

# Jean Anouilh

## Quotes

*Men, Life, Giving, Art, Love, Tragedy, Dog, Beauty, Real, Way, Genius, Plus,  
Children, Waiting, Fear, Ideas, Lost, Inheritance, Nice, Hands*

We poison our lives with fear of burglary and shipwreck, and, ask anyone, the house is never burgled, and the ship never goes down.

~Jean Anouilh

Love is, above all, the gift of oneself.

~Jean Anouilh

However tight I shut my eyes, there will always be a stray dog somewhere in the world who'll stop me being happy.

~Jean Anouilh

Believe me; all evil comes from the old. They grow fat on ideas and young men die of them.

~Jean Anouilh

Beauty is one of the rare things that do not lead to doubt of God.

~Jean Anouilh

Our entire life, with our fine moral code and our precious freedom, consists ultimately in accepting ourselves as we are.

~Jean Anouilh

Each of us has a day .. when he has to accept, finally, the fact that he is a man.

~Jean Anouilh

The only immorality is not to do what one has to do when one has to do it.

~Jean Anouilh

The object of art is to give life shape.

~Jean Anouilh

Oh, love is real enough; you will find it someday, but it has one

archenemy - and that is life.

~Jean Anouilh

Things are beautiful if you love them.

~Jean Anouilh

God is on everyone's side... and in the last analysis, he is on the side with plenty of money and large armies.

~Jean Anouilh

What you get free costs too much.

~Jean Anouilh

Life is a child playing round your feet, a tool you hold firmly in your grip, a bench you sit down upon in the evening, in your garden.

~Jean Anouilh

All prisons are brimming over with innocence. It is those who cram their fellows into them, in the name of empty ideas, who are the only guilty ones.

~Jean Anouilh

Propaganda is a soft weapon; hold it in your hands too long, and it will move about like a snake, and strike the other way.

~Jean Anouilh

Nobody has a more sacred obligation to obey the law than those who make the law.

~Jean Anouilh

Some men like to make a little garden out of life and walk down a path

~Jean Anouilh

Men create real miracles when they use their God-given courage and

intelligence.

~Jean Anouilh

To say yes, you have to sweat and roll up your sleeves and plunge both hands into life up to the elbows. It is easy to say no, even if saying no means death.

~Jean Anouilh

Je sais de quelles petitessees meurent les plus grandes amours. I know how pettiness ruins the greatest loves.

~Jean Anouilh

There is love of course. And then there's life, its enemy.

~Jean Anouilh

With God, what is terrible is that one never knows whether it's not just a trick of the devil.

~Jean Anouilh

Life has a way of setting things in order and leaving them be. Very tidy, is life.

~Jean Anouilh

Saintliness is also a temptation.

~Jean Anouilh

What fun it would be to be poor, as long as one was excessively poor!  
Anything in excess is most exhilarating

~Jean Anouilh

Tragedy is restful: and the reason is that hope, that foul, deceitful thing, has no part in it.

~Jean Anouilh

I like reality. It tastes like bread.

~Jean Anouilh

Nothing is irreparable in politics.

~Jean Anouilh

When you are forty, half of you belongs to the past... And when you are seventy, nearly all of you.

~Jean Anouilh

Life is a wonderful thing to talk about, or to read about in history books - but it is terrible when one has to live it.

~Jean Anouilh

God! Is there anything uglier than a frightened man!

~Jean Anouilh

Are you in earnest? Seize this very minute! Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it. Only engage, and then the mind grows heated. Begin, and then the work will be completed.

~Jean Anouilh

Until the day of his death no man can be sure of his courage.

~Jean Anouilh

Inspiration? - a hoax fabricated by poets for their self-importance.

~Jean Anouilh

Every man thinks God is on his side. The rich and powerful know he is.

~Jean Anouilh

Inspiration is a farce that poets have invented to give themselves importance.

~Jean Anouilh

A good actor must never be in love with anyone but himself.

~Jean Anouilh

Life is very nice, but it lacks form. It's the aim of art to give it some.

~Jean Anouilh

Have you noticed that life, with murders and catastrophes and fabulous inheritances, happens almost exclusively in newspapers?

~Jean Anouilh

Everything ends this way in France " everything. Weddings, christenings, duels, burials, swindlings, diplomatic affairs " everything is a pretext for a good dinner.

~Jean Anouilh

An ugly sight, a man who is afraid.

~Jean Anouilh

Talent is like a faucet, while it is open, one must write.

~Jean Anouilh

One cannot weep for the entire world, it is beyond human strength. One must choose.

~Jean Anouilh

All children are sweet at five. But at twelve they begin to get silly.

~Jean Anouilh

Il y aura toujours un chien perdu quelque part qui m'empêchera d'être heureux. There will always be a lost dog somewhere that will prevent me being happy.

~Jean Anouilh

Tragedy is clean, it is restful, it is flawless.

~Jean Anouilh

Obligations, hatreds, injuries; what did I expect my memories to be? I was forgetting remorse. Now I have a complete past.

~Jean Anouilh

In matters of money there's no such thing as enough.

~Jean Anouilh

A happy love is full of quarrels, you know.

~Jean Anouilh

It takes a certain courage and a certain greatness even to be truly base.

~Jean Anouilh

A genius knows how to make himself easily understood without being obvious about it.

~Jean Anouilh

Life is very nice, but it has no shape. The object of art is actually to give it some and to do it by every artifice possible-truer than the truth.

~Jean Anouilh

One can be a patriot, you know, without making one's wife join the breadline.

~Jean Anouilh

We have found other terms far less vague than the old ones to designate the same complaints. It's a great advance linguistically.

~Jean Anouilh

Don't make the mistake of believing it's enough to reproduce the realities of life.... The object of art is to give life a shape, and to do it by

every conceivable artifice.

~Jean Anouilh

The true masters of the art of living are already happy.

~Jean Anouilh

There will always be a lost dog somewhere that will keep me from being happy.

~Jean Anouilh

In your efforts to dazzle us your reasoning has gone awry. You know very well that love is, above all, the gift of oneself.

~Jean Anouilh

Death is beautiful. It alone gives love its true habitat.

~Jean Anouilh

It bothered me that whatever was waiting wasn't waiting for me

~Jean Anouilh

Rien n'est vrai que ce qu'on ne dit pas. Nothing is true except that which is unsaid.

~Jean Anouilh

Beauty, real beauty, is something very grave. If there is a God, He must be partly that.

~Jean Anouilh

Death has to be waiting at the end of the ride before you truly see the earth, and feel your heart, and love the world.

~Jean Anouilh

Life consists of nothing more than the happiness we can get out of it.

~Jean Anouilh



I don't want people to love me. It makes for obligations.

~Jean Anouilh

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