

# Esther Williams

## Quotes

*Swimming, Sports, Long, Movie, Drinking, Men, Mermaid, Teaching, Would Be,  
Husband, Home, Stars, Girl, Firsts, Swim, Ideals, Shelter, Plant, Gold,  
Inspiration*

What the public expects and what is healthy for an individual are two very different things.

~Esther Williams

The wisdom acquired with the passage of time is a useless gift unless you share it.

~Esther Williams

I was all in gold sequins for Million Dollar Mermaid, 50 feet in the air

~Esther Williams

Traveling to swimming meets took me beyond my small-town existence, gave me a hint of the exciting world outside of my own home.

~Esther Williams

Clark Gable was the first to have called me a mermaid.

~Esther Williams

I took my daily swim at the Beverly Hills Hotel pool despite the presence of onlookers

~Esther Williams

My training in Science of Mind had begun with my mother. She took me to a different church every Sunday, and she encouraged me to question the minister afterward.

~Esther Williams

Somehow I kept my head above water. I relied on the discipline, character, and strength that I had started to develop as that little girl in her first swimming pool.

~Esther Williams

No one can avoid a challenge in life without breeding regret, and regret

is the arsenic of life.

~Esther Williams

Marriage to Fernando offered shelter and security, but the shackle was the price I'd pay.

~Esther Williams

It appeared as if I had invited the audience into the water with me, and it conveyed the sensation that being in there was absolutely delicious

~Esther Williams

Even though I had a lucrative contract with MGM, I had a husband who was drinking and gambling our money away faster than I could make it.

~Esther Williams

I was 15, and the years of hard swimming had packed muscle on my frame and made me very strong. Not as strong as a football player, but strong enough to inflict heavy damage.

~Esther Williams

The newspapers loved pinup pictures of pretty young swimmers, and as a national champion, I got more than my share of space in the sports pages.

~Esther Williams

When you're out of sight for as long as I was, there's a funny feeling of betrayal that comes over people when they see you again.

~Esther Williams

Victor Mature was a big man; he had a great swagger. I liked him and I knew we'd be good together on screen.

~Esther Williams

There was a policy at Hughes against drinking at lunch, but the men

ignored it

~Esther Williams

I was the only swimmer in movies. Tarzan was long gone, and he couldn't have done them anyway; he could never have gotten into my bathing suit

~Esther Williams

I always took it for granted that there would be life after Hollywood.

~Esther Williams

We can't all win Olympic medals. Even I never won one.

~Esther Williams

I remember when I first walked into Mayer's cavernous office. You had to walk 50 yards to get to him, and in that time he could really study everything about you.

~Esther Williams

I ended up buying a restaurant. Already we had invested in a gas station and a metal products plant.

~Esther Williams

I took a job at the pool in order to earn the five cents a day it cost to swim. I counted wet towels. As a bonus, I was allowed to swim during lunchtime.

~Esther Williams

I gave my eardrums to MGM. And it's true: I really did.

~Esther Williams

I always felt that if I made a movie, it would be one movie; I didn't see how they could make 26 swimming movies.

~Esther Williams

Life magazine ran a page featuring me and three other girls that was clearly the precursor of Sports Illustrated swimsuit issues

~Esther Williams

No one had ever done a swimming movie before so we just made it up as we went along. I ad-libbed all my own underwater movements.

~Esther Williams

By the time I got home at night, my eyes were so chlorinated I saw rings around every light.

~Esther Williams

Three events. Three gold medals. I was news, big news, in the sports world.

~Esther Williams

I think it's so funny when people think they can't control a movie star. They can. We're just women, you know

~Esther Williams

The animus is symbolized by male figures appearing in a woman's dreams and fantasies, as a husband, son, father, lover, Prince Charming.

~Esther Williams

Everything about my teenage life was almost ideal.

~Esther Williams

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