

# Eric Clapton Quotes

*Guitar, Thinking, Music, Play, People, Mean, Way, Guy, Song, Men, Night,  
Spiritual, Father, Trying, Art, Crazy, Want, Real, Water, Kids*

Every time you pick up your guitar to play, play as if it's the last time.

~Eric Clapton

My driving philosophy about making music is that you can reduce it all down to one note if that note is played with the right kind of sincerity.

~Eric Clapton

Risk is trying to control something you are powerless over.

~Eric Clapton

Music survives everything, and like God, it is always present. It needs no help, and suffers no hindrance.

~Eric Clapton

It's been up to me to inspire me.

~Eric Clapton

One of the most beneficial things I've ever learned is how to keep my mouth shut.

~Eric Clapton

All along this path I tread, my heart betrays my weary head, with nothing but my love to save, from the cradle to the grave.

~Eric Clapton

Music became a healer for me. And I learned to listen with all my being. I found that it could wipe away all fear and confusion.

~Eric Clapton

For me there is something primitively soothing about this music, and it went straight to my nervous system, making me feel ten feet tall.

~Eric Clapton

There are people these days who can do things on the guitar which are

beyond my reach. There's one guy who plays with Queen who can do things I would dream of doing. I sincerely mean that.

~Eric Clapton

Would you know my name, if I saw you in Heaven?

~Eric Clapton

Before you accuse me, take a look at yourself.

~Eric Clapton

But the guitar, when you think about it, is the most versatile, really. I mean you can pick it up and take it with you wherever you go.

~Eric Clapton

In my lowest moments, the only reason I didn't commit suicide was that I knew I wouldn't be able to drink any more if I was dead.

~Eric Clapton

I mean, the sound of an amplified guitar in a room full of people was so hypnotic and addictive to me, that I could cross any kind of border to get on there.

~Eric Clapton

I admire Eddie Van Halen and Steve Lukather, but they might blow me away quite easily if we were to jam together.

~Eric Clapton

I'm an egomaniac with an inferiority complex.

~Eric Clapton

Give me a guitar and I'll play; give me a stage and I'll perform; give me an auditorium and I'll fill it.

~Eric Clapton

Our love will rule in this kingdom we have made.

~Eric Clapton

I don't know if I believe in luck. I think I'm very fortunate.

~Eric Clapton

I am, and always will be, a blues guitarist.

~Eric Clapton

Musically, he was like an old man in a boy's skin.

~Eric Clapton

Although they can do it all the time, you know, they're far better than me, on a musically, on a theoretical music level. You know, they're out of my league.

~Eric Clapton

You can't mastermind everything. You'll go crazy. Just show up and play.

~Eric Clapton

When I'm wrong it's never meant for you, so don't confuse my love with what I do.

~Eric Clapton

Music became a healer for me.

~Eric Clapton

Having lovers and friends is all good and fine But I don't like yours and you don't like mine.

~Eric Clapton

Plant your love and let it grow.

~Eric Clapton

I feel wonderful because I see the love light in your eyes, and the wonder of it all is you just don't realize how much I love you.

~Eric Clapton

Well, I think part of my gift, or if I have one, is that I love listening.

~Eric Clapton

Music will always find its way to us, with or without business, politics, religion, or any other bullshit attached.

~Eric Clapton

If you hand me a guitar, I'll play the blues. That's the place I automatically go.

~Eric Clapton

[Unplugged] was also the cheapest to produce and required the least amount of preparation and work. But if you want to know what it actually cost me, go to Ripley and visit the grave of my son.

~Eric Clapton

the thing about pessimism is that in most cases it's nothing more than a front behind which a body can hide its most sweetful yet painful hopes. please forgive mine.

~Eric Clapton

I like solitude. I like the anomalous life. I like a quiet life.

~Eric Clapton

The point of being at home is to be with my family as much as possible.

~Eric Clapton

Given the choice between accomplishing something and just lying around, I'd rather lie around. No contest.

~Eric Clapton

Up until I became a father, it was all about self-obsession. But then I learned exactly what it's all about: the delight of being a servant.

~Eric Clapton

I've always wanted the sound of Muddy Waters' early records - only louder

~Eric Clapton

For me, the most trustworthy vehicle for spirituality had always proven to be music.

~Eric Clapton

'My Father's Eyes' is very personal. I realized that the closest I ever came to looking in my father's eyes was when I looked into my son's eyes.

~Eric Clapton

I never met Johnny Rotten, and I didn't want to meet Johnny Rotten.

~Eric Clapton

The blues are what I've turned to, what has given me inspiration and relief in all the trials of my life.

~Eric Clapton

I mean, it didn't matter to me that there were people, it didn't matter that I was shy Just the sound was so captivating that it helped me to get rid of those inhibitions.

~Eric Clapton

Like a fool, I fell in love with you, Turned my whole world upside down

~Eric Clapton

There's a desire in me to express something - to match what I hear in my head.

~Eric Clapton

They found our hero in the gutter with a diamond ring and a gun.

~Eric Clapton

I'd love to knock an audience cold with one note, but what do you do for the rest of the evening?

~Eric Clapton

An obsession is where something will not leave your mind.

~Eric Clapton

In playing, I suppose my greatest gift was to express the way I felt or the willingness to express myself.

~Eric Clapton

Lately I've been running on faith.

~Eric Clapton

It is painful to relive things that have caused emotional crises or whatever and find ways to express that musically.

~Eric Clapton

I tried when I was 13, when my grandparents gave me an acoustic guitar, and I tried for a year. It hurt so much to play. I mean, the fingertips hurt so much, I gave up.

~Eric Clapton

It's very dependent on your state of mind. And your emotional state as well. And a lot of it comes pouring out, you don't really have that much control with it.

~Eric Clapton

You were at school and you were pimply and no one wanted to know you. You get into a group and you've got thousands of chicks there.

~Eric Clapton

They looked great, you know the drawings of the guys playing looked great and bits of string around their necks. So it didn't seem to be that difficult a thing to do, or that inaccessible.

~Eric Clapton

I don't have half the nerves there that I have anywhere else.

~Eric Clapton

This moment in time, on this tour, you know, I'm discovering a lot of new things. And to be 45 and doing that, it's a mixture of pleasure and pain, I can assure you.

~Eric Clapton

A British pressing with a compilation of the best stuff really, I mean actually not only that but, these were all kind of semi hits for the people on it in America.

~Eric Clapton

I couldn't believe how good Jimi Hendrix was It was a really difficult thing for me to deal with, but I just had to surrender and say, 'This is fantastic.'

~Eric Clapton

It was stumbling on to really the bible of the blues, you know, and a very powerful drug to be introduced to us and I absorbed it totally, and it changed my complete outlook on music.

~Eric Clapton

It's been very important throughout my career that I've met all the guys I've copied, because at each stage they've said, 'Don't play like me,



play like you.'

~Eric Clapton

And I don't like having my picture taken. I'm almost like an old African in that sense. I think it steals a bit of the soul.

~Eric Clapton

I saw you walking with your other man today. If I catch you one more time, I'm gonna blow you both away.

~Eric Clapton

I thought, 'My God, this is like Buddy Guy on acid.'

~Eric Clapton

Loose ladies on the road will drive you crazy, every no, becomes a maybe.

~Eric Clapton

I remember when I thought of singing as the bit that went between the guitar playing - something I couldn't wait to get out of the way. Singing was originally like a chore that I didn't really enjoy.

~Eric Clapton

I know there will be no more tears in heaven.

~Eric Clapton

I just like the company of beautiful women. I have a weakness in that department.

~Eric Clapton

It sounds strange for me to be saying this, but I've come around to the idea that sex really is for procreation.

~Eric Clapton

My original interests and intentions in guitar playing were primarily created on quality of tone, for instance, the way the instrument could be made to echo or simulate the human voice.

~Eric Clapton

All I am certain of right now is that I don't want to go anywhere, and that's not bad for someone who always used to run.

~Eric Clapton

Time can bring you down, time can bend your knees.

~Eric Clapton

But I did go to music really early on, even when I was 4 or 5, I was responding to music probably in ways other kids were not.

~Eric Clapton

And if I don't be there by morning, she'll know that I must've spent the night in jail.

~Eric Clapton

I got a problem, can you relate? I got a woman calling love hate.

~Eric Clapton

So there I was in Hollywood, thinking I was doing good.

~Eric Clapton

To sing in a lower key is harder work. You have to use your diaphragm more.

~Eric Clapton

The first band I identified with from Chicago was the Muddy Waters band.

~Eric Clapton

I can't play long solos anymore without boring myself.

~Eric Clapton

It's taken me to be an older guy, an old man, to have an old man's voice. Because I only liked old men's voices. As a kid, I didn't like pip-squeaked singers.

~Eric Clapton

I wish I could write easily. I'm one of those guys who's visited by the muse when things are dire.

~Eric Clapton

When you're onstage with an electric band going through a massive P.A. system, it's very artificial. You can't really hear your own voice as it comes out of your mouth.

~Eric Clapton

I grew up playing in clubs - that's my spiritual stomping ground.

~Eric Clapton

I often enjoy singing in an acoustic setting more than an amplified one.

~Eric Clapton

I think I deliberately sold out a couple of times. I picked the songs that I thought would do well in the marketplace, even though I didn't really love the song.

~Eric Clapton

I always respected that B.B. sees music in a very open, free way.

~Eric Clapton

The music scene as I look at it today is a little different from when I was growing up. The percentages are roughly the same - 95 percent rubbish, 5 percent pure.

~Eric Clapton

The only planning I do is about a minute before I play. I desperately try to think of something that will be effective, but I never sit down and work it out note for note.

~Eric Clapton

Only ask and you will get what you are needing, the rest is up to you.

~Eric Clapton

The toughest thing about being a celebrity, I suppose, is being polite when I don't want to be.

~Eric Clapton

I never set myself too high a goal. It was always tone and feeling, for me.

~Eric Clapton

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