

# Marya Mannes

## Quotes

*Men, Art, Thinking, People, Desire, Party, War, Heart, Mean, Self, Real, Moments, Political, Money, Women, Voice, Progress, May, Sex, Communication*

The earth we abuse and the living things we kill will, in the end, take their revenge; for in exploiting their presence we are diminishing our future.

~Marya Mannes

All great lovers are articulate, and verbal seduction is the surest road to actual seduction.

~Marya Mannes

Euthanasia ... is simply to be able to die with dignity at a moment when life is devoid of it.

~Marya Mannes

The more people are reached by mass communication, the less they communicate with each other.

~Marya Mannes

People on horses look better than they are. People in cars look worse than they are.

~Marya Mannes

The process of maturing is an art to be learned, an effort to be sustained. By the age of fifty you have made yourself what you are, and if it is good, it is better than your youth.

~Marya Mannes

In our society those who are in reality superior in intelligence can be accepted by their fellows only if they pretend they are not.

~Marya Mannes

The sign of an intelligent people is their ability to control their emotions by the application of reason.

~Marya Mannes

The barbarian weapon is fission: the splitting asunder. It has been perfected for death. Our only weapon is fusion: an imperfect process still, though designed for life.

~Marya Mannes

Money is not an aphrodisiac: the desire it may kindle in the female eye is more for the cash than the carrier.

~Marya Mannes

Borders are scratched across the hearts of men  
By strangers with a calm, judicial pen,  
And when the borders bleed we watch with dread  
The lines of ink across the map turn red.

~Marya Mannes

The curse of the romantic is a greed for dreams, an intensity of expectation that, in the end, diminishes the reality.

~Marya Mannes

It's never what you say, but how you make it sound sincere.

~Marya Mannes

If American men are obsessed with money, American women are obsessed with weight. The men talk of gain, the women talk of loss, and I do not know which talk is the more boring.

~Marya Mannes

Ribbons a-flutter and orchids a-tremble,  
Yearly the vigilant Daughters assemble,  
Affirming in fervid and firm resolutions  
Their permanent veto on all revolutions.

~Marya Mannes

Timing and arrogance are decisive factors in the successful use of talent.

~Marya Mannes

We pity or condemn the communist peoples of the world for being bound in the chains of doctrine. So are we. Our doctrine runs as follows: Our Way is the Only Way.

~Marya Mannes

It is privilege of living to be acutely, agonizingly conscious of the moment that is always present and always passing.

~Marya Mannes

Generosity with strings is not generosity: it is a deal.

~Marya Mannes

Women are repeatedly accused of taking things personally. I cannot see any other honest way of taking them.

~Marya Mannes

To know the good is to react against the bad. Indifference is the mark of deprivation.

~Marya Mannes

You cannot know what you do not feel.

~Marya Mannes

It is not enough to show people how to live better; there is a mandate for any group with enormous powers of communication to show people how to be better.

~Marya Mannes

Is there no end to this escalation of desire?

~Marya Mannes

Advertisers in general bear a large part of the responsibility for the deep feelings of inadequacy that drive women to psychiatrists, pills, or the bottle.

~Marya Mannes

Surely the hold of great music on the listener is precisely this: that the listener is made whole; and at the same time part of an image of infinite grace and grandeur which is creation.

~Marya Mannes

I don't think the advertisers have any real idea of their power not only to reflect but to mould society.

~Marya Mannes

The faucet leak, and learn to leave them so.

~Marya Mannes

Flirtation is merely an expression of considered desire coupled with an admission of its impracticability.

~Marya Mannes

Lie down and listen to the crabgrass grow.

~Marya Mannes

You mix the affluence of the white and the poverty of the black and you do not get a civilized society. Integration on an equal level is one thing. Mixing on an unequal level is another.

~Marya Mannes

One is as one is, and the love that can't encompass both is a poor sort of love.

~Marya Mannes

Good-fellowship, unflagging, is the prime requisite for success in our society, and the man or woman who smiles only for reasons of humor or pleasure is a deviate.

~Marya Mannes

Self-restraint may be alien to the human temperament, but humanity without restraint will dig its own grave.

~Marya Mannes

The process of maturing is an art to be learned, an effort to be sustained.

~Marya Mannes

You cannot throw words like heroism and sacrifice and nobility and honor away without abandoning the qualities they express.

~Marya Mannes

Hoary idea, in any case, expecting a woman to surrender her name to her husband's in exchange for his. Why? Would any man submerge his identity and heritage to the woman he wed?

~Marya Mannes

To be at peace with self, to find company and nourishment in self-this would be the test of the free and productive psyche.

~Marya Mannes

When women can cherish the vulnerability of men as much as men can exult in the strength of women, a new breed could lift a ruinous yoke from both.

~Marya Mannes

No man is a Christian who cheats his fellows, perverts the truth, or speaks of a "clean bomb" yet he will be the first to make public his faith in God.

~Marya Mannes

There is nothing harder to come by than detachment and solitude; and nothing more important.

~Marya Mannes

certain kinds of people become Republicans and certain kinds of people become Democrats, and ... it's more than a matter of party affiliation. It's a way of thinking and being.

~Marya Mannes

Everybody likes to see somebody else get caught for the vices practiced by themselves.

~Marya Mannes

The right to choose death when life no longer holds meaning is not only the next liberation but the last human right.

~Marya Mannes

I don't think it's possible to write a good play or paint a good picture and be a good Republican.

~Marya Mannes

Republicans seems to me to be chiefly concerned with holding on to what they have: in society, it's position, or respectability, or what you will; in business, of course, it's profit.

~Marya Mannes

The Republicans think they have a corner on morality.

~Marya Mannes

I would call an intellectual one whose instrument of work - his mind - is also his major source of pleasure; a man whose entertainment is his intelligence.

~Marya Mannes

A man at his desk in a room with a closed door is a man at work. A woman at a desk in any room is available.

~Marya Mannes

The ultimate cynicism is to suspend judgment so that you are not judged.

~Marya Mannes

The greatest miracle of all, the human being.

~Marya Mannes

Until we know what motivates the hearts and minds of men we can understand nothing outside ourselves, nor will we ever reach fulfillment as that greatest miracle of all, the human being.

~Marya Mannes

For every five well-adjusted and smoothly functioning Americans, there are two who never had the chance to discover themselves. It may well be because they have never been alone with themselves.

~Marya Mannes

An American who can make money, invoke God, and be no better than his neighbor, has nothing to fear but truth itself.

~Marya Mannes

In our long and obsessive passion for youth, we have - more than any other modern society - avoided direct approach to age and to dying by denying them in word, in fact, and - above all - in worth.

~Marya Mannes

Artists never make wars. They are too busy making life out of the matter of their visions.

~Marya Mannes

In the race for money some men may come first, but man comes last.

~Marya Mannes

the car, by bisecting the human outline, diminishes it, producing a race



of half-people in a motion not of their own making

~Marya Mannes

A candidate for office can have no greater advantage than muddled syntax; no greater liability than a command of language.

~Marya Mannes

In aid, the proper attitude is one omitting gratitude

~Marya Mannes

Art can excite, titillate, please, entertain, and sometimes shock; but its ultimate function is to ennoble.

~Marya Mannes

performance is an act of faith.

~Marya Mannes

In an age where the lowered eyelid is just a sign of fatigue, the delicate game of love is pining away. Freud and flirtation are poor companions.

~Marya Mannes

flirtation ... is a graceful salute to sex, a small impermanent spark between one human being and another, between a man and a woman not in need of fire.

~Marya Mannes

Revelation is the marriage of knowing and feeling.

~Marya Mannes

The New York voice reflects its diversity, its foreignness, and, inevitably, the sense of superiority New Yorkers feel or come to feel. It says, without saying, We Know.

~Marya Mannes

To lead means to direct and to exact, and no man dares do either - he might be unpopular. What authority we are given now is a trinity: the grin, the generality, and God (the Word).

~Marya Mannes

It is a marvellous thing to be physically a woman if only to know the marvels of a man.

~Marya Mannes

The world of sight is still limitless. It is the artist who limits vision to the cramped dimensions of his own ego.

~Marya Mannes

Promiscuous ... was a word I had never applied to myself. Possibly no one ever does, for it is a sordid word, reducing many valuable moments to nothing more than doglike copulation.

~Marya Mannes

The real demon is success-the anxieties engendered by this quest are relentless, degrading, corroding. What is worse, there is no end to this escalation of desire.

~Marya Mannes

Minds are cluttered from the age of six with the values of others-values which bear little relation to their own private capacities, needs and desires.

~Marya Mannes

A seventeenth-century painting can be "modern" because the living eye finds it fresh and new. A "modern" painting can be outdated because it was a product of the moment and not of time.

~Marya Mannes

The suppression of civil liberties is too many less a matter for horror

than the curtailment of the freedom to profit.

~Marya Mannes

It is television's primary damage that it provides ten million children with the same fantasy, ready-made and on a platter.

~Marya Mannes

Know the difference between Giant and Jumbo? Between two-ounce and a big two-ounce? Between a quart and a full quart? What's a tall 24-inch? What does Extra Long mean? Who's kidding who?

~Marya Mannes

A high standard of living is usually accompanied by a low standard of thinking.

~Marya Mannes

Infants are interesting only to their parents.

~Marya Mannes

Human progress had so often been checked by those who were afraid of losing what they had.

~Marya Mannes

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