

Katherine Mansfield

Quotes

Writing, Love, People, Wish, Mean, Want, Thinking, Stars, Friendship, Light, Giving, Regret, Mushrooms, Life, Book, Strong, World, Lasts, Breathing, Winter

If only one could tell true love from false love as one can tell mushrooms from toadstools.

~Katherine Mansfield

Could we change our attitude, we should not only see life differently, but life itself would come to be different.

~Katherine Mansfield

Make it a rule of life never to regret and never to look back. Regret is an appalling waste of energy, you can't build on it it's only good for wallowing in.

~Katherine Mansfield

How hard it is to escape from places. However carefully one goes they hold you â€” you leave little bits of yourself fluttering on the fences â€” like rags and shreds of your very life.

~Katherine Mansfield

Risk! Risk anything! Care no more for the opinions of others, for those voices. Do the hardest thing on earth for you. Act for yourself. Face the truth.

~Katherine Mansfield

I always felt that the great high privilege, relief and comfort of friendship was that one had to explain nothing.

~Katherine Mansfield

The pleasure of all reading is doubled when one lives with another who shares the same books.

~Katherine Mansfield

Make it a rule of life never to regret and never to look back.

~Katherine Mansfield

I am poor - obscure - just eighteen years of age - with a rapacious appetite for everything and principles as light as my purse.

~Katherine Mansfield

The mind I love must have wild places.

~Katherine Mansfield

I want to be all that I am capable of becoming.

~Katherine Mansfield

It is of immense importance to learn to laugh at ourselves.

~Katherine Mansfield

The truth is that every true admirer of the novels cherishes the happy thought that he alone - reading between the lines - has become the secret friend of their author.

~Katherine Mansfield

Bless you, my darling, and remember you are always in the heart - oh tucked so close there is no chance of escape - of your sister.

~Katherine Mansfield

There are always these moments in life when the limits of suffering are reached and we become heroes and heroines.

~Katherine Mansfield

The ostrich burying its head in the sand does at any rate wish to convey the impression that its head is the most important part of it.

~Katherine Mansfield

Looking back, I imagine I was always writing. Twaddle it was too. But better far write twaddle or anything, anything, than nothing at all.

~Katherine Mansfield

The truth is friendship is every bit as sacred and eternal as marriage.

~Katherine Mansfield

How idiotic civilization is! Why be given a body if you have to keep it shut up in a case like a rare, rare fiddle?

~Katherine Mansfield

You are a Queen. Let mine be the joy of giving you your kingdom.

~Katherine Mansfield

When we begin to take our failures non-seriously, it means we are ceasing to be afraid of them.

~Katherine Mansfield

Everything in life that we really accept undergoes a change.

~Katherine Mansfield

You might drop your heart into me and you'd never hear it touch bottom.

~Katherine Mansfield

In fact, isn't it a joy - there is hardly a greater one - to find a new book, a living book, and to know that it will remain with you while life lasts?

~Katherine Mansfield

My love for you tonight is so deep and tender that it seems to be outside myself as well.

~Katherine Mansfield

To acknowledge the presence of fear is to give birth to failure.

~Katherine Mansfield

I have such a horror of telegrams that ask me how I am!! I always want to reply dead.

~Katherine Mansfield

Now's the time when children's noses
All become as red as roses
And the colour of their faces
Makes me think of orchard places
Where the juicy apples grow,
And tomatoes in a row.

~Katherine Mansfield

What I feel for you can't be conveyed in phrasal combinations; It either screams out loud or stays painfully silent but I promise â€” it beats words. It beats worlds. I promise

~Katherine Mansfield

I love the rain. I want the feeling of it on my face.

~Katherine Mansfield

Would you not like to try all sorts of lives - one is so very small - but that is the satisfaction of writing - one can impersonate so many people.

~Katherine Mansfield

It's a terrible thing to be alone - yes it is - it is - but don't lower your mask until you have another mask prepared beneath - as terrible as you like - but a mask.

~Katherine Mansfield

Whenever I prepare for a journey I prepare as though for death. Should I never return, all is in order.

~Katherine Mansfield

I am a recluse at present & do nothing but write & read & read & write

~Katherine Mansfield

I must say, I hate money. But it's the lack of it I hate most.

~Katherine Mansfield

There is no feeling to be compared with the feeling of having written and finished a story.

~Katherine Mansfield

England is merely an island of beef swimming in a warm gulf stream of gravy.

~Katherine Mansfield

But one day we shall be rich, and the next poor. One day we shall dine in a palace and the next we'll sit in a forest and toast mushrooms on a hatpin.

~Katherine Mansfield

I am treating you as my friend, asking you to share my present minuses in the hope that I can ask you to share my future plusses.

~Katherine Mansfield

Do the hardest thing on earth for you. ACT YOURSELF.

~Katherine Mansfield

Regret is an appalling waste of time.

~Katherine Mansfield

Some couples go over their budgets very carefully every month. Others just go over them.

~Katherine Mansfield

Regret is an appalling waste of energy, and no one who intends to be a writer can afford to indulge in it.

~Katherine Mansfield

I want, by understanding myself, to understand others.

~Katherine Mansfield

What do you want most to do? That's what I have to keep asking myself, in the face of difficulties.

~Katherine Mansfield

Can one do nothing for the dead? And for a long time the answer had been - Nothing!

~Katherine Mansfield

Life never become a habit to me. It's always a marvel.

~Katherine Mansfield

The whole world shall be ours because of our love.

~Katherine Mansfield

Warm, eager, living life-to be rooted in life-to learn, to desire, to know, to feel, to think, to act. This is what I want. And nothing less. That is what I must try for.

~Katherine Mansfield

To work - to work! It is such infinite delight to know that we still have the best things to do.

~Katherine Mansfield

Once we have learned to read, meaning of words can somehow register without consciousness.

~Katherine Mansfield

By health I mean the power to live a full, adult, living, breathing life in close contact with... the earth and the wonders thereof - the sea - the sun.

~Katherine Mansfield

If you wish to live, you must first attend your own funeral.

~Katherine Mansfield

I am going to enjoy life in Paris I know. It is so human and there is something noble in the city... It is a real city, old and fine and life plays in it for everybody to see.

~Katherine Mansfield

That's all life is - something childish and very natural. Isn't it?

~Katherine Mansfield

But the more poetry one reads the more one longs to read!

~Katherine Mansfield

Better to write twaddle, anything, than nothing at all.

~Katherine Mansfield

Children are unaccountable little creatures.

~Katherine Mansfield

Wind moving through grass so that the grass quivers. This moves me with an emotion I don't even understand.

~Katherine Mansfield

conversation is like a dear little baby that is brought in to be handed round. You must rock it, nurse it, keep it on the move if you want it to keep smiling.

~Katherine Mansfield

Tidied all my papers. Tore up and ruthlessly destroyed much. This is always a great satisfaction.

~Katherine Mansfield

I'm a writer first and a woman after.

~Katherine Mansfield

Whatever happens I have had these blissful, perfect moments and they

are worth living for.

~Katherine Mansfield

You have never been curious about me; you never wanted to explore my soul.

~Katherine Mansfield

In the woods where snow is thick, bars of sunlight lay like pale fire.

~Katherine Mansfield

Ah, what happiness it is to be with people who all are happy, to press hands, press cheeks, smile into eyes.

~Katherine Mansfield

I saw myself driving through Eternity in a timeless taxi.

~Katherine Mansfield

Why! Why! Why is the middle-class so stodgy - so utterly without a sense of humor?

~Katherine Mansfield

I really only have Perfect Fun with myself. Other people won't stop and look at the things I want to look at or, if they do, they stop to please me or to humor me or to keep the peace.

~Katherine Mansfield

'Isn't life,' she stammered, 'isn't life--' But what life was she couldn't explain. No matter. He quite understood. 'Isn't it, darling?' said Laurie.

~Katherine Mansfield

The great thing to remember is we can do whatever we wish to do provided our wish is strong enough.

~Katherine Mansfield

Courage is like a disobedient dog, once it starts running away it flies all the faster for your attempts to recall it.

~Katherine Mansfield

I feel I must live alone, alone, alone - with artists only to touch the door. Every artist cuts off his ear and nails it on the outside of the door for the others to shout into.

~Katherine Mansfield

It is strange that there are times when I feel the stars are not at all solemn: they are secretly gay.

~Katherine Mansfield

That is the fearful part of having been near death. One knows how easy it is to die. The barriers that are up for everybody else are down for you, and you've only to slip through.

~Katherine Mansfield

Every time one leaves anywhere, something precious, which ought not to be killed, is left to die.

~Katherine Mansfield

roses are the only flowers at garden-parties; the only flowers that everybody is certain of knowing.

~Katherine Mansfield

To long for everything: sorrow; to accept everything: joy.

~Katherine Mansfield

Perhaps it does not matter so very much what it is one loves in this world. But love something one must.

~Katherine Mansfield

As in the physical world, so in the spiritual world, pain does not last

forever.

~Katherine Mansfield

Who is to decide between 'Let it be' and 'Force it'?

~Katherine Mansfield

Oh, how quickly things changed! Why didn't happiness last for ever?
For ever wasn't a bit too long.

~Katherine Mansfield

There are in life as many aspects as attitudes towards it, and aspects change with attitudes.

~Katherine Mansfield

I think I hate snow, downright hate it. There is something stupefying in it, a kind of 'You must be worse before you're better,' and down it spins.

~Katherine Mansfield

Why it should be such an effort to write to the people one loves I can't imagine. It's none at all to write to those who don't really count.

~Katherine Mansfield

we cling to our last pleasures as the tree clings to its last leaves.

~Katherine Mansfield

I don't believe other people are ever as foolishly excited as I am while I'm working. How could they be? Writers would have to live in trees.

~Katherine Mansfield

Letters are the real curse of my existence. I hate to write them: I have to. If I don't, there they are - the great guilty gates barring my way.

~Katherine Mansfield

Yes, my mother's death is a terrible sorrow to me. I feel - do you know what I mean - the silence of it so. She was more alive than anyone I have ever known.

~Katherine Mansfield

Outside the sky is light with stars

~Katherine Mansfield

To be alive and to be a 'writer' is enough.

~Katherine Mansfield

... I'd always rather be with people who loved me too little rather than with people who loved me too much.

~Katherine Mansfield

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