

Jacques Lacan

Quotes

*Real, Doe, Desire, Men, Unconscious, Giving, Mean, Believe, May, Mirrors,
Dimensions, Want, Language, Facts, Way, Movement, Writing, Symbolic,
People, Impossible*

Love means giving something you don't have to someone who doesn't want it.

~Jacques Lacan

All sorts of things in this world behave like mirrors.

~Jacques Lacan

What does it matter how many lovers you have if none of them gives you the universe?

~Jacques Lacan

The I is always in the field of the Other.

~Jacques Lacan

I think where I am not, therefore I am where I do not think. I am not whenever I am the plaything of my thought; I think of what I am where I do not think to think.

~Jacques Lacan

Meaning is produced not only by the relationship between the signifier and the signified but also, crucially, by the position of the signifiers in relation to other signifiers.

~Jacques Lacan

The reason we go to poetry is not for wisdom, but for the dismantling of wisdom

~Jacques Lacan

The only thing of which one can be guilty is of having given ground relative to one's desire.

~Jacques Lacan

The real is what resists symbolization absolutely.

~Jacques Lacan

The unconscious is the discourse of the Other.

~Jacques Lacan

In other words, the man who is born into existence deals first with language; this is a given. He is even caught in it before his birth.

~Jacques Lacan

The unconscious is structured like a language.

~Jacques Lacan

The best image to sum up the unconscious is Baltimore in the early morning.

~Jacques Lacan

What could be more convincing, moreover, than the gesture of laying one's cards face up on the table?

~Jacques Lacan

The Mirror Stage as formative in the function of the I as revealed in psychoanalytic experience.

~Jacques Lacan

Love makes the Real of desire accessible without its tragic dimension

~Jacques Lacan

But what Freud showed us is that nothing can be grasped, destroyed, or burnt, except in a symbolic way, as one says, in effigie, in absentia.

~Jacques Lacan

I am there where it is spoken that the universe is a defect in the purity of non-being.

~Jacques Lacan

For the signifier is a unit in its very uniqueness, being by nature symbol only of an absence.

~Jacques Lacan

Yet, analytical truth is not as mysterious, or as secret, so as to not allow us to see that people with a talent for directing consciences see truth rise spontaneously.

~Jacques Lacan

If psychoanalysis clarifies some facts of sexuality, it is not by aiming at them in their own reality, not in biological experience.

~Jacques Lacan

Since Freud, the center of man is not where we thought it was; one has to go on from there.

~Jacques Lacan

We emphasize that such a form of communication is not absent in man, however evanescent a naturally given object may be for him, split as it is in its submission to symbols.

~Jacques Lacan

The knowledge that there is a part of the psychic functions that are out of conscious reach, we did not need to wait for Freud to know this!

~Jacques Lacan

Symptoms, those you believe you recognize, seem to you irrational because you take them in an isolated manner, and you want to interpret them directly.

~Jacques Lacan

The narration, in fact, doubles the drama with a commentary without which no mise en scene would be possible.

~Jacques Lacan

The sentence completes its signification only with its last term.

~Jacques Lacan

Writings scatter to the winds blank checks in an insane charge. And were they not such flying leaves, there would be no purloined letters.

~Jacques Lacan

Aside from that reservation, a fictive tale even has the advantage of manifesting symbolic necessity more purely to the extent that we may believe its conception arbitrary.

~Jacques Lacan

My thesis is that the moral law is articulated with relation to the real as such, to the real insofar as it can be the guarantee of the Thing.

~Jacques Lacan

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