

Natalie Clifford Barney

Quotes

*Literature, People, Men, Thinking, Book, Vices, Humans, Waste, Art, Wasting
Time, Looks, Inspirational, Love, Ifs, Fall, Past, Time, Believe, Passages,
Masculine And Feminine*

... anything difficult to say must be shouted from the rooftops.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

It is time for dead languages to keep quiet.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Why grab possessions like thieves, or divide them like socialists when you can ignore them like wise men?

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Entrepreneurship is the last refuge of the trouble making individual.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Fatalism is the lazy man's way of accepting the inevitable.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Time engraves our faces with all the tears we have not shed.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

I'm fond of human beings, but only one at a time.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

I love the love of those who are far enough away, it becomes whatever I wish to believe it.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

My queerness is not a vice, is not deliberate, and harms no one.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Lovers should also have their days off.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Like all religions, love has more believers than practitioners.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Sensuality, wanting a religion, invented Love.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Tea - that perfume that one drinks, that connecting hyphen.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

To mis-quote is the very foundation of original style. The success of most writers is almost entirely due to continuous and courageous abuse of familiar misquotation.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Being bilingual is like having a wife and a mistress. One can never be sure of either.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Our shadows are taller than ourselves.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

The advantage of love at first sight is that it delays a second sight.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

With renunciation life begins.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Most virtue is a demand for greater seduction.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Would that well-thinking people should be replaced by thinking ones.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

If we keep an open mind, too much is likely to fall into it.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Renouncement: the heroism of mediocrity.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

if I had one ambition it was to make my life itself into a poem.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Eternity - waste of time.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Paris has always seemed to me to be the only city in which one can live as one sees fit.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

There are. intangible realities which float near us, formless and without words; realities which no one has thought out, and which are excluded for lack of interpreters.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Youth is not a question of years: one is young or old from birth.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

I am not a bibliophile but a humanophile: I look for rare human beings.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

A thought falls like a ripe fruit from the tree of idleness.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

It's necessary to use suffering. Otherwise, one is used by it.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Being other than normal is a perilous advantage.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

I do not understand those who spend hours at the theater watching scenes between people whom they would not listen to for five minutes

in real life.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

My only books were women's looks.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

In love there is no status quo.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

To think about and prepare for war is boring, boring for everyone. It's being locked in barracks.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Hero worship has died with heroes, and if someone bows down today, it is to pick up something.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

I judge people's charm by the ease with which I express myself in their presence.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

That parasite: the past.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

If only art were as rare as good taste.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Novels are longer than life.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Eternity: what a waste of time.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

What makes bad writers so annoying is their good passages.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

To be one's own master is to be the slave of self.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

One is not oneself every day-fortunately.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

A good book is never exhausted; we are never exhausted by a good book.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

To be married is to be neither alone nor together.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Avoid that romantic trap: saying more than you feel, forcing yourself to feel more than you've said!

~Natalie Clifford Barney

doubt seems the only purity for those who are too fervent to deny, and too lucid to affirm.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

We know all their gods; they ignore ours. What they call our sins are our gods, and what they call their gods, we name otherwise.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

A scholar's heart is a dark well in which are buried many aborted feelings that rise to the surface as arguments.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

To those who ask if I have read their book, I reply: I have not yet read Homer.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

The finest life is spent creating oneself, not procreating.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Indiscretion has always seemed to me to be one of the privileges of tact.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

The past is such a subtle thing. [But] in the end, nothing else exists, everything is made of the past, even the future.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Fashion: the search for a new absurdity.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Might I be the one I am looking for?

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Some people make it hard for me to believe in universal evolution.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Seeking revenge: what a lack of foresight.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Silence too can be indiscreet.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

Our prejudices, our antipathies, are our natural defenses against what we could not assimilate.

~Natalie Clifford Barney

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