, having no reason to live, why would they have any to die?

~Emile M. Cioran

The more one has suffered, the less one demands. To protest is a sign one has traversed no hell.

~Emile M. Cioran

Chaos is rejecting all you have learned, chaos is being yourself.

~Emile M. Cioran

Better to be an animal than a man, an insect than an animal, a plant than an insect, and so on. Salvation? Whatever diminishes the kingdom of consciousness and compromises its supremacy.

~Emile M. Cioran

Skepticism is the sadism of embittered souls.

~Emile M. Cioran

We change ideas like neckties.

~Emile M. Cioran

Trees are massacred, houses go up â€” faces, faces everywhere. Man is spreading. Man is the cancer of the earth.

~Emile M. Cioran

Life creates itself in delirium and is undone in ennui.

~Emile M. Cioran

Since all life is futility, then the decision to exist must be the most irrational of all.

~Emile M. Cioran

I have decided not to oppose anyone ever again, since I have noticed that I always end by resembling my latest enemy.

~Emile M. Cioran

One does not inhabit a country; one inhabits a language. That is our country, our fatherland - and no other.

~Emile M. Cioran

How good would it be if one could die by throwing oneself into an infinite void.

~Emile M. Cioran

It is not worth the bother of killing yourself, since you always kill yourself too late.

~Emile M. Cioran

The need for novelty is the characteristic of an alienated gorilla.

~Emile M. Cioran

Ennui is the echo in us of time tearing itself apart.

~Emile M. Cioran

I would like to explode, flow, crumble into dust, and my disintegration

would be my masterpiece.

~Emile M. Cioran

Not to be born is undoubtedly the best plan of all. Unfortunately, it is within no one's reach.

~Emile M. Cioran

The sole means of protecting your solitude is to offend everyone, beginning with those you love.

~Emile M. Cioran

How easy it is to be "deep": all you have to do is let yourself sink into your own flaws.

~Emile M. Cioran

In a republic, that paradise of debility, the politician is a petty tyrant who obeys the laws.

~Emile M. Cioran

The curtain of the universe is moth-eaten, and through its holes we see nothing now but mask and ghost.

~Emile M. Cioran

History is nothing but a procession of false Absolutes, a series of temples raised to pretexts, a degradation of the mind before the Improbable.

~Emile M. Cioran

To accomplish nothing and die of the strain

~Emile M. Cioran

No one recovers from the disease of being born, a deadly wound if there ever was one.

~Emile M. Cioran

To live... in any sense of the word... is to reject others; to accept them, one must renounce, do oneself violence.

~Emile M. Cioran

What do you do from morning to night?" "I endure myself.

~Emile M. Cioran

Democracy: a festival of mediocrity.

~Emile M. Cioran

The obsession with suicide is characteristic of the man who can neither live nor die, and whose attention never swerves from this double impossibility.

~Emile M. Cioran

It is because we are all impostors that we endure each other. The man who does not consent to lie will see the earth shrink under his feet: we are biologically obliged to the false

~Emile M. Cioran

I never met one interesting mind that was not richly endowed with inadmissible deficiencies.

~Emile M. Cioran

Only those moments count, when the desire to remain by yourself is so powerful that you'd prefer to blow your brains out than exchange a word with someone.

~Emile M. Cioran

Sometimes I wish I were a cannibal - less for the pleasure of eating someone than for the pleasure of vomiting him.

~Emile M. Cioran

Man starts over again everyday, in spite of all he knows, against all he

knows.

~Emile M. Cioran

No matter which way we go, it is no better than any other. It is all the same whether you achieve something or not, have faith or not, just as it is all the same whether you cry or remain silent.

~Emile M. Cioran

We would not be interested in human beings if we did not have the hope of someday meeting someone worse off than ourselves.

~Emile M. Cioran

I feel completely detached from any country, any group. I am a metaphysically displaced person

~Emile M. Cioran

Normal people have nothing to forget.

~Emile M. Cioran

No one can enjoy freedom without trembling.

~Emile M. Cioran

Imaginary pains are by far the most real we suffer, since we feel a constant need for them and invent them because there is no way of doing without them.

~Emile M. Cioran

If we could see ourselves as others see us, we would vanish on the spot.

~Emile M. Cioran

Criticism is a misconception: we must read not to understand others but to understand ourselves.

~Emile M. Cioran

The amount of chiaroscuro an idea harbors is the only index of its profundity.

~Emile M. Cioran

Write books only if you are going to say in them the things you would never dare confide to anyone.

~Emile M. Cioran

Is it possible that existence is our exile and nothingness our home?

~Emile M. Cioran

Life inspires more dread than death - it is life which is the great unknown.

~Emile M. Cioran

What strangely enchanted tunes gush forth during those sleepless nights!

~Emile M. Cioran

Wherever we go, we come up against the human, a repulsive ubiquity before which we fall into stupor and revolt, a perplexity on fire.

~Emile M. Cioran

Let us not be needlessly bitter: certain failures are sometimes fruitful.

~Emile M. Cioran

To possess a high degree of consciousness, to be always aware of yourself in relation to the world, to live in the permanent tension of knowledge, means to be lost for life.

~Emile M. Cioran

We define only out of despair, we must have a formula... to give a facade tot he void.

~Emile M. Cioran

The desire to die was my one and only concern; to it I have sacrificed everything, even death.

~Emile M. Cioran

I live only because it is in my power to die when I choose to: without the idea of suicide, I'd have killed myself right away.

~Emile M. Cioran

A regret understood by no one: the regret to be a pessimist. It's not easy to be on the wrong foot with life.

~Emile M. Cioran

The only free mind is one that, pure of all intimacy with beings or objects, plies its own vacuity.

~Emile M. Cioran

To Live signifies to believe and hope - to lie and to lie to oneself.

~Emile M. Cioran

One cannot live without motives. I have no motives left, and I am living.

~Emile M. Cioran

There was a time when time did not yet exist.

~Emile M. Cioran

Everything is pathology, except for indifference.

~Emile M. Cioran

If we manage to last in spite of everything, it is because our infirmities are so many and so contradictory that they cancel each other out.

~Emile M. Cioran

A decadent civilization compromises with its disease, cherishes the virus infecting it, loses its self-respect.

~Emile M. Cioran

Consciousness is much more than the thorn, it is the dagger in the flesh.

~Emile M. Cioran

Philosophy is a corrective against sadness. Yet there still are people who believe in the profundity of philosophy!

~Emile M. Cioran

Psychoanalysis is a technique we practice at our cost; psychoanalysis degrades our risks, our dangers, our depths; it strips us of our impurities, of all that made us curious about ourselves.

~Emile M. Cioran

Anyone can escape into sleep, we are all geniuses when we dream, the butcher's the poet's equal there.

~Emile M. Cioran

Between Ennui and Ecstasy unwinds our whole experience of time.

~Emile M. Cioran

Knowledge subverts love: in proportion as we penetrate our secrets, we come to loathe our kind, precisely because they resemble us.

~Emile M. Cioran

Woes and wonders of power, that tonic hell, synthesis of poison and panacea.

~Emile M. Cioran

To exist is a habit I do not despair of acquiring.

~Emile M. Cioran

I'm simply an accident. Why take it all so seriously?

~Emile M. Cioran

Only one thing matters: learning to be the loser.

~Emile M. Cioran

Progress is the injustice each generation commits with regard to its predecessors.

~Emile M. Cioran

We are all geniuses when we dream.

~Emile M. Cioran

Ambition is a drug that makes its addicts potential madmen.

~Emile M. Cioran

I have no nationality - the best possible status for an intellectual.

~Emile M. Cioran

A distant enemy is always preferable to one at the gate.

~Emile M. Cioran

The fanatic is incorruptible: if he kills for an idea, he can just as well get himself killed for one; in either case, tyrant or martyr, he is a monster.

~Emile M. Cioran

Tyrants are always assassinated too late. That is their great excuse.

~Emile M. Cioran

Music is the refuge of souls ulcerated by happiness.

~Emile M. Cioran

What would be left of our tragedies if an insect were to present us his?

~Emile M. Cioran

Old age, after all, is merely the punishment for having lived.

~Emile M. Cioran

No one can keep his griefs in their prime; they use themselves up.

~Emile M. Cioran

What I know at sixty, I knew as well at twenty. Forty years of a long, superfluous, labor of verification.

~Emile M. Cioran

Revenge is not always sweet, once it is consummated we feel inferior to our victim.

~Emile M. Cioran

Every thought derives from a thwarted sensation.

~Emile M. Cioran

Society is not a disease, it is a disaster. What a stupid miracle that one can live in it.

~Emile M. Cioran

By what aberration has suicide, the only truly normal action, become the attribute of the flawed?

~Emile M. Cioran

I would like to go mad on one condition, namely, that I would become a happy madman, lively and always in a good mood, without any troubles and obsessions, laughing senselessly from morning to night.

~Emile M. Cioran

We derive our vitality from our store of madness.

~Emile M. Cioran

Never to have occasion to take a position, to make up one's mind, or to

define oneself - there is no wish I make more often.

~Emile M. Cioran

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