

Pierre Corneille

Quotes

*Men, Lying, Kings, Power, Love, Heaven, Revenge, Ambition, Rome, Glory,
Hate, Sweet, Virtue, Memories, Crime, Masters, Conquer, Wish, Gratitude,
Firsts*

The greater the effort, the greater the glory.

~Pierre Corneille

A liar is always lavish of oaths.

~Pierre Corneille

These flattering mirrors reflect imperfectly what is within; the countenance is often a gay deceiver. What defects of mind lie hidden under its beauty! What fair exteriors conceal base souls!

~Pierre Corneille

Self-love is the source of all our other loves.

~Pierre Corneille

Heaven often regulates effects by their causes, and pays the wicked what they have deserved.

~Pierre Corneille

When there is no peril in the fight there is no glory in the triumph.

~Pierre Corneille

Clemency is the noblest trait which can reveal a true monarch to the world.

~Pierre Corneille

The manner of giving is worth more than the gift.

~Pierre Corneille

To take revenge halfheartedly is to court disaster; either condemn or crown your hatred.

~Pierre Corneille

He who plays advisor is no longer ambassador.

~Pierre Corneille

The man who pardons easily courts injury.

~Pierre Corneille

Time is a great manager: it arranges things well.

~Pierre Corneille

All great virtues become great men.

~Pierre Corneille

Deceit is the game of petty spirits, and that is by nature a woman's quality.

~Pierre Corneille

To win without risk is to triumph without glory.

~Pierre Corneille

Brave men are brave from the very first.

~Pierre Corneille

He who forgives readily only invites offense.

~Pierre Corneille

All evils are equal when they are extreme.

~Pierre Corneille

One is often guilty by being too just.

~Pierre Corneille

Happiness seems made to be shared.

~Pierre Corneille

Love lives on hope, and dies when hope is dead; It is a flame which sinks for lack of fuel.

~Pierre Corneille

Do your duty and leave the rest to heaven.

~Pierre Corneille

Master of the universe but not of myself, I am the only rebel against my absolute power.

~Pierre Corneille

Just vengeance does not call for punishment.

~Pierre Corneille

In relating our misfortunes, we often feel them lightened.

~Pierre Corneille

Peace is produced by war.

~Pierre Corneille

It matters more how one gives than what one gives

~Pierre Corneille

Treachery is noble when aimed at tyranny.

~Pierre Corneille

By speaking of our misfortunes we often relieve them. [Fr., A raconter ses maux souvent on les soulage.]

~Pierre Corneille

If you betray me, can I take a better revenge than to love the person you hate?

~Pierre Corneille

What destroys one man preserves another.

~Pierre Corneille

Oh rage! Oh despair! Oh age, my enemy!

~Pierre Corneille

As for our gods, we have a few too many to be true.

~Pierre Corneille

I see, I know, I believe, I am undeceived.

~Pierre Corneille

He who is hated by all can not expect to live long.

~Pierre Corneille

A liar is full of oaths.

~Pierre Corneille

Obedience is a hard profession.

~Pierre Corneille

Danger breeds best on too much confidence.

~Pierre Corneille

To he who avenges a father, nothing is impossible

~Pierre Corneille

Good fortune leads one to the highest glory, But to renounce it calls for equal courage.

~Pierre Corneille

A true king is neither husband nor father; he considers his throne and nothing else.

~Pierre Corneille

He who despises life is his life's master.

~Pierre Corneille

Let us attend to the present, and as to the future we shall know how to manage when the occasion arrives.

~Pierre Corneille

I can be forced to live without happiness, but I will never consent to live without honor.

~Pierre Corneille

We triumph without glory when we conquer without danger.

~Pierre Corneille

Whoever can do as he pleases, commands when he entreats.

~Pierre Corneille

One half of my life has put the other half in the grave.

~Pierre Corneille

He who allows himself to be insulted deserves to be so; and insolence, if unpunished, increases! [Lat., Qui se laisse outrager, merite qu'on l'outrage Et l'audace impunie enfle trop un courage.]

~Pierre Corneille

We never taste a perfect joy; our happiest successes are mixed with sadness.

~Pierre Corneille

This dark brightness that falls from the stars.

~Pierre Corneille

For souls nobly born, valor doesn't await the passing of years

~Pierre Corneille

Flee an enemy who knows your weakness.

~Pierre Corneille

Liberty may be of no more use Than stirring up the flame of civil wars;
Then, by disorder fatal to the world, One wants no king, the other wants
no equal.

~Pierre Corneille

How delicious is pleasure after torment!

~Pierre Corneille

He who allows himself to be insulted deserves to be.

~Pierre Corneille

Desire increases when fulfillment is postponed.

~Pierre Corneille

A monarch must sometimes rule even himself: he who wants
everything must risk very little.

~Pierre Corneille

He who has resolved to conquer or die is seldom conquered; such
noble despair perishes with difficulty.

~Pierre Corneille

Patience and time conquer all things.

~Pierre Corneille

Love is a tyrant sparing none.

~Pierre Corneille

And the combat ceased, for want of combatants.

~Pierre Corneille

One doesn't wish to see those to whom one owes so much.

~Pierre Corneille

The worst of all States is the democratic State.

~Pierre Corneille

Brave men are brave from the very first. [Fr., Les hommes valeureux le sont au premier coup.]

~Pierre Corneille

Clemency is the surest proof of a true monarch. [Fr., La clemence est la plus belle marque Qui fasse a l'univers connaitre un vrai monqrque.]

~Pierre Corneille

The crime and not the scaffold makes the shame.

~Pierre Corneille

Alas, I emerge from one disaster to fall into a worse.

~Pierre Corneille

It is a crime against the State to be powerful enough to commit one.

~Pierre Corneille

I have deserved neither so much honor or so much disgrace.

~Pierre Corneille

After having won a scepter, few are so generous as to disdain the pleasures of ruling.

~Pierre Corneille

Force is legitimate where gentleness avails not.

~Pierre Corneille

Omnipotence is bought with ceaseless fear.

~Pierre Corneille

Severity is allowable where gentleness has no effect.

~Pierre Corneille

Your virtue raises your glory above your crime.

~Pierre Corneille

He who can live in infamy is unworthy of life.

~Pierre Corneille

An example is often a deceptive mirror, and the order of destiny, so troubling to our thoughts, is not always found written in things past

~Pierre Corneille

Ambition aspires to descend

~Pierre Corneille

To myself alone do I owe my fame.

~Pierre Corneille

Ambition, having reached the summit, longs to descend.

~Pierre Corneille

A liar is always lavish of oaths. [Fr., Un menteur est toujours prodigue de serments.]

~Pierre Corneille

To myself alone do I owe my fame. [Fr., Je ne dois qu'a moi seul toute ma renommee.]

~Pierre Corneille

In recounting our woes, we often soothe them.

~Pierre Corneille

Here honor binds me, and I wish to satisfy it.

~Pierre Corneille

I agree to, or rather aspire to, my doom.

~Pierre Corneille

Those who resolve to conquer or die, are rarely conquered.

~Pierre Corneille

To die for one's country is such a worthy fate that all compete for so beautiful a death.

~Pierre Corneille

A first impulse was never a crime.

~Pierre Corneille

Kindness acts Not always as you think; a hated hand Renders it odious.

~Pierre Corneille

All evils are equal when they are extreme. [Fr., Et tous maux sont pareils alors qu'ils sont extremes.]

~Pierre Corneille

The subject of a good tragedy must not be realistic.

~Pierre Corneille

It is the crime not the scaffold which is the disgrace.

~Pierre Corneille

A good memory is needed once we have lied. [Fr., Il faut bonne memoire apres qu'on a menti.]

~Pierre Corneille

My reason, it's true, controls my feelings, but whatever its authority, it doesn't rule them so much as tyrannize them.

~Pierre Corneille

Oh, how sweet it is to pity the fate of an enemy who can no longer threaten us!

~Pierre Corneille

He who pardons easily invites offense.

~Pierre Corneille

Generosity is the accompaniment of high birth; pity and gratitude are its attendants.

~Pierre Corneille

It is a law, of the gods which is never broken, to sell somewhat dearly the great benefits which they confer on us.

~Pierre Corneille

He who does not fear death cares naught for threats.

~Pierre Corneille

In the service of Caesar, everything is legitimate.

~Pierre Corneille

One often calms one's grief by recounting it.

~Pierre Corneille

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