

Jean de la Bruyere

Quotes

*Men, Thinking, People, Life, Love, Giving, Writing, Doe, Character, Mind, Age,
World, Long, Two, Vanity, May, Pain, Lying, Years, Littles*

The sweetest of all sounds is that of the voice of the woman we love.

~Jean de la Bruyere

No road is to long for him who advances slowly and does not hurry and no attainment is beyond his reach who equips himself with patience to achieve it

~Jean de la Bruyere

Generosity lies less in giving much than in giving at the right moment.

~Jean de la Bruyere

The spendthrift robs his heirs the miser robs himself.

~Jean de la Bruyere

A vain man finds it wise to speak good or ill of himself; a modest man does not talk of himself.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Courtly manners are contagious; they are caught at Versailles.

~Jean de la Bruyere

We are more sociable, and get on better with people by the heart than the intellect.

~Jean de la Bruyere

A prince wants only the pleasure of private life to complete his happiness.

~Jean de la Bruyere

There is as much trickery required to grow rich by a stupid book as there is folly in buying it.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Out of difficulties grow miracles.

~Jean de la Bruyere

A person's worth in this world is estimated according to the value he puts on himself.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Two persons cannot long be friends if they cannot forgive each other's little failings.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Incivility is not a Vice of the Soul, but the effect of several Vices; of Vanity, Ignorance of Duty, Laziness, Stupidity, Distraction, Contempt of others, and Jealousy.

~Jean de la Bruyere

At the beginning and at the end of love, the two lovers are embarrassed to find themselves alone.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Caprice in woman is the antidote to beauty.

~Jean de la Bruyere

When a work lifts your spirits and inspires bold and noble thoughts in you, do not look for any other standard to judge by: the work is good, the product of a master craftsman.

~Jean de la Bruyere

If poverty is the mother of all crimes, lack of intelligence is the father.

~Jean de la Bruyere

There are only three events in a man's life; birth, life, and death; he is not conscious of being born, he dies in pain, and he forgets to live.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Men blush less for their crimes than for their weaknesses and vanity.

~Jean de la Bruyere

The most exquisite pleasure is giving pleasure to others.

~Jean de la Bruyere

The rarest things in the world, next to a spirit of discernment, are diamonds and pearls. [Fr., Apres l'esprit de discernement, ce qu'il y a au monde de plus rare, ce sont les diamants et les perles.]

~Jean de la Bruyere

All of our unhappiness comes from our inability to be alone.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Those who make the worst use of their time are the first to complain of its shortness.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Children have neither past nor future; they enjoy the present, which very few of us do.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Next to sound judgment, diamonds and pearls are the rarest things in the world.

~Jean de la Bruyere

There are some men who turn a deaf ear to reason and good advice, and willfully go wrong for fear of being controlled.

~Jean de la Bruyere

We seldom repent talking little, but very often talking too much.

~Jean de la Bruyere

The exact contrary of what is generally believed is often the truth.

~Jean de la Bruyere

A coxcomb is one whom simpletons believe to be a man of merit.

~Jean de la Bruyere

We can recognize the dawn and the decline of love by the uneasiness we feel when alone together.

~Jean de la Bruyere

A blockhead cannot come in, nor go away, nor sit, nor rise, nor stand, like a man of sense.

~Jean de la Bruyere

A fool is one whom simpletons believe to be a man on merit. [Fr., Un fat celui que les sots croient un homme de merite.]

~Jean de la Bruyere

Manners carry the world for the moment, character for all time.

~Jean de la Bruyere

If it be true that a man is rich who wants nothing, a wise man is a very rich man.

~Jean de la Bruyere

A man of moderate Understanding, thinks he writes divinely: A man of good Understanding, thinks he writes reasonably.

~Jean de la Bruyere

The first day one is a guest, the second a burden, and the third a pest.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Time makes friendship stronger, but love weaker.

~Jean de la Bruyere

The majority of women have no principles of their own; they are guided by the heart, and depend for their own conduct, upon that of the men they love.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Death happens but once, yet we feel it every moment of our lives; it is worse to dread it than to suffer it.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Sudden love is latest cured.

~Jean de la Bruyere

There is no road too long to the man who advances deliberately and without undue haste; there are no honors too distant to the man who prepares himself for them with patience.

~Jean de la Bruyere

The wise person often shuns society for fear of being bored.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Mockery is often the result of a poverty of wit.

~Jean de la Bruyere

The pleasure we feel in criticizing robs us from being moved by very beautiful things.

~Jean de la Bruyere

There is a false modesty, which is vanity; a false glory, which is levity; a false grandeur, which is meanness; a false virtue, which is hypocrisy, and a false wisdom, which is prudery.

~Jean de la Bruyere

When a secret is revealed, it is the fault of the man who confided it.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Politeness makes one appear outwardly as they should be within.

~Jean de la Bruyere

I do not doubt but that genuine piety is the spring of peace of mind; it enables us to bear the sorrows of life, and lessens the pangs of death: the same cannot be said of hypocrisy.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Logic is the technique by which we add conviction to truth.

~Jean de la Bruyere

A pious man is one who would be an atheist if the king were.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Men regret their life has been ill-spent, but this does not always induce them to make a better use of the time they have yet to live.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Let us not complain against men because of their rudeness, their ingratitude, their injustice, their arrogance, their love of self, their forgetfulness of others. They are so made. Such is their nature.

~Jean de la Bruyere

There is no excess in the world so commendable as excessive gratitude.

~Jean de la Bruyere

The most amiable people are those who least wound the self-love of others.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Banter is often a proof of want of intelligence.

~Jean de la Bruyere

We trust our secrets to our friends, but they escape from us in love.

~Jean de la Bruyere

If our life is unhappy it is painful to bear; if it is happy it is horrible to lose, So the one is pretty equal to the other.

~Jean de la Bruyere

It is a great misfortune neither to have enough wit to talk well nor enough judgment to be silent.

~Jean de la Bruyere

The shortest and best way to make your fortune is to let people see clearly that it is in their interest to promote yours.

~Jean de la Bruyere

We seek our happiness outside ourselves, and in the opinion of men we know to be flatterers, insincere, unjust, full of envy, caprice and prejudice.

~Jean de la Bruyere

False glory is the rock of vanity; it seduces men to affect esteem by things which they indeed possess, but which are frivolous, and which for a man to value himself on would be a scandalous error.

~Jean de la Bruyere

We should keep silent about those in power; to speak well of them almost implies flattery; to speak ill of them while they are alive is dangerous, and when they are dead is cowardly.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Avoid making yourself the subject of conversation.

~Jean de la Bruyere

We are valued in this world at the rate we desire to be valued.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Duty is what goes most against the grain, because in doing that we do only what we are strictly obliged to, and are seldom much praised for it.

~Jean de la Bruyere

It's motive alone which gives character to the actions of men.

~Jean de la Bruyere

A man is rich whose income is larger than his expenses, and he is poor if his expenses are greater than his income.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Cheats easily believe others as bad as themselves; there is no deceiving them, nor do they long deceive.

~Jean de la Bruyere

I never have wit until I am below stairs. [Fr., Je n'ai jamais d'esprit qu'au bas de l'escalier.]

~Jean de la Bruyere

Women become attached to men by the intimacies they grant them; men are cured of their love by the same intimacies.

~Jean de la Bruyere

A man can keep another's secret better than his own. A woman her own better than others.

~Jean de la Bruyere

A man reveals his character even in the simplest things he does.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Love and friendship exclude each other.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Praise, of all things, is the most powerful excitement to commendable actions, and animates us in our enterprises.

~Jean de la Bruyere

The Opera is obviously the first draft of a fine spectacle; it suggests the idea of one.

~Jean de la Bruyere

The great charm of conversation consists less in the display of one's own wit and intelligence than in the power to draw forth the resources of others.

~Jean de la Bruyere

I am told so many ill things of a man, and I see so few in him, that I begin to suspect he has a real but troublesome merit, as being likely to eclipse that of others.

~Jean de la Bruyere

A mediocre mind thinks it writes divinely; a good mind thinks it writes reasonably.

~Jean de la Bruyere

You may drive a dog off the King's armchair, and it will climb into the preacher's pulpit; he views the world unmoved, unembarrassed, unabashed.

~Jean de la Bruyere

No vice exists which does not pretend to be more or less like some virtue, and which does not take advantage of this assumed resemblance.

~Jean de la Bruyere

A party spirit betrays the greatest men to act as meanly as the vulgar herd.

~Jean de la Bruyere

I take sanctuary in an honest mediocrity.

~Jean de la Bruyere

There is not in the world so toilsome a trade as the pursuit of fame; life concludes before you have so much as sketched your work.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Jesting is often only indigence of intellect.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Grief at the absence of a loved one is happiness compared to life with a person one hates.

~Jean de la Bruyere

A position of eminence makes a great person greater and a small person less.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Every man is valued in this world as he shows by his conduct that he wishes to be valued.

~Jean de la Bruyere

One mark of a second-rate mind is to be always telling stories.

~Jean de la Bruyere

We all covet wealth, but not its perils.

~Jean de la Bruyere

As long as men are liable to die and are desirous to live, a physician will be made fun of, but he will be well paid.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Amongst such as out of cunning hear all and talk little, be sure to talk less; or if you must talk, say little.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Poverty may be the mother of crime, but lack of good sense is the father.

~Jean de la Bruyere

A woman is easily governed, if a man takes her in hand.

~Jean de la Bruyere

For a woman to be at once a coquette and a bigot is more than the humblest of husbands can bear; she should mercifully choose between the two.

~Jean de la Bruyere

The most delicate, the most sensible of all pleasures, consists in promoting the pleasure of others.

~Jean de la Bruyere

As a man falls out of favour and his wealth declines, we discover for the first time the ridiculous aspects of his character, which were always there but which wealth and favour had concealed.

~Jean de la Bruyere

A wise man is not governed by others, nor does he try to govern them; he prefers that reason alone prevail.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Cunning is none of the best nor worst qualities; it floats between virtue and vice; there is scarce any exigence where it may not, and perhaps ought not to be supplied by prudence.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Avoid lawsuits beyond all things; they pervert your conscience, impair your health, and dissipate your property.

~Jean de la Bruyere

Politeness does not always inspire goodness, equity, complaisance, and gratitude; it gives at least the appearance of these qualities, and makes man appear outwardly, as he should be within.

~Jean de la Bruyere

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