

# Mallory Ortberg Quotes

*People, Thinking, Children, Sex, Dream, Giving, Want, Jobs, Order, Care,  
Moving, Worry, Gay, Causes, Doe, Dog, Events, Risk, Able, Facts*

It is so tempting to return rudeness with rudeness!

~Mallory Ortberg

To stop challenging someone from using anti-gay language simply because they persist in using anti-gay language strikes me as a defeatist approach.

~Mallory Ortberg

If you don't like potlucks, the solution to your problem is "don't go to potlucks," not "insist other people don't have them."

~Mallory Ortberg

Reconciliation is not possible when one party asks the other to obliterate all signs of their relationship.

~Mallory Ortberg

Depression cannot be overcome by listing a series of good things in one's life, any more than a broken foot can be healed by thinking about all the other bones you have that aren't broken.

~Mallory Ortberg

Bad dental hygiene can lead to respiratory infections and an increased risk for heart disease and strokes.

~Mallory Ortberg

There has to be some kind of personal hygiene bar that a person needs to clear in order for a relationship to be successful.

~Mallory Ortberg

So many people choose silence after the immediate wake of a death out of fear of saying something out of turn or "bringing up bad memories" that bereaved people often feel forgotten.

~Mallory Ortberg

You can care very much about someone without being capable of becoming their primary caregiver in the event of their parents' untimely death.

~Mallory Ortberg

LGBT youth face a much higher risk of violence and homelessness after being rejected by their family of origin.

~Mallory Ortberg

Asexuality does not make our lives any worse or any better, we just face a different set of challenges than most sexual people.

~Mallory Ortberg

It's one thing to be a high achiever; it's quite another to privately sneer at your girlfriend's friends after feigning friendliness because they have the "misfortune" to drive a bus for a living.

~Mallory Ortberg

Addicts sometimes have a penchant for becoming the center of attention at other people's celebrations.

~Mallory Ortberg

I'm pretty sure there's no sexuality that justifies constant low-level harassment.

~Mallory Ortberg

A woman who repeatedly asks a man she knows to be gay when he's going to get married and have children is not trying to let sleeping dogs lie.

~Mallory Ortberg

I don't think it's a requirement that a happy, fulfilling relationship also provide the best sex of all time.

~Mallory Ortberg

Anyone who wants to pretend that your Huntington's disease is an invention is someone who does not have your best interests at heart.

~Mallory Ortberg

I do not think it is selfish to want to donate a kidney "only" to family members.

~Mallory Ortberg

If you get a dog, take care of your dog! You can just not have a dog if you don't feel like taking care of one, it's very easy to not have a dog.

~Mallory Ortberg

You don't need to hide the fact that you're in recovery, but you don't have to share your history of addiction with acquaintances at work, either.

~Mallory Ortberg

The mere idea of asking a family member if they intentionally stopped sending me an annual bonus makes me feel like breaking out in hives.

~Mallory Ortberg

If and when you do decide to share your experience with your husband, it should be because you feel ready to do so, not for any other reason.

~Mallory Ortberg

One of the glorious things about being a person in the world is that you don't have to worry about whether or not someone else is trying to be creepy.

~Mallory Ortberg

Worrying seems like a fairly natural state of being for a parent, so feel free to worry as much as you want.

~Mallory Ortberg

You may not be able to convince everyone around you that you're doing the right thing, but you don't have to subject yourself to endless second-guessing from others, either.

~Mallory Ortberg

Knowledge of death is the beginning of wisdom.

~Mallory Ortberg

We are all going to die, sometimes even in the middle of a lease.

~Mallory Ortberg

Unlike celibacy, which people choose, asexuality is an intrinsic part of who we are.

~Mallory Ortberg

You, too, will someday die, perhaps under inconvenient circumstances, at a time when you do not particularly wish to, and for causes that you cannot yet predict.

~Mallory Ortberg

In no state in America is it legal for a landlord to demand their tenants lead a "healthy lifestyle" in order to rent property.

~Mallory Ortberg

I agree that biphobia is real, but I think it's absolutely worth considering that someone who "despises" having sex with her husband - and men in general - may not be interested in men sexually.

~Mallory Ortberg

Someone who has a disability is not necessarily in distress. You may be embarrassing and inconveniencing someone by butting in and making assumptions.

~Mallory Ortberg

An adult woman should not be so possessive of her own birthday that she begrudges her friends the chance to get married on the same day.

~Mallory Ortberg

If just one person touches you without your permission, stepping back and saying clearly, "Please don't touch me" should get them to stop.

~Mallory Ortberg

Some struggling marriages can be salvaged with hard work and counseling; others should be dismantled and stripped for parts.

~Mallory Ortberg

You can't prevent a possible future closeness between your upcoming child and one or more of their grandparents.

~Mallory Ortberg

Tenancy laws can be so complicated; I want to make sure OP is protected as much as possible.

~Mallory Ortberg

Reciprocating oral sex is, in general, a very good idea!

~Mallory Ortberg

If someone you know is diagnosed with cancer, give them a call or send them a letter to tell them how sorry you are and to let them know how much you care.

~Mallory Ortberg

There are few things more disconcerting than realizing the first date you thought went so well was in fact a dud.

~Mallory Ortberg

There's simply no way you can tell a woman you work with that you disapprove of her relationship with her adult child, no matter how much

you think it would be better for him to move out.

~Mallory Ortberg

Diapers do not belong on the same table as food.

~Mallory Ortberg

If you're so forgetful that you're incapable of remembering that a co-worker isn't pregnant on three separate occasions in as many months, I worry about your memory and cognition skills.

~Mallory Ortberg

You need to be able to express your resentment and sense of loss in a way that doesn't damage your partner.

~Mallory Ortberg

Anyone who thinks it's funny to name their network "Tom'sHugeEtc" is going to think it's funny that one of his neighbors is also named Tom and is embarrassed by it.

~Mallory Ortberg

Don't let a friend make you feel publicly uncomfortable indefinitely just because they're probably a lesbian.

~Mallory Ortberg

"Not being virulently and overtly racist against black people" and "treating gay people like human beings" are necessary conditions of greatness.

~Mallory Ortberg

Nothing good comes of reading other people's emails.

~Mallory Ortberg

Some people give gifts in order to bewilder, confuse, and manipulate their recipients.

~Mallory Ortberg

You have a right to be treated professionally at work, and it's your supervisor's job to make sure all their employees can perform their duties comfortably and safely.

~Mallory Ortberg

Many fathers go their entire lives without announcing how sexy their son's old girlfriends are.

~Mallory Ortberg

There are alternatives to pregnancy if you want another child.

~Mallory Ortberg

I don't know of any way to control the subject of one's dreams although I'm fairly certain there are more than a few types of psychoanalysis dedicated to the topic.

~Mallory Ortberg

Enjoy your relationship with your boyfriend and don't worry about the people or situations you dream about. Once you wake up, they're over; let them go.

~Mallory Ortberg

Acting politely in front of someone black and/or gay and then making horrible claims about their intelligence or worth as human beings after they leave the room is not kindness - it's hypocrisy.

~Mallory Ortberg

I hate to get gender essentialist, but I'm starting to think that a lot of married men have some sort of heterosexually induced dentistry aversion.

~Mallory Ortberg



Not wanting to give everyone in your life one of your kidneys is not the same thing as hoping they die of kidney failure.

~Mallory Ortberg

I'm of the belief that dating "potential" is almost always an exercise in frustration.

~Mallory Ortberg

Letting events end is not rude. Everything ends.

~Mallory Ortberg

The hardest part about being ghosted is the fact that you can't deal with the ghoster directly. You just never hear from them again, and everything feels odd and incomplete.

~Mallory Ortberg

It can't hurt to have a backup.

~Mallory Ortberg

You have a wonderful opportunity here to not care about something that doesn't matter to you. Please don't miss out on it.

~Mallory Ortberg

Don't badger people without children into admitting the secret desire for children you're sure they have to you! Don't badger anyone! Leave the badgering to the badgers.

~Mallory Ortberg

Five-foot-8 is a perfectly normal height for a woman - it's slightly but not at all unusually tall and certainly shouldn't be causing you any torment.

~Mallory Ortberg

Your partner cannot fault you for refusing to host a perpetual-motion party or for the fact that you must sleep and will eventually die.

~Mallory Ortberg

Periodontal bacteria can easily slip into the bloodstream and cause infection elsewhere in the body.

~Mallory Ortberg

Arm yourself with as many options as possible before making your next move.

~Mallory Ortberg

Don't beat yourself up over what you dream about.

~Mallory Ortberg

Kids know when they're getting yelled at and mocked, I can assure you.

~Mallory Ortberg

It's OK to tell your partner to objectify you. That's part of the fun of having a partner.

~Mallory Ortberg

Someone who responds to "Please don't grope me" with whining and pouting isn't a friend. He's an asshole and a predator.

~Mallory Ortberg

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