

Noel Coward Quotes

*Funny, People, Literature, Theatre, Home, Thinking, Eye, Stars, Long, Mad,
Dog, Writing, Looks, Philosophy, Humor, Sarcastic, Country, Work, Play, Years*

Wit ought to be a glorious treat like caviar; never spread it about like marmalade.

~Noel Coward

It is discouraging how many people are shocked by honesty and how few by deceit.

~Noel Coward

There's always something fishy about the French.

~Noel Coward

Mona Lisa looks as if she has just been sick, or is about to be.

~Noel Coward

I love criticism just so long as it's unqualified praise.

~Noel Coward

Work is much more fun than fun.

~Noel Coward

A perfect martini should be made by filling a glass with gin then waving it in the general direction of Italy.

~Noel Coward

For gin, in cruel sober truth, supplies the fuel for flaming youth.

~Noel Coward

Work hard, do the best you can, don't ever lose faith in yourself and take no notice of what other people say about you.

~Noel Coward

I will accept anything in the theatre . . . provided it amuses or moves me. But if it does neither, I want to go home.

~Noel Coward

You will know you're old when you cease to be amazed.

~Noel Coward

I'm not a heavy drinker, I can sometimes go for hours without touching a drop.

~Noel Coward

Never trust a man with short legs. His brains are too near his bottom.

~Noel Coward

How was your flight? Well, aeronautically it was a great success. Socially, it left quite a bit to be desired.

~Noel Coward

I have always paid income tax. I object only when it reaches a stage when I am threatened with having nothing left for my old age - which is due to start next Tuesday or Wednesday.

~Noel Coward

If you must have motivation, think of your paycheck on Friday.

~Noel Coward

Television is for appearing on, not looking at.

~Noel Coward

Christmas is at our throats again.

~Noel Coward

I've sometimes thought of marrying - and then I've thought again.

~Noel Coward

But why, oh why, do the wrong people travel, when the right people stay at home?

~Noel Coward

Why do I drink Champagne for breakfast? Doesn't everyone?

~Noel Coward

Grab it while you can – grab every scrap of happiness while you can

~Noel Coward

Thousands of people have talent. I might as well congratulate you for having eyes in your head. The one and only thing that counts is: Do you have staying power?

~Noel Coward

Squash - that's not exercise, it's flagellation.

~Noel Coward

I do not intend to let myself down more than I can possibly help, and I find that the fewer illusions I have about myself or the world around me, the better company I am for myself.

~Noel Coward

Familiarity breeds contempt, but without a little familiarity it's impossible to breed anything.

~Noel Coward

The higher the building the lower the morals.

~Noel Coward

Just say the lines and don't trip over the furniture.

~Noel Coward

Trust your instincts. If you have no instincts, trust your impulses.

~Noel Coward

Passion in a dromedary doesn't go so deep; a camel when it's mating never sobs itself to sleep.

~Noel Coward

The air is like a draught of wine. The undertaker cleans his sign, The Hull express goes off the line, When it's raspberry time in Runcorn.

~Noel Coward

She had much in common with Hitler, only no mustache.

~Noel Coward

Wit is like caviar - it should be served in small portions and not spread about like marmalade.

~Noel Coward

He's completely unspoiled by failure.

~Noel Coward

Having to read footnotes resembles having to go downstairs to answer the door while in the midst of making love.

~Noel Coward

How foolish to think that one can ever slam the door in the face of age. Much wiser to be polite and gracious and ask him to lunch in advance.

~Noel Coward

What I adore is supreme professionalism. I'm bored by writers who can write only when it's raining.

~Noel Coward

Sunburn is very becoming - but only when it is even - one must be careful not to look like a mixed grill.

~Noel Coward

People are wrong when they say opera is not what it used to be. It is what it used to be. That is what's wrong with it.

~Noel Coward

I never cared who scored the goal, or which side won the silver cup. I never learned to bat or bowl; but I heard the curtain going up.

~Noel Coward

Certain women should be struck regularly, like gongs.

~Noel Coward

We have no reliable guarantee that the afterlife will be any less exasperating than this one, have we?

~Noel Coward

Star quality: I don't know what it is, but I've got it.

~Noel Coward

It is not the eyes of others that I am wary of, but my own.

~Noel Coward

Mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the mid-day sun.

~Noel Coward

Everybody was up to something, especially, of course, those who were up to nothing.

~Noel Coward

It's like this, dear boy, the one in front is blind and the kind one behind is pushing him.

~Noel Coward

At twelve noon, The natives swoon
And no further work is done
But mad dogs and Englishmen,
Go out in the midday sun.

~Noel Coward

Wouldn't it be dreadful to live in a country where they didn't have tea?

~Noel Coward

Acting is not a state of being ... but a state of appearing to be.

~Noel Coward

Extraordinary how potent cheap music is.

~Noel Coward

Conceit is an outward manifestation of inferiority.

~Noel Coward

Your motivation is your pay packet on Friday. Now get on with it.

~Noel Coward

You ask my advice about acting? Speak clearly, don't bump into the furniture and if you must have motivation, think of your pay packet on Friday.

~Noel Coward

Mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the mid-day sun; The Japanese don't care to, the Chinese wouldn't dare to; Hindus and Argentines sleep firmly from twelve to one, But Englishmen detest a siesta.

~Noel Coward

I don't believe in astrology. The only stars I can blame for my failures are those that walk about the stage.

~Noel Coward

That strange feeling we had in the war. Have you found anything in your lives since to equal it in strength? A sort of splendid carelessness it was, holding us together.

~Noel Coward

How about slipping out of those wet things and into a dry Martini?

~Noel Coward

I have a memory like an elephant. In fact, elephants often consult me.

~Noel Coward

To know you are among people whom you love, and who love you - that has made all the successes wonderful, much more wonderful than they'd have been anyway.

~Noel Coward

She stopped the show - but then the show wasn't traveling very fast.

~Noel Coward

Criticism and Bolshevism have one thing in common. They both seek to pull down that which they could never build.

~Noel Coward

It's never too early for a cocktail.

~Noel Coward

I'll go through life either first class or third, but never in second.

~Noel Coward

I don't much care for Hollywood, I'd rather have a nice cup of cocoa.

~Noel Coward

Good heavens, television is something you appear on; you don't watch.

~Noel Coward

Someday I suspect, when Jesus has definitely got me for a sunbeam, my works may be adequately assessed.

~Noel Coward

I see her as one great stampede of lips directed at the nearest derriere.

~Noel Coward

My life really has been one long extravaganza.

~Noel Coward

My body has certainly wandered a good deal, but I have an uneasy suspicion that my mind has not wandered enough.

~Noel Coward

I write at high speed because boredom is bad for my health.

~Noel Coward

To take a gloomy view of life is not part of my philosophy; to laugh at the idiocies of my fellow creatures is. However, at this particular moment I cannot find so much to laugh at as I would like.

~Noel Coward

I can take any amount of criticism, as long as it is unqualified praise.

~Noel Coward

Goodnight, my darlings, I'll see you tomorrow.

~Noel Coward

As one gets older, one discovers everything is going to be exactly the same with different hats on.

~Noel Coward

If he (Peter O'Toole) had been any prettier it would have been Florence of Arabia.

~Noel Coward

Bed is the perfect climate.

~Noel Coward

Labour leaders lead us all, though we know they bleed us all. Cheer our new Decline and Fall, Gibbon might have dreamed it all.

~Noel Coward

The pleasures that once were heaven look silly at sixty-seven.

~Noel Coward

I'm an enormously talented man, and there's no use pretending that I'm not.

~Noel Coward

AMANDA: I think very few people are completely normal really, deep down in their private lives.

~Noel Coward

Dear 338171 (May I call you 338?)

~Noel Coward

You kissed me because you were awfully nice and I was awfully nice and we both liked kissing very much. It was inevitable.

~Noel Coward

I'll go and see anything so long as it amuses me, or moves me. If it doesn't do either I want to go home.

~Noel Coward

There isn't a particle of you that I don't know, remember, and want.

~Noel Coward

The Stately Homes of England, How beautiful they stand, To prove the Upper Classes, Have still the Upper Hand.

~Noel Coward

Hollywood is a place where some people lie on the beach and look up at the stars, whereas other people lie on the stars and look down at the beach.

~Noel Coward

I also avoid green vegetables. They're grossly overrated.

~Noel Coward

Acting is not a state of being ... but a state of appearing to be. You can't be eight times a week without going stark staring mad. You've got to be in control.

~Noel Coward

I'm over-educated in the things I shouldn't have known at all.

~Noel Coward

Madame Bovary is the sexiest book imaginable. The woman's virtually a nymphomaniac but you won't find a vulgar word in the entire thing.

~Noel Coward

I can't sing, but I know how to, which is quite different.

~Noel Coward

Marriage is the aftermath of love.

~Noel Coward

Comedies of manners swiftly become obsolete when there are no longer any manners.

~Noel Coward

Everybody worships me, it's nauseating.

~Noel Coward

You always ought to have tom cats arranged, you know - it makes 'em

more companionable.

~Noel Coward

Never mind, dear, we're all made the same, though some more than others.

~Noel Coward

It's such a surprise for the Eastern eyes to see, That though the English are effete They're quite impervious to heat.

~Noel Coward

Exercise is the most awful illusion. The secret is a lot of aspirin and marrons glaces.

~Noel Coward

Christopher Marlowe or Francis Bacon The author of Lear remains unshaken Willie Herbert or Mary Fitton What does it matter? The Sonnets were written.

~Noel Coward

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