

Marquis de Sade

Quotes

*Men, Passion, Law, Thinking, Imagination, Sex, Mean, War, Vices, Kinky,
Literature, Ideas, Simple, Pleasure, Pain, Evil, Lying, Happiness, Beautiful,
Nature*

Let us give ourselves indiscriminately to everything our passions suggest, and we will always be happy...Conscience is not the voice of Nature but only the voice of prejudice.

~Marquis de Sade

It is always by way of pain one arrives at pleasure.

~Marquis de Sade

We are no guiltier in following the primitive impulses that govern us than is the Nile for her floods or the sea for her waves.

~Marquis de Sade

I've already told you: the only way to a woman's heart is along the path of torment. I know none other as sure.

~Marquis de Sade

Your body is the church where Nature asks to be revered.

~Marquis de Sade

Conversation, like certain portions of the anatomy, always runs more smoothly when lubricated.

~Marquis de Sade

In order to know virtue, we must first acquaint ourselves with vice.

~Marquis de Sade

My passions, concentrated on a single point, resemble the rays of a sun assembled by a magnifying glass: they immediately set fire to whatever object they find in their way.

~Marquis de Sade

Crime is the soul of lust. What would pleasure be if it were not accompanied by crime? It is not the object of debauchery that excites us, rather the idea of evil.

~Marquis de Sade

Sex should be a perfect balance of pain and pleasure. Without that symmetry, sex becomes a routine rather than an indulgence.

~Marquis de Sade

Either kill me or take me as I am, because I'll be damned if I ever change.

~Marquis de Sade

One must do violence to the object of one's desire; when it surrenders, the pleasure is greater.

~Marquis de Sade

My manner of thinking, so you say, cannot be approved. Do you suppose I care? A poor fool indeed is he who adopts a manner of thinking for others!

~Marquis de Sade

There is no more lively sensation than that of pain; its impressions are certain and dependable, they never deceive as may those of the pleasure women perpetually feign and almost never experience.

~Marquis de Sade

Sexual pleasure is, I agree, a passion to which all others are subordinate but in which they all unite.

~Marquis de Sade

Sex is as important as eating or drinking and we ought to allow the one appetite to be satisfied with as little restraint or false modesty as the other.

~Marquis de Sade

If it is the dirty element that gives pleasure to the act of lust, then the

dirtier it is, the more pleasurable it is bound to be.

~Marquis de Sade

Nature has endowed each of us with a capacity for kindly feelings: let us not squander them on others.

~Marquis de Sade

The pleasure of the senses is always regulated in accordance with the imagination. Man can aspire to felicity only by serving all the whims of his imagination.

~Marquis de Sade

Can we become other than what we are?

~Marquis de Sade

No kind of sensation is keener and more active than that of pain its impressions are unmistakable.

~Marquis de Sade

I assumed that everything must yield to me, that the entire universe had to flatter my whims, and that I had the right to satisfy them at will.

~Marquis de Sade

Lust is to the other passions what the nervous fluid is to life; it supports them all, lends strength to them all ambition, cruelty, avarice, revenge, are all founded on lust.

~Marquis de Sade

The idea of God is the sole wrong for which I cannot forgive mankind.

~Marquis de Sade

Religions are the cradles of despotism.

~Marquis de Sade

The man who alters his way of thinking to suit others is a fool.

~Marquis de Sade

The completest submissiveness is your lot, and that is all.

~Marquis de Sade

Lust's passion will be served; it demands, it militates, it tyrannizes.

~Marquis de Sade

Don't have children: they deform women's bodies and turn into an enemy 20 years later.

~Marquis de Sade

And if I were a naughty little boy, the idea is to spank me into good behavior?

~Marquis de Sade

Why do you complain of your fate when you could so easily change it?

~Marquis de Sade

There is no God, Nature sufficeth unto herself; in no wise hath she need of an author.

~Marquis de Sade

We monsters are necessary to nature also.

~Marquis de Sade

Love Is Stronger Than Pride

~Marquis de Sade

What we are doing here is only the image of what we would like to do.

~Marquis de Sade

Virtue can procure only an imaginary happiness; true felicity lies only in

the senses, and virtue gratifies none of them.

~Marquis de Sade

Lycurgus, Numa, Moses, Jesus Christ, Mohammed, all these great rogues, all these great thought-tyrants, knew how to associate the divinities they fabricated with their own boundless ambition.

~Marquis de Sade

To judge from the notions expounded by theologians, one must conclude that God created most men simply with a view to crowding hell.

~Marquis de Sade

Now I beg of you to tell me whether I must love a human being simply because he exists or resembles me and whether for those reasons alone I must suddenly prefer him to myself?

~Marquis de Sade

God strung up his own son like a side of veal. I shudder to think what he would do to me.

~Marquis de Sade

Between understanding and faith immediate connections must subsist.

~Marquis de Sade

Happiness lies neither in vice nor in virtue; but in the manner we appreciate the one and the other, and the choice we make pursuant to our individual organization.

~Marquis de Sade

How delicious to corrupt, to stifle all semblances of virtue and religion in that young heart!

~Marquis de Sade

Are your convictions so fragile that mine cannot stand in opposition to them? Is your God so illusory that the presence of my Devil reveals his insufficiency?

~Marquis de Sade

I've been to Hell. You've only read about it.

~Marquis de Sade

Happiness is an abstraction, it is a product of the imagination, it is a way of being moved, which depends entirely on our way of seeing and feeling.

~Marquis de Sade

There are thorns everywhere, but along the path of vice, roses bloom above them.

~Marquis de Sade

All universal moral principles are idle fancies.

~Marquis de Sade

I have supported my deviations with reasons; I did not stop at mere doubt; I have vanquished, I have uprooted, I have destroyed everything in my heart that might have interfered with my pleasure.

~Marquis de Sade

Destruction, hence, like creation, is one of Nature's mandates.

~Marquis de Sade

The primary and most beautiful of nature's qualities is motion

~Marquis de Sade

Sensual excess drives out pity in man.

~Marquis de Sade

One is never so dangerous when one has no shame, than when one has grown too old to blush.

~Marquis de Sade

In an age that is utterly corrupt, the best policy is to do as others do.

~Marquis de Sade

Social order at the expense of liberty is hardly a bargain.

~Marquis de Sade

The more defects a man may have, the older he is, the less lovable, the more resounding his success.

~Marquis de Sade

Happiness is ideal, it is the work of the imagination.

~Marquis de Sade

'Til the infallibility of human judgements shall have been proved to me, I shall demand the abolition of the penalty of death.

~Marquis de Sade

No lover, if he be of good faith, and sincere, will deny he would prefer to see his mistress dead than unfaithful.

~Marquis de Sade

Let not your zeal to share your principles entice you beyond your borders.

~Marquis de Sade

There is a kind of pleasure which comes from sacrilege or the profanation of the objects offered us for worship.

~Marquis de Sade

The reasoning man who scorns the prejudices of simpletons

necessarily becomes the enemy of simpletons; he must expect as much, and laugh at the inevitable.

~Marquis de Sade

Nature has not got two voices, you know, one of them condemning all day what the other commands.

~Marquis de Sade

The majority of pop stars are complete idiots in every respect.

~Marquis de Sade

They declaim against the passions without bothering to think that it is from their flame philosophy lights its torch.

~Marquis de Sade

The law which attempts a man's life [capital punishment] is impractical, unjust, inadmissible. It has never repressed crime - for a second crime is every day committed at the foot of the scaffold.

~Marquis de Sade

Prejudice is the sole author of infamies: how many acts are so qualified by an opinion forged out of naught but prejudice!

~Marquis de Sade

Variety, multiplicity are the two most powerful vehicles of lust.

~Marquis de Sade

It requires only two things to win credit for a miracle: a mountebank and a number of silly women.

~Marquis de Sade

Is it not of the imagination that the sharpest pleasures arise?

~Marquis de Sade

The ultimate triumph of philosophy would be to cast light upon the mysterious ways in which Providence moves to achieve the designs it has for man.

~Marquis de Sade

One weeps not save when one is afraid, and that is why kings are tyrants.

~Marquis de Sade

The horror of wedlock, the most appalling, the most loathsome of all the bonds humankind has devised for its own discomfort and degradation.

~Marquis de Sade

Nothing we can do outrages Nature directly. Our acts of destruction give her new vigour and feed her energy, but none of our wreckings can weaken her power.

~Marquis de Sade

It is not my mode of thought that has caused my misfortunes, but the mode of thought of others.

~Marquis de Sade

Were he supreme, were he mighty, were he just, were he good, this God you tell me about, would it be through enigmas and buffooneries he would wish to teach me to serve and know him?

~Marquis de Sade

Conspiracy! Intrigue! A rapidly thickening plot! Add some bestiality and a lecherous priest and I'd say you have the beginnings of a beautiful novel.

~Marquis de Sade

The most fortunate of persons is he who has the most means to satisfy his vagaries.

~Marquis de Sade

What is more immoral than war?

~Marquis de Sade

Sex without pain is like food without taste

~Marquis de Sade

Are wars anything but the means whereby a nation is nourished, whereby it is strengthened, whereby it is buttressed?

~Marquis de Sade

The primary and most beautiful of Nature's qualities is motion, which agitates her at all times, but this motion is simply a perpetual consequence of crimes, she conserves it by means of crimes only.

~Marquis de Sade

It is certainly no crime to depict the bizarre ideas that nature inspires.

~Marquis de Sade

I don't know what the heart is, not I: I only use the word to denote the mind's frailties.

~Marquis de Sade

Humane sentiments are baseless, mad, and improper; they are incredibly feeble; never do they withstand the gainsaying passions, never do they resist bare necessity.

~Marquis de Sade

Is it not a strange blindness on our part to teach publicly the techniques of warfare and to reward with medals those who prove to be the most adroit killers?

~Marquis de Sade

Fear not lest precautions and protective contrivances diminish your pleasure: mystery only adds thereto.

~Marquis de Sade

The mirror sees the man as beautiful, the mirror loves the man; another mirror sees the man as frightful and hates him; and it is always the same being who produces the impressions.

~Marquis de Sade

Cruelty, very far from being a vice, is the first sentiment Nature injects in us all.

~Marquis de Sade

I want to be the victim of his errors.

~Marquis de Sade

Every principle is a judgment, every judgment the outcome of experience, and experience is only acquired by the exercise of the senses . . .

~Marquis de Sade

Happiness lies only in that which excites, and the only thing that excites is crime.

~Marquis de Sade

You are afraid of the people unrestrained-how ridiculous!

~Marquis de Sade

The impossibility of outraging nature is the greatest anguish man can know.

~Marquis de Sade

Certain souls may seem harsh to others, but it is just a way, beknownst only to them, of caring and feeling more deeply.

~Marquis de Sade

Crime is to the passions what nervous fluid is to life: it sustains them, it supplies their strength.

~Marquis de Sade

It is not the opinions or the vices of private individuals that are harmful to the State, but rather the behavior of public figures.

~Marquis de Sade

Truth titillates the imagination far less than fiction.

~Marquis de Sade

Any enjoyment is weakened when shared.

~Marquis de Sade

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