

Richard Brinsley Sheridan Quotes

*Clever, Men, Writing, Heart, Character, People, Love, Reading, Years, Eye,
Scandal, Memories, Thinking, Lying, Party, May, Tongue, Credit, Tree, Wine*

He is the very pineapple of politeness.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

A circulating library in a town is as an evergreen tree of diabolical knowledge.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

When of a gossiping circle it was asked, "What are they doing?" The answer was, "Swapping lies.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

An aspersion upon my parts of speech!

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Won't you come into the garden? I would like my roses to see you.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

A bumper of good liquor Will end a contest quicker Than justice, judge or vicar.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

An unforgiving eye, and a damned disinheriting countenance!

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Fertilizer does no good in a heap, but a little spread around works miracles all over.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Never say more than is necessary.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

The surest way not to fail is to determine to succeed.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

She's as headstrong as an allegory on the banks of the Nile.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Easy writing's curst hard reading.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Do thou snatch treasures from my lips, and I'll take kingdoms back from thine.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

There's only one truth about war: people die.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

An apothecary should never be out of spirits.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Mr. Speaker. I said the honorable member was a liar it is true and I am sorry for it. The honorable member may place the punctuation where he pleases.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

I ne'er could any lustre see
In eyes that would not look on me;
I ne'er saw nectar on a lip
But where my own did hope to sip.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

For in religion as in friendship, they who profess most are ever the least sincere.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

When delicate and feeling souls are separated, there is not a feature in the sky, not a movement of the elements, not an aspiration of the breeze, but hints some cause for a lover's apprehension.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

There's no possibility of being witty without a little ill-nature - the malice of a good thing is the barb that makes it stick.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

A man may surely be allowed to take a glass of wine by his own fireside.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

A wise woman will always let her husband have her way.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Happiness is an exotic of celestial birth.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

The heart that is conscious of its own integrity is ever slow to credit another's treachery.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

I leave my character behind me.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

It is by women that nature writes on the hearts of men.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

An oyster may be crossed in love.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

The number of those who undergo the fatigue of judging for themselves is very small indeed.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

I'm called away by particular business - but I leave my character behind me

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Death's a debt; his mandamus binds all alike- no bail, no demurrer.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Modesty is a quality in a lover more praised by the women than liked.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

I would by no means wish a daughter of mine to be a progeny of learning.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

There is not a passion so strongly rooted in the human heart as envy.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

To smile at the jest which plants a thorn in another's breast is to become a principal in the mischief.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Be just before you are generous.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Those that vow the most are the least sincere.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Conscience has no more to do with gallantry than it has with politics.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

You write with ease, to show your breeding, But easy writing's vile hard reading.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Through all the drama - whether damned or not - Love gilds the scene, and women guide the plot.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Nothing keeps me in such awe as perfect beauty; now, there is something consoling and encouraging in ugliness.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Pity those whom nature abuses, never those who abuse nature.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

The Right Honourable gentleman is indebted to his memory for his jests, and to his imagination for his facts.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

'Tis safest in matrimony to begin with a little aversion.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Fame, the sovereign deity of proud ambition.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Good reading makes for damn hard writing.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Men seldom think deeply on subjects in which they have no choice of opinion: they are fearful of encountering obstacles to their faith--as in religion--and so are content with the surface.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Wit loses its point when dipped in malice.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

If it is abuse, - why one is always sure to hear of it from one damned goodnatured friend or another!

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Soft pity never leaves the gentle breast where love has been received a welcome guest.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Ay, ay, the best terms will grow obsolete: damns have had their day.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

A progeny of learning.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

A fluent tongue is the only thing a mother don't like her daughter to resemble her in.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

In all cases of slander currency, whenever the forger of the lie is not to be found, the injured parties should have a right to come on any of the indorsers.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

The newspapers! Sir, they are the most villainous - licentious - abominable - infernal - Not that I ever read them - No - I make it a rule never to look into a newspaper.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Steal! to be sure they may; and, egad, serve your best thoughts as gypsies do stolen children,-disfigure them to make 'em pass for their own.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Believe that story false that ought not to be true.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Egad, I think the interpreter is the hardest to be understood of the two!

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

They only have lived long who have lived virtuously.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Certainly nothing is unnatural that is not physically impossible.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

I hate to see prudence clinging to the green suckers of youth; 'tis like ivy round a sapling, and spoils the growth of the tree.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

I own the soft impeachment.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

There needs no small degree of address to gain the reputation of benevolence without incurring the expense.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Our ancestors are very good kind of folks; but they are the last people I should choose to have a visiting acquaintance with.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

My valour is certainly going! - it is sneaking off! - I feel it oozing out as it were at the palms of my hands!

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Many a wretch has rid on a hurdle who has done less mischief than utterers of forged tales, coiners of scandal, and clippers of reputation.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Our memories are independent of our wills.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Satires and lampoons on particular people circulate more by giving copies in confidence to the friends of the parties, than by printing them.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Prudence, like experience, must be paid for.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

If I reprehend anything in this world, it is the use of my oracular tongue, and a nice derangement of epitaphs!

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Easy writings curse is hard reading.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

There 's nothing like being used to a thing.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Tale-bearers are as bad as the tale-makers.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Self confidence is the ground stone of success

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Date not the life which thou hast run by the mean of reckoning of the hours and days, which though hast breathed: a life spent worthily should be measured by a nobler line, - by deeds, not years.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

There never was a scandalous tale without some foundation.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

A life spent worthily should be measured by a nobler line,-by deeds, not years.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Though I never scruple a lie to serve my Master, it hurts one's conscience to be found out!

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

I ne'er could any luster see in eyes that would not look on me.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Humanity is composed but of two categories, the invalids and the nurses

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Humanity always becomes a conqueror.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

That old man dies prematurely whose memory records no benefits conferred. They only have lived long who have lived virtuously.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

A man may think an untruth as well as speak one.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

I had rather follow you to your grave than see you owe your life to any but a regular-bred physician.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

I was struck all on a heap.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Illiterate him, I say, quite from your memory.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

If the thought is slow to come, a glass of good wine encourages it; and when it does come, a glass of good wine rewards it.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Had I a heart for falsehood framed, I ne'er could injure you.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Believe not each accusing tongue, As most weak persons do; But still believe that story wrong, Which ought not to be true!

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Here is the whole set! a character dead at every word.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

As there are three of us come on purpose for the game, you won't be so cantankerous as to spoil the party by sitting out.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Wine does but draw forth a man's natural qualities.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

There is no trusting appearances.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

I loved him for himself alone.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

A practitioner in panegyric, or, to speak more plainly, a professor of the art of puffing.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

It is not my interest to pay the principal, nor my principle to pay the interest.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

We will not anticipate the past; so mind, young people, -our retrospection will be all to the future.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Where they do agree on the stage, their unanimity is wonderful.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

The throne we honour is the people's choice.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

No scandal about Queen Elizabeth, I hope?

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Sheer necessity,-the proper parent of an art so nearly allied to invention.

~Richard Brinsley Sheridan

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