

Muriel Barbery

Quotes

*Thinking, People, World, Art, Heart, Real, Writing, Cat, Feelings, Soul, Want,
Believe, Men, Greatness, Moments, May, Dying, Self, Lying, Mean*

When someone that you love dies..it's like fireworks suddenly burning out in the sky and everything going black.

~Muriel Barbery

People aim for the stars, and they end up like goldfish in a bowl. I wonder if it wouldn't be simpler just to teach children right from the start that life is absurd.

~Muriel Barbery

There's so much humanity in a love of trees, so much nostalgia for our first sense of wonder, so much power in just feeling our own insignificance when we are surrounded by nature.

~Muriel Barbery

Personally I think that grammar is a way to attain beauty.

~Muriel Barbery

That's what the future is for: to build the present, with real plans, made by living people.

~Muriel Barbery

With the exception of love, friendship and the beauty of Art, I don't see much else that can nurture human life.

~Muriel Barbery

I thought: pity the poor in spirit who know neither the enchantment nor the beauty of language.

~Muriel Barbery

We think we can make honey without sharing in the fate of bees, but we are in truth nothing but poor bees, destined to accomplish our task and then die.

~Muriel Barbery

The real ordeal is not leaving those you love but learning to live without those who don't love you.

~Muriel Barbery

When tea becomes ritual, it takes place at the heart of our ability to see greatness in small things.

~Muriel Barbery

Talent consists not in inventing shapes but in causing those that were invisible to emerge.

~Muriel Barbery

...what I dread more than anything else in this life is noise...silence helps you to go inward..anyone who is interested in something more than just life outside actually needs silence.

~Muriel Barbery

'Life has meaning and we grown-ups know what it is' is the universal lie that everyone is supposed to believe. Once you become an adult and you realize that's not true, it's too late.

~Muriel Barbery

How to measure a life's worth? The important thing, said Paloma one day, is not the fact of dying, it is what you are doing in the moment of your death.

~Muriel Barbery

...I am an anomaly in the system, living proof of how grotesque it is, and every day I mock it gently, deep within my impenetrable self.

~Muriel Barbery

What is an aristocrat? A woman who is never sullied by vulgarity, although she may be surrounded by it.

~Muriel Barbery

As always, I am saved by the inability of living creatures to believe anything that might cause the walls of their little mental assumptions to crumble.

~Muriel Barbery

We can be friends. We can be anything we want to be.

~Muriel Barbery

People think that children don't know anything. It's enough to make you wonder if grownups were ever children once upon a time.

~Muriel Barbery

A man who farts in bed . . . is a man who loves life.

~Muriel Barbery

What is writing, no matter how lavish the pieces, if it says nothing of the truth, cares little for the heart, and is merely subservient to the pleasure of showing one's brilliance.

~Muriel Barbery

If you have but one friend, make sure you choose her well.

~Muriel Barbery

Beautiful things should belong to beautiful souls.

~Muriel Barbery

What does art do for us? It gives shape to our emotions.

~Muriel Barbery

I find this a fascinating phenomenon: the ability we have to manipulate ourselves so that the foundation of our beliefs is never shaken.

~Muriel Barbery

Because beauty consists of its own passing, just as we reach for it. It's

the ephemeral configuration of things in the moment, when you can see both their beauty and their death.

~Muriel Barbery

Melancholy overwhelms me at supersonic speed.

~Muriel Barbery

I'll be searching for those moments of always within never. Beauty, in this world." - Paloma

~Muriel Barbery

If you want to heal Heal others And smile or weep At this very happy reversal of fate

~Muriel Barbery

As far as I can see, only psychoanalysis can compete with Christians in their love of drawn-out suffering.

~Muriel Barbery

They didn't recognize me," I repeat. He stops in turn, my hand still on his arm. "It is because they have never seen you," he says. "I would recognize you anywhere.

~Muriel Barbery

When illness enters a home, not only does it take hold of a body. It also weaves a dark web between hearts, a web where hope is trapped.

~Muriel Barbery

boredom was born on a day of uniformity.

~Muriel Barbery

We never look beyond our assumptions and what's worse, we have given up trying to meet others; we just meet ourselves.

~Muriel Barbery

I belong to the 8% of the world population who calm their apprehension by drowning it in numbers.

~Muriel Barbery

Levin delights in the forgetfulness that movement brings, where the pleasure of doing is marvellously foreign to the striving of the will.

~Muriel Barbery

shocked to realize how much vitality is required simply to support our primitive requirements, we wonder, bewildered, where Art fits in.

~Muriel Barbery

But the world, in its present state, is no place for princesses.

~Muriel Barbery

Live or die: mere consequences of what you have built. What matters is building well.

~Muriel Barbery

Conclusion: better to be a thinking monk than a postmodern thinker.

~Muriel Barbery

Because art is life, playing to other rhythms.

~Muriel Barbery

Tasting is an act of pleasure and writing about that pleasure is an artistic gesture, but the only true work of art, in the end, is another person's feast.

~Muriel Barbery

Humans live in a world where the weak are dominant. This is a terrible insult to our animal nature, a sort of perversion or a deep contradiction.

~Muriel Barbery

Maybe that's what being alive is about: so we can track down those movements that are dying.

~Muriel Barbery

To be poor, ugly and, moreover, intelligent condemns one in our society to a dark and disillusioned life...to beauty all is forgiven.

~Muriel Barbery

... they have never seen you ... I would recognize you anywhere.

~Muriel Barbery

Entrusting one's life is not the same as opening up one's soul.

~Muriel Barbery

I know that they're all unhappy because nobody loves the right person the way they should and because they don't understand that it's really their own self that they're mad at.

~Muriel Barbery

To beauty, all is forgiven, even vulgarity. Intelligence no longer seems an adequate compensation for things.

~Muriel Barbery

I won't get any better by punishing the people I can't heal.

~Muriel Barbery

Music plays a huge role in my life. It is music that helps me to endure ... well ... everything there is to endure.

~Muriel Barbery

I am going to die, but that is of no importance.

~Muriel Barbery

I may be indigent in name, position, and in appearance, but in my own

mind I am an unrivaled goddess -

~Muriel Barbery

The strong ones among humans do nothing. They talk and talk again.

~Muriel Barbery

To the rich, therefore, falls the burden of Beauty. And if they cannot assume it, then they deserve to die.

~Muriel Barbery

Don't let the cat out or the concierge in: this is the first principle of socialist ladies.

~Muriel Barbery

So if there is something on the planet that is worth living for, I'd better not miss it, because once you're dead, it's too late for regrets, and if you die by mistake, that is really, really dumb.

~Muriel Barbery

I may know that the world is an ugly place, I still don't want to see it.

~Muriel Barbery

In the end, I wonder if the true movement of the world might not be a voice raised in song.

~Muriel Barbery

Do you know that it is in your company that I have had my finest thoughts?

~Muriel Barbery

The only purpose of cats is that they constitute mobile decorative objects.

~Muriel Barbery

Yes, our eyes may perceive, yet they do not observe; they may believe, yet they do not question; they may receive yet they do not search: they are emptied of desire, with neither hunger nor passion.

~Muriel Barbery

I'm afraid to go into myself and see what's going on in there.

~Muriel Barbery

Don't worry Renee, I won't commit suicide and I won't burn a thing. Because from now on, for you, I'll be searching for those moments of always within never. Beauty, in this world.

~Muriel Barbery

Art is emotion without desire.

~Muriel Barbery

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