

Mason Cooley

Quotes

*Literature, Self, People, Thinking, Age, Desire, Love, Doe, Art, May, Sex,
Giving, Truth, Boredom, Lying, Men, Way, Children, Past, Want*

Pain narrows consciousness; pleasure blurs it.

~Mason Cooley

When Medusa looks in the mirror, she sees the Lady of Sorrows.

~Mason Cooley

My passions have never jumped out of the fireplace and set fire to the carpet.

~Mason Cooley

Retirement requires the invention of a new hedonism, not a return to the hedonism of youth

~Mason Cooley

The sewing machine joins what the scissors have cut asunder, plus whatever else comes in its path.

~Mason Cooley

Clothes make a statement. Costumes tell a story.

~Mason Cooley

The laughter of the aphorism is sometimes triumphant, but seldom carefree.

~Mason Cooley

'Be faithful to your roots' is the liberal version of 'Stay in your ghetto.'

~Mason Cooley

Friendship is love minus sex and plus reason. Love is friendship plus sex minus reason

~Mason Cooley

Totem poles and wooden masks no longer suggest tribal villages but fashionable drawing rooms in New York and Paris.

~Mason Cooley

Every day begins with an act of courage and hope: getting out of bed.

~Mason Cooley

City people make most of the fuss about the charms of country life.

~Mason Cooley

Writing an upbeat aphorism is a temptation, but decorum forbids.

~Mason Cooley

Reading gives us someplace to go when we have to stay where we are.

~Mason Cooley

Logic teaches rules for presentation, not thinking.

~Mason Cooley

Self-inflicted misery smirks under its crown of thorns.

~Mason Cooley

You know you're in love when you stop comparing.

~Mason Cooley

Travelers never think that they are the foreigners.

~Mason Cooley

Magic lives in curves, not angles.

~Mason Cooley

Faith moves mountains, but you have to keep pushing while you are praying.

~Mason Cooley

Forgiveness is like faith. You have to keep reviving it.

~Mason Cooley

Narcissus weeps to find that his Image does not return his love.

~Mason Cooley

As every cockroach knows, thriving on poisons is the secret of success.

~Mason Cooley

If modesty disappeared, so would exhibitionism.

~Mason Cooley

A goldfish is reason enough for living, if someone needs a reason.

~Mason Cooley

If suffering brought wisdom, the dentist's office would be full of luminous ideas.

~Mason Cooley

Observe decorum, and it will open a path to morality.

~Mason Cooley

Promiscuity is like never reading past the first page. Monogamy is like reading the same book over and over.

~Mason Cooley

Procrastination makes easy things hard, hard things harder.

~Mason Cooley

To appear well dressed, be skinny and tall.

~Mason Cooley

Melancholy is as seductive as Ecstasy.

~Mason Cooley

Complainers change their complaints, but they never reduce the amount of time spent in complaining.

~Mason Cooley

A sense of blessedness comes from a change of heart, not from more blessings.

~Mason Cooley

Sulking is silent because speaking would reveal its folly.

~Mason Cooley

Why not - is a slogan for an interesting life.

~Mason Cooley

Forget what hurt you but never forget what it taught you.

~Mason Cooley

Wisdom is founded on memory; happiness on forgetfulness.

~Mason Cooley

Regret for wasted time is more wasted time

~Mason Cooley

Masturbation is a democratic pleasure, practiced by rich and poor, young and old, married and single.

~Mason Cooley

Psychology keeps trying to vindicate human nature. History keeps undermining the effort.

~Mason Cooley

Lack of reciprocity ruins friendships, but makes love affairs exciting for

a time.

~Mason Cooley

Nudity is the costume of lovers and corpses.

~Mason Cooley

Cats are inquisitive, but hate to admit it.

~Mason Cooley

A blocked path also offers guidance.

~Mason Cooley

The critical spirit never knows when to stop meddling.

~Mason Cooley

The philosophy of hedonism means little to lovers of pleasure. They have no inclination to read philosophy, or to write it.

~Mason Cooley

Telescopes and binoculars endanger the ever-distant sublime.

~Mason Cooley

Critic's delight: scolding the Mighty Dead.

~Mason Cooley

The passion for money is never fickle.

~Mason Cooley

I love you is the inscription on Pandora's box.

~Mason Cooley

Even the most fickle are faithful to a few bad habits.

~Mason Cooley

Victorian sorrow: the stars are winking in the sky, but not for us.

~Mason Cooley

A great reader seldom recognizes his solitude.

~Mason Cooley

Transcendence is something between a metaphor and a miracle.

~Mason Cooley

Fears and lies intensify consciousness.

~Mason Cooley

Bad faith likes discourse on friendship and loyalty.

~Mason Cooley

Arrogance frowns; pride smiles.

~Mason Cooley

Imagination has rules, but we can only guess what they are.

~Mason Cooley

Deconstruction glorifies the critic, humiliates the author, and makes the reader wonder why he bothered.

~Mason Cooley

Mistakes are the only universal form of originality.

~Mason Cooley

Preserving tradition has become a nice hobby, like stamp collecting.

~Mason Cooley

In the theater of confusion, knowing the location of the exits is what counts.

~Mason Cooley

Without a little negligence, life would be intolerable.

~Mason Cooley

The ravaged face in the mirror hides the enchanting youth that is the real me.

~Mason Cooley

The language of pornography is abusive, that of romance adoring. Both are addressed to a fetish.

~Mason Cooley

The lion cares less about being king of the beasts than about finding his dinner.

~Mason Cooley

For many, immaturity is an ideal, not a defect.

~Mason Cooley

Emblem: the carapace of the great crowned snail is painted with all the flags of the United Nations.

~Mason Cooley

Withhold admiration from a narcissist and be disliked. Give it and be treated with indifference.

~Mason Cooley

People who expect deference resent mere civility.

~Mason Cooley

Astrology: do we make a hullabaloo among the stars, or do they make a hullabaloo down here?

~Mason Cooley

The narcissist enjoys being looked at and not looking back.

~Mason Cooley

Malice is always authentic and sincere.

~Mason Cooley

Three meals plus bedtime make four sure blessings a day.

~Mason Cooley

Mild brown eyes beckon me to the past, but memory provides no clue.

~Mason Cooley

In the city, nudity means something; in the wild, it just exists.

~Mason Cooley

When I prayed for success, I forgot to ask for sound sleep and good digestion.

~Mason Cooley

Beggars market their incapacity.

~Mason Cooley

Romance is tempestuous. Love is calm.

~Mason Cooley

Fantasy mirrors desire. Imagination reshapes it.

~Mason Cooley

Vanity is easily duped. Ambition, not.

~Mason Cooley

Moo may represent an idea, but only the cow knows.

~Mason Cooley

The beloved is the ultimate fetish.

~Mason Cooley

Trust, but look for the exits.

~Mason Cooley

Many have attempted unnatural acts, but Nature has always shown the way.

~Mason Cooley

Swindlers are notoriously gullible.

~Mason Cooley

The lonely become either thoughtful or empty.

~Mason Cooley

Imprudence gets us into more trouble than actual misdeeds do.

~Mason Cooley

Commerce is greedy. Ideology is blood-thirsty.

~Mason Cooley

Fluency avoids hard thoughts.

~Mason Cooley

To avoid taking responsibility, I become unresponsive but hang on until the other person leaves me.

~Mason Cooley

Plato's Symposium shows that flirtation and philosophy can further one another.

~Mason Cooley

The negative always wins at last, but I like it none the better for that.

~Mason Cooley

Lust and greed are more gullible than innocence.

~Mason Cooley

Unemployment diminishes people. Leisure enlarges them.

~Mason Cooley

The little suckings and smackings of the perversions are the sounds of joyous infancy.

~Mason Cooley

Fear of trying causes paralysis. Trying causes only trembling and sweating.

~Mason Cooley

Cure for an obsession: get another one.

~Mason Cooley

We are prepared for insults, but compliments leave us baffled.

~Mason Cooley

The telephone gives us the happiness of being together yet safely apart.

~Mason Cooley

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