

# Michael Caine

## Quotes

*Actors, Acting, Thinking, People, Years, Stars, Character, Want, Looks, Men,  
Girl, Film, Fun, Wife, Class, Giving, Father, Play, Done, Stuff*

Be like a duck. Calm on the surface, but always paddling like the dickens underneath.

~Michael Caine

I have never seen it (Jaws 4) but by all accounts it is terrible. However, I have seen the house that it built and it is terrific.

~Michael Caine

It's a lesson in lifeâ€”don't look back, you'll trip over.

~Michael Caine

...some men aren't looking for anything logical, like money. They can't be bought, bullied, reasoned, or negotiated with. Some men just want to watch the world burn.

~Michael Caine

I'm every bourgeois nightmare - a Cockney with intelligence and a million dollars.

~Michael Caine

Obsession is a young man's game, and my only excuse is that I never grew old.

~Michael Caine

Some men just want to watch the world burn

~Michael Caine

I've always got to have one impossible dream on the back burner.

~Michael Caine

Use the difficulties - if you can't avoid them

~Michael Caine

The first actor I ever saw was The Lone Ranger. I thought: "That's what

I want to do."

~Michael Caine

No matter what the reason, if you start to scream and shout, you look a fool, and you feel a fool, and you earn the disrespect of everyone.

~Michael Caine

At 69, I got the girl! And it wasn't a 68-year-old girl, either.

~Michael Caine

I'm looking for me to disappear, and the acting to disappear, and all you see is a real person.

~Michael Caine

The standing ovation threw me. ... To be held in such regard in a town so full of talent is quite something.

~Michael Caine

Anyone can write. But comedy, you've got to do some writing. You get one comedy script to every 20 dramas.

~Michael Caine

A man should dress in a way that you don't notice. He looks good and you don't know why. But it's the tailoring, the materials, and the clothes.

~Michael Caine

First of all, I choose the great roles, and if none of these come, I choose the mediocre ones, and if they don't come, I choose the ones that pay the rent.

~Michael Caine

In film, other actors' performances really are not your concern. If the other actor isn't giving you what you want, act as though he were.

~Michael Caine

If you're a movie actor, you're on your own - you cannot control the stage. The director controls it.

~Michael Caine

Acting is not a competition; everything must be done for the good of the film or else everybody loses.

~Michael Caine

I think life has got to develop as you get older, and I don't want to be wandering along doing the same old thing. I want more out of life.

~Michael Caine

I started with the firm conviction that when I came to the end, I wanted to be regretting the things that I had done, not the things I hadn't.

~Michael Caine

Theater acting is an operation with a scalpel, movie acting is an operation with a laser

~Michael Caine

I never listened to the people who said I should give it up, which is the main advice I got.

~Michael Caine

I've got a lot of back-up because my father was a Catholic, my mother was a Protestant, I was educated by Jews and I'm married to a Muslim. So I won't lose out on a technicality.

~Michael Caine

I felt a tremendous sadness for men who can't deal with a woman of their own age.

~Michael Caine

Books were my window on the world. Growing up at the Elephant and Castle, which was very rough, my paradise was the library.

~Michael Caine

I used to get the girl; now I get the part. In 'The Quiet American' you may have noticed I got the part and the girl. It's a milestone for me, because it's the last time I'm going to get the girl.

~Michael Caine

I wouldn't make an anti-American film. I'm one of the most pro-American foreigners I know. I love America and Americans.

~Michael Caine

Movie actors earn their living and learn their craft through listening and reacting.

~Michael Caine

When I'm doing an accent, you shouldn't notice it for a while, if I'm doing it right.

~Michael Caine

I am in so many movies that are on TV at 2:00 a.m. that people think I am dead.

~Michael Caine

I'm not in the Lifetime Achievement area yet-I'm still battling it out in the trenches.

~Michael Caine

When becoming a character, you have to steal. Steal whatever you see. You can even steal from other actors' characterizations; but if you do, only steal from the best.

~Michael Caine

The difference between a movie star and a movie actor is this - a movie star will say, 'How can I change the script to suit me?' and a movie actor will say, 'How can I change me to suit the script?'

~Michael Caine

Be patient. Of course it will come. It took me years to get an Oscar.

~Michael Caine

You're your first best audience, long before anybody else hears you. So don't be an easy audience. Keep asking for more.

~Michael Caine

I always exposed the weakness rather than the nastiness.

~Michael Caine

A lot of my best parts I've been the second choice for, so you never get too egotistical about anything.

~Michael Caine

January is the garbage can of movies in America, directly after all the Oscar contenders have been out.

~Michael Caine

I don't think human beings are bad. They're weak. And that's what makes 'em bad.

~Michael Caine

The first thing I'll do if I want to look really crappy is, I don't wear any makeup at all.

~Michael Caine

I come from the slums; I come from a hard background; I come from a poor family; and I was a soldier.

~Michael Caine

I've never been competitive with other actors. I've been competitive with myself and I'm my own worst critic, a terrible critic I am, and unless I get something right, I feel very unhappy.

~Michael Caine

I'm forever testing myself. As a person and as an actor, I have no sense of competition.

~Michael Caine

English is clipped in speech. Texas is exactly the opposite.

~Michael Caine

I am a great admirer of other actors, but I never compete with other actors. I always compete with what I did last, and I'm my own most vicious critic. So I'm always trying to do it better.

~Michael Caine

Great acting is about listening to what they are saying ....not waiting to deliver your lines.

~Michael Caine

Save your money. You're going to need twice as much money in your old age as you think.

~Michael Caine

For all my education, accomplishments, and so called 'wisdom'... I can't fathom my own heart.

~Michael Caine

The best research for playing a drunk is being a British actor for 20 years.

~Michael Caine

My father was a fish market porter. So I grew up on fish, because he

used to steal one a day, I grew up on the very best fish that money could buy, 'cause he only stole the good stuff.

~Michael Caine

I never bring a role home with me. The moment they say, 'It's a wrap,' it's gone completely. I'm a totally ruthless professional, and life is my family, not my work.

~Michael Caine

A man's body may grow old, but inside his spirit can still be as young and as restless as ever.

~Michael Caine

I don't have any regrets because I'm very optimistic, and live each day as though it's the last.

~Michael Caine

Maybe it's time we all stop trying to outsmart the truth and let it have its day.

~Michael Caine

When you reach the top, that's when the climb begins.

~Michael Caine

I've never been out with a married woman, never. I respect others' properties.

~Michael Caine

Oh, what a shock. My career must be slipping. This is the first time I've been available to pick up an award.

~Michael Caine

Things are not quite what they seem always. Don't start me on class, otherwise you'll get a four-hour lecture.



~Michael Caine

I'll always be there because I'm a skilled professional actor. Whether or not I've any talent is beside the point.

~Michael Caine

The three actors I admire the most are all dead. Humphrey Bogart, Spencer Tracy and the French actor, Jean Gabin. They're all very natural, sort of masculine without being overly macho.

~Michael Caine

If you're an actor and you don't act for a long time you sort of think, I wonder if I can still do it.

~Michael Caine

I admired Marlon Brando as I grew up. I thought he was one of the finest screen actors around.

~Michael Caine

When I was 6 my father went to fight in the war, so he was my big hero. I thought he was the greatest thing.

~Michael Caine

Alfie was the first time I was above the title; the first time I became a star in America.

~Michael Caine

Funny things happen to you in movies for silly reasons.

~Michael Caine

I prefer to remake flops. Dirty Rotten Scoundrels was a remake of a flop, and The Quiet American is a remake of a flop.

~Michael Caine

I read books like mad, but I am careful to to let anything I read influence me.

~Michael Caine

About Superman and Batman: the former is how America views itself, the latter, darker character is how the rest of the world views America.

~Michael Caine

I'm the audience's representative on earth.

~Michael Caine

A lot of people said, Who do you think you are? I told them I know exactly who I am and I'll tell you exactly where I'm going.

~Michael Caine

Obsession is a young man's game.

~Michael Caine

Not only is acting more than a part-time job, it's more than a full-time job. It's a full-time obsession.

~Michael Caine

My understanding of women goes only as far as the pleasures.

~Michael Caine

I'm always slightly envious of people who become extremely rich without anyone knowing who the hell they are, like financiers.

~Michael Caine

Youre only supposed to blow the bloody doors off!

~Michael Caine

To be a movie star, you have to invent yourself.

~Michael Caine

If you're blond, as I am, and you have blond lashes, you have to wear mascara, otherwise you're invisible on stage.

~Michael Caine

My view is that you should always remake failures because then you've got nowhere to go but up.

~Michael Caine

Hey, I always say: if you want a quiet life, become a monk.

~Michael Caine

There is no point in competing with young talent...I just concentrate on getting better each day.

~Michael Caine

Hollywood is a cross between a health farm, a recreation center and an insane asylum. It's a company town, and I happen to like the company!

~Michael Caine

I did everything. I ran my life exactly as I wanted to, all the time. I never listened to anybody. I'm pig-headed.

~Michael Caine

Do I believe in God? Yes I do. When you've had a life like mine, you have to.

~Michael Caine

I have been rich and I have been poor. I know which one I prefer.

~Michael Caine

You start pretending to have fun, you might have a little by accident.

~Michael Caine

I love the start of autumn when the trees in my garden change the

colour of their leaves in one last dazzling display.

~Michael Caine

Comedy is underrepresented in every actor's life, because it's so bloody difficult to write.

~Michael Caine

My most useful acting tip came from my pal John Wayne. Talk low, talk slow, and don't say too much.

~Michael Caine

When it comes to politics, I believe you have to cut the cake so that everybody gets a piece, but at the same time, you have to keep in mind that somebody has to make the cake.

~Michael Caine

Just because I have made a point of never losing my accent it doesn't mean I'm an eel-and-pie yob.

~Michael Caine

For Cider House Rules, I was doing a New England accent.

~Michael Caine

I don't work very much, and I just sit here waiting for a script that I can't refuse - and I'm not talking about money.

~Michael Caine

I've made the transition from star to character actor and I'm thoroughly enjoying it.

~Michael Caine

If someone is very upper-class, you have a stereotype of him which is probably true. If someone has a working-class accent, you have no idea who you're talking to.

~Michael Caine

I don't have to work. I suppose I should retire. But I enjoy working.

~Michael Caine

That to me is what my idea of film acting should be. There shouldn't be any acting. You should just be watching a real person.

~Michael Caine

My mum never understood how much I earned. When I told her I earned a million pounds a film, she said, 'How much is that?'

~Michael Caine

Don't sit as if you have nothing to say. You should be bursting with things to say. You just choose at this particular place and time, not to say them.

~Michael Caine

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