Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley Quotes

Men, Heart, Mind, Eye, Grief, Soul, Feelings, Ambition, Miserable, Evil, Dark, Thinking, Dream, Causes, Self, Light, World, Believe, Angel, Misery Beware; for I am fearless, and therefore powerful.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Accursed creator! Why did you form a monster so hideous that even you turned from me in disgust?

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Nothing contributes so much to tranquilize the mind as a steady purpose - a point on which the soul may fix its intellectual eye.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

If I cannot inspire love, I will cause fear! ~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

You are my creator, but I am your master; Obey! ~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

I beheld the wretch-the miserable monster whom I had created. ~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

There is something at work in my soul, which I do not understand. ~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Solitude was my only consolation - deep, dark, deathlike solitude.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

My dreams were all my own; I accounted for them to nobody; they were my refuge when annoyed - my dearest pleasure when free.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Live, and be happy, and make others so.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

There is love in me the likes of which you've never seen. There is rage

in me the likes of which should never escape. If I am not satisfied int he one, I will indulge the other.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

The fallen angel becomes a malignant devil.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

The very winds whispered in soothing accents, and maternal Nature bade me weep no more.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

A human being in perfection ought always to preserve a calm and peaceful mind and never to allow passion or a transitory desire to disturb his tranquility.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Men become cannibals of their own hearts; remorse, regret, and restless impatience usurp the place of more wholesome feeling: every thing seems better than that which is.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Of what a strange nature is knowledge! It clings to a mind when it has once seized on it like a lichen on a rock." - Frankenstein p115 ~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Nothing is so painful to the human mind as a great and sudden change.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Happiness is in its highest degree the sister of goodness.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

My candle was nearly burnt out, when, by the glimmer of the half-extinguished light, I saw the dull yellow eye of the creature open.

What can stop the determined heart and resolved will of man? ~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

... the companions of our childhood always possess a certain power over our minds which hardly any later friend can obtain.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

The agony of my feelings allowed me no respite; no incident occurred from which my rage and misery could not extract its food.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

A solitary being is by instinct a wanderer.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

You seek for knowledge and wisdom as I once did; and I ardently hope that the gratification of your wishes may not be a serpent to sting you, as mine has been.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

A mind of moderate capacity which closely pursues one study must infallibly arrive at great proficiency in that study.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

The young are always in extremes.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Elegance is inferior to virtue.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

What terrified me will terrify others; and I need only describe the spectre which had haunted my midnight pillow.

To examine the causes of life, we must first have recourse to death. ~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Every where I see bliss, from which I alone am irrevocably excluded. ~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

The moon gazed on my midnight labours, while, with unrelaxed and breathless eagerness, I pursued nature to her hiding places.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

...once I falsely hoped to meet the beings who, pardoning my outward form, would love me for the excellent qualities which I was capable of unfolding.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Her countenance was all expression; her eyes were not dark but impenetrably deep; you seemed to discover space after space in their intellectual glance.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Life is obstinate and clings closest where it is most hated.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Invention, it must be humbly admitted, does not consist in creating out of void, but out of chaos.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

I see by your eagerness, and the wonder and hope which your eyes express, my friend, that you expect to be in formed of the secret with which I am acquainted. That cannot be.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

I also became a poet, and for one year lived in a Paradise of my own creation; I imagined that I also might obtain a niche in the temple where

the names of Homer and Shakespeare are consecrated.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

...if I see but one smile on your lips when we meet, occasioned by this or any other exertion of mine, I shall need no other happiness. ~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Devil, do you dare approach me? and do you not fear the fierce vengeance of my arm wreaked on your miserable head?

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

It is true, we shall be monsters, cut off from all the world; but on that account we shall be more attached to one another.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

I am alone and miserable. Only someone as ugly as I am could love me.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

How mutable are our feelings, and how strange is that clinging love we have of life even in the excess of misery!

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Seek happiness in tranquility and avoid ambition even if it be only the apparently innocent one of distinguishing yourself in science and discoveries.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

The world to me was a secret, which I desired to discover; to her it was a vacancy, which she sought to people with imaginations of her own. ~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

I ought to be thy Adam, but I am rather the fallen angel.

When I step into the batter's box, the fans, the noise, the cheers, they all disappear. For that moment, the world is just a battle between me and the pitcher. And more than anything, I want to win.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

...learn from my miseries, and do not seek to increase your own. ~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

It is hardly surprising that women concentrate on the way they look instead of what is in their minds since not much has been put in their minds to begin with.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

None but those who have experienced them can conceive of the enticements of science.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

There is something so different in Venice from any other place in the world, that you leave at once all accustomed habits and everyday sights to enter an enchanted garden.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Unhappy man! Do you share my maddness? Have you drunk also of the intoxicating draught? Hear me; let me reveal my tale, and you will dash the cup from your lips!

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Teach him to think for himself? Oh, my God, teach him rather to think like other people!

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Invention consists in the capacity of seizing on the capabilities of a subject, and in the power of moulding and fashioning ideas suggested to it.

Tranquility, allied to loneliness, possessed no charms.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Curiosity, earnest research to learn the hidden laws of nature, gladness akin to rapture, as they unfolded to me, are among the earliest sensations I can remember.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

It would be an endless task to trace the variety of meannesses, cares, and sorrows into which women are plunged by the prevailing opinion that they were created rather to feel than reason.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

I saw and heard of none like me. Was I then a monster, a blot upon the earth, from which all men fled, and whom all men disowned? ~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Thus strangely are our souls constructed, and by slight ligaments are we bound to prosperity and ruin.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Life and death appeared to me ideal bounds, which I should first break through, and pour a torrent of light into our dark world.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Ah! it is well for the unfortunate to be resigned, but for the guilty there is no peace.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

And the violet lay dead while the odour flew On the wings of the wind o'er the waters blue.

We are fashioned creatures, but half made up. - Victor Frankenstein ~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Satan has his companions, fellow-devils, to admire and encourage him; but I am solitary and detested.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

From my infancy I was imbued with high hopes and a lofty ambition. ~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Our faults are apt to assume giant and exaggerated forms to our eyes in youth.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Oh! Stars and clouds and winds, ye are all about to mock me; if ye really pity me, crush sensation and memory; let me become as nought; but if not, depart, depart, and leave me in darkness.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

I cherished hope, it is true, but it vanished when my person reflected . .

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

The time at length arrives, when grief is rather an indulgence than a necessity and the smile that plays upon the lips, although it may be deemed a sacrilege, is not banished.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

I was benevolent and good; misery made me a fiend. Make me happy, and I shall again be virtuous.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

With how many things are we on the brink of becoming acquainted, if cowardice or carelessness did not restrain our inquiries.

...we are unfashioned creatures, but half made up, if one wiser, better, dearer than ourselves - such a friend ought to be - do not lend his aid to perfectionate our weak and faulty natures.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

The different accidents of life are not so changeable as the feelings of human nature.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Supremely frightful would be the effect of any human endeavor to mock the stupendous mechanism of the Creator of the world.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

It was the secrets of heaven and earth that I desired to learn. ~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

But her's was the misery of innocence, which, like a cloud that passes over the fair moon, for a while hides, but cannot tarnish its brightness. ~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

In my joy I thrust my hand into the live embers, but quickly drew it out with a cry of pain. How strange, I thought that the same cause should produce such opposite effects.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

But soon, I shall die, and what I now feel be no longer felt. Soon these burning miseries will be extinct.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

marriage is usually considered the grave, and not the cradle of love.

My father was not scientific, and I was left to struggle with a child's blindness, added to a student's thirst for knowledge.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Poetry, and the principle of Self, of which money is the visible incarnation, are the God and the Mammon of the world.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

My own mind began to grow, watchful with anxoius thoughts.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

The labours of men of genius, however erroneously directed, scarcely ever fail in ultimately turning to the solid advantage of mankind.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

I, a miserable wretch, haunted by a curse that shut up every avenue to enjoyment.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

If our impulses were confined to hunger, thirst, and desire, we might be nearly free; but now we are moved by every wind that blows and a chance word or scene that that word may convey to us.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Life, although it may only be an accumulation of anguish, is dear to me, and I will defend it.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Everything must have a beginning ... and that beginning must be linked to something that went before.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

I trembled, and my heart failed within me; when, on looking up, I saw, by the light of the moon, the daemon at the casement.

He is dead who called me into being, and when I shall be no more the very remembrance of us both will speedily vanish.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

The guilty are allowed, by human laws, bloody as they are, to speak in their own defence before they are condemned.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

My spirit will sleep in peace; or if it thinks, it will not surely think thus. Farewell.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

From my birth I have aspired like the eagle - but unlike the eagle, my wings have failed. . . . Congratulate me then that I have found a fitting scope for my powers.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

You will rejoice to hear that no disaster has accompanied the commencement of an enterprise which you have regarded with such evil forebodings.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Precious attribute of woe-worn humanity! that can snatch ecstatic emotion, even from under the very share and harrow, that ruthlessly ploughs up and lays waste every hope.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Evil thenceforth became my good.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Solitude becomes a sort of tangible enemy, the more dangerous, because it dwells within the citadel itself.

The whole series of my life appeared to me as a dream; I sometimes doubted if indeed it were all true, for it never presented itself to my mind with the force of reality.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

At the age of twenty six I am in the condition of an aged person - all my old friends are gone... & my heart fails when I think by how few ties I hold to the world.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

In other studies you go as far as other have gone before you, and there is nothing more to know; but in a scientific pursuit there is continual food for discovery and wonder.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

I could not understand why men who knew all about good and evil could hate and kill each other.

~Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

Truly disappointment is the guardian deity of human life; she sits at the threshold of unborn time, and marshals the events as they come forth.

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