

Jean de La Fontaine Quotes

*Men, People, May, Inspirational, Fool, Life, Believe, Friendship, Knowledge,
Evil, Wise, Ends, Doe, Long, Secret, Foxes, Should, Ought, Lying, Glory*

Patience and time do more than strength or passion.

~Jean de La Fontaine

A person often meets his destiny on the road he took to avoid it.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Rare as is true love, true friendship is rarer.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Friendship is the shadow of the evening, which increases with the setting sun of life.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Death never takes the wise man by surprise, he is always ready to go.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Every flatterer lives at the expense of him who listens to him.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Man is so made that when anything fires his soul, impossibilities vanish.

~Jean de La Fontaine

All the brains in the world are powerless against the sort of stupidity that is in fashion.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Nothing is more dangerous than a friend without discretion; even a prudent enemy is preferable.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Beware, so long as you live, of judging men by their outward appearance.

~Jean de La Fontaine

It is twice the pleasure to deceive the deceiver.

~Jean de La Fontaine

To live lightheartedly but not recklessly; to be gay without being boisterous; to be courageous without being bold; to show trust and cheerful resignation without fatalism - this is the art of living.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Our destiny is frequently met in the very paths we take to avoid it.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Dressed in the lion's skin, the ass spread terror far and wide.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Sadness flies away on the wings of time.

~Jean de La Fontaine

A hungry stomach cannot hear.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Nothing is so oppressive as a secret: women find it difficult to keep one long; and I know a goodly number of men who are women in this regard.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Nothing weighs on us so heavily as a secret.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Often we find our own destiny on the same roads that we have been avoiding.

~Jean de La Fontaine

In this world we must help one another.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Love cries victory when the tears of a woman become the sole defence of her virtue.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Everyone calls himself a friend, but only a fool relies on it; nothing is commoner than the name, nothing rarer than the thing.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Half of today is better than all of tomorrow.

~Jean de La Fontaine

What God does, He does well.

~Jean de La Fontaine

He knows the universe and does not know himself.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Socrates, when informed of some derogating speeches one had used concerning him behind his back, made only this facetious reply, "Let him beat me too when I am absent.

~Jean de La Fontaine

It is good to be charitable; but to whom? That is the point. As to the ungrateful, there is not one who does not at last die miserable.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Be advised that all flatterers live at the expense of those who listen to them.

~Jean de La Fontaine

The more wary you are of danger, the more likely you are to meet it.

~Jean de La Fontaine

By the work one knows the workman.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Everyone believes very easily whatever they fear or desire.

~Jean de La Fontaine

The finest victory is to conquer one's own heart.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Example is a dangerous lure: where the wasp got through the gnat sticks fast.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Every journalist owes tribute to the evil one.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Imitators are a slavish herd and fools in my opinion.

~Jean de La Fontaine

In every trouble the little ones duck more easily.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Man is ice to truth and fire to falsehood.

~Jean de La Fontaine

I bend, but I do not break.

~Jean de La Fontaine

If you deal with a fox, think of his tricks.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Anyone entrusted with power will abuse it if not also animated with the love of truth and virtue, no matter whether he be a prince, or one of the people.

~Jean de La Fontaine

We become innocent when we are unfortunate.

~Jean de La Fontaine

From a distance it is something; and nearby it is nothing.

~Jean de La Fontaine

One returns to the place one came from.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Le geai pare des plumes du paon. A bluejay in peacock feathers.

~Jean de La Fontaine

By time and toil we sever What strength and rage could never.

~Jean de La Fontaine

One often has need of one inferior to himself.

~Jean de La Fontaine

In everything one must consider the end.

~Jean de La Fontaine

People who make no noise are dangerous.

~Jean de La Fontaine

We risk all in being too greedy.

~Jean de La Fontaine

No favor can win gratitude from a cat.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Cats know not how to pardon.

~Jean de La Fontaine

The argument of the strongest is always the best.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Women keep no secrets, and I know many men, who are women in this regard.

~Jean de La Fontaine

The best laid plot can injure its maker, and often a man's perfidy will rebound on himself.

~Jean de La Fontaine

It is double pleasure to deceive the deceiver. [Fr., Car c'est double plaisir de tromper le trompeur.]

~Jean de La Fontaine

We ought never to scoff at the wretched, for who can be sure of continued happiness?

~Jean de La Fontaine

Silent people are dangerous; others are not so. [Fr., Les gens sans bruit sont dangereux; Il n'en est pas ainsi des autres.]

~Jean de La Fontaine

Gentleness succeeds better than violence.

~Jean de La Fontaine

No path of flowers leads to glory.

~Jean de La Fontaine

It is said, that the thing you possess is worth more than two you may have in the future. The one is sure and the other is not.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Blind fortune pursues inconsiderate rashness. [Fr., Fortune aveugle suit aveugle hardiesse.]

~Jean de La Fontaine

A hare is not caught with a drum.

~Jean de La Fontaine

The strongest passion is fear.

~Jean de La Fontaine

There is no road of flowers leading to glory.

~Jean de La Fontaine

It is impossible to please all the world and one's father.

~Jean de La Fontaine

As sheepish as a fox captured by a fowl. [Fr., Honteux comme un renard qu'une poule aurait pris.]

~Jean de La Fontaine

In short, luck's always to blame.

~Jean de La Fontaine

All roads lead to Rome, but our antagonists think we should choose different paths.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Better a living beggar than a buried emperor.

~Jean de La Fontaine

We like to see others, but don't like others to see through us.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Diversity, that is my motto.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Our condition never satisfies us; the present is always the worst. Though Jupiter should grant his request to each, we should continue to importune him.

~Jean de La Fontaine

It is no use running; to set out betimes is the main point.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Everyone has his faults which he continually repeats: neither fear nor shame can cure them.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Never sell the bear's skin before one has killed the beast.

~Jean de La Fontaine

We read on the foreheads of those who are surrounded by a foolish luxury, that fortune sells what she is thought to give.

~Jean de La Fontaine

A cheerful mind is a vigorous mind.

~Jean de La Fontaine

To win a race, the swiftness of a dart Availeth not without a timely start

~Jean de La Fontaine

One should oblige everyone to the extent of one's ability. One often needs someone smaller than oneself.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Rogues are always found out in some way. Whoever is a wolf will act like a wolf, that is most certain.

~Jean de La Fontaine

The fastidious are unfortunate: nothing can satisfy them. [Lat., Les

delicats sont malheureux, Rien ne saurait les satisfaire.]

~Jean de La Fontaine

He is very foolish who aims at satisfying all the world and his father.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Better to suffer than to die.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Let fools the studious despise, There's nothing lost by being wise.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Men of all ages have the same inclinations, over which reason exercises no control. Thus, wherever men are found, there are follies, ay, and the same follies.

~Jean de La Fontaine

The worst time is always the present.

~Jean de La Fontaine

La raison du plus fort est toujours la meilleure. The reason of the strongest is always the best.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Alas! we see that the small have always suffered for the follies of the great. [Fr., Helas! on voit que de tout temps Les Petits ont pati des sottises des grands.]

~Jean de La Fontaine

How wealthy the gods would be if we remembered the promises we made when we were in danger.

~Jean de La Fontaine

People must help one another; it is nature's law.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Un auteur ga" te tout quand il veut trop bien faire. An author spoils everything when he wants too much to do good.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Rather suffer than die is man's motto.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Habit, to which all of us are more or less slaves.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Learn that every flatterer Lives at the flattered listeners cost.

~Jean de La Fontaine

The fastidious are unfortunate; nothing satisfies them.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Imitators are a slavish herd and fools in my opinion. [Fr., C'est un betail servile et sot a mon avis Que les imitateurs.]

~Jean de La Fontaine

The good, we do it; the evil, that is fortune; man is always right, and destiny always wrong.

~Jean de La Fontaine

A pessimist and an optimist, so much the worse; so much the better.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Let ignorance talk as it will, learning has its value.

~Jean de La Fontaine

Help yourself, and Heaven will help you.

~Jean de La Fontaine

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