

# Tallulah Bankhead Quotes

*Funny, Men, Sex, Years, Life, Acting, Giving, Two, Girl, Thinking, Lying, Hate,  
Mind, Cocaine, Want, Excess, Champion, Bed, Time, Ambition*

I think the Republican party should be placed in drydock and have the barnacles scraped off its bottom.

~Tallulah Bankhead

It's the good girls who keep diaries; the bad girls never have the time.

~Tallulah Bankhead

I have three phobias which, could I mute them, would make my life as slick as a sonnet, but as dull as ditch water: I hate to go to bed, I hate to get up, and I hate to be alone.

~Tallulah Bankhead

I've tried several varieties of sex. The conventional position makes me claustrophobic, and the others either give me a stiff neck or lockjaw.

~Tallulah Bankhead

Only good girls keep diaries. Bad girls don't have time.

~Tallulah Bankhead

If I had to live my life again, I'd make the same mistakes, only sooner.

~Tallulah Bankhead

Too many of our countrymen rejoice in stupidity, look upon ignorance as a badge of honor. They condemn everything they don't understand.

~Tallulah Bankhead

All my life I've been terrible at remembering people's names. I once introduced a friend of mine as Martini. Her name was actually Olive.

~Tallulah Bankhead

Fill what is empty, empty what is full, and scratch where it itches.

~Tallulah Bankhead

My father warned me about men and booze but he never said anything

about women and cocaine.

~Tallulah Bankhead

I'll come and make love to you at five o'clock. If I'm late, start without me.

~Tallulah Bankhead

They aren't making mirrors like they use to.

~Tallulah Bankhead

They used to photograph Shirley Temple through gauze. They should photograph me through linoleum.

~Tallulah Bankhead

Nobody can be exactly like me. Sometimes even I have trouble doing it.

~Tallulah Bankhead

Say anything about me, darling, as long as it isn't boring.

~Tallulah Bankhead

The less I behave like Whistler's mother the night before, the more I look like her the morning after.

~Tallulah Bankhead

I'd rather be strongly wrong than weakly right.

~Tallulah Bankhead

Bette [Davis] and I are good friends. There's nothing I wouldn't say to her face - both of them.

~Tallulah Bankhead

Cocaine isn't habit forming. I should know - I've been using it for years.

~Tallulah Bankhead

Will TV kill the theater? If the programs I have seen, save for "Kukla, Fran and Ollie," the ball games and the fights, are any criterion, the theater need not wake up in a cold sweat.

~Tallulah Bankhead

If you really want to help the American theater, don't be an actress, dahling. Be an audience.

~Tallulah Bankhead

I read Shakespeare and the Bible, and I can shoot dice. That's what I call a liberal education.

~Tallulah Bankhead

Whatever you have read I have said is almost certainly untrue, except if it is funny, in which case I definitely said it.

~Tallulah Bankhead

If I were well behaved, I'd die of boredom.

~Tallulah Bankhead

Television could perform a great service in mass education, but there's no indication its sponsors have anything like this on their minds.

~Tallulah Bankhead

For acting, darlings, is the world's most perilous trade. Compared with actors, steeple jacks and deep-sea divers lead snug and placid lives.

~Tallulah Bankhead

I'm not childless, darling. I am childfree.

~Tallulah Bankhead

I've had a man and I've had a woman, and there's got to be something better.

~Tallulah Bankhead

Going down on a woman gives me a stiff neck, going down on a man gives me lockjaw and conventional sex gives me claustrophobia.

~Tallulah Bankhead

They say it's the good girls who keep diaries. The bad girls never have the time. Me, I just wanna live a life I'm gonna remember even if I don't write it down.

~Tallulah Bankhead

[On being asked in her later years if she were Tallulah:] I'm what's left of her, dahling.

~Tallulah Bankhead

[To the critic who wrote a negative review:] I am sitting in the smallest room of the house. Your review is before me. Soon it will be behind me.

~Tallulah Bankhead

In my lifetime I've been to bed with men, women, and odd pieces of furniture.

~Tallulah Bankhead

Of course cocaine is not addictive, darling. I should know, I've been doing it for years.

~Tallulah Bankhead

Here's a rule I recommend: Never practice two vices at once.

~Tallulah Bankhead

[To the man who came up to her at a party and exclaimed effusively, 'Tallulah! I haven't seen you for 41 years!'] I thought I told you to wait in the car.

~Tallulah Bankhead

There is less in this than meets the eye.

~Tallulah Bankhead

I'm the foe of moderation, the champion of excess. If I may lift a line from a die-hard whose identity is lost in the shuffle, 'I'd rather be strongly wrong than weakly right.'

~Tallulah Bankhead

I did what I could to inflate the rumor I was on my way to stardom. What I was on my way to, by any mathematical standards known to man, was oblivion, by way of obscurity.

~Tallulah Bankhead

I'm as pure as the driven slush.

~Tallulah Bankhead

I have enemies I've never met - that's fame.

~Tallulah Bankhead

(On seeing a former lover for the first time in years) I thought I told you to wait in the car.

~Tallulah Bankhead

A Republican. A Republican. That's worse than being a goddamned Communist!

~Tallulah Bankhead

It's one of the tragic ironies of the theatre that only one man in it can count on steady work - the night watchman.

~Tallulah Bankhead

Acting is a form of confession.

~Tallulah Bankhead

Don't think this has taught me a lesson !

~Tallulah Bankhead

In the theater lying is looked upon as an occupational disease.

~Tallulah Bankhead

I have been absolutely hag-ridden with ambition. If I could wish to have anything in the world it would be to be free of ambition.

~Tallulah Bankhead

I've been called many things, but never an intellectual.

~Tallulah Bankhead

A frozen daiquiri of a scorching afternoon is soothing. It makes living more tolerable.

~Tallulah Bankhead

I'm not at my best when I moralize or philosophize. Logic is elusive, especially to one who so rarely uses it.

~Tallulah Bankhead

My progress reminded me of the horses in The Whip. They raced at the limit of their speed directly toward the audience. But they raced on a treadmill which canceled out their progress.

~Tallulah Bankhead

There have only been two authentic geniuses in the world, Willie Mays and Willie Shakespeare and I think you'd better put Shakespeare first, darling.

~Tallulah Bankhead

Working on television is like being shot out of a cannon. They cram you all up with rehearsals, then someone lights a fuse and - .BANG! - there you are in someone's living room.

~Tallulah Bankhead

Don't be taken in by the guff that critics are killing the theater. Commonly they sin on the side of enthusiasm. Too often they give their blessing to trash.

~Tallulah Bankhead

I have three phobias ...: I hate going to bed, get up and hate hate being alone.

~Tallulah Bankhead

I detest acting because it is sheer drudgery.

~Tallulah Bankhead

If you know your Bible and your Shakespeare and can shoot craps, you have a liberal education.

~Tallulah Bankhead

I have been tight as a tick! Fried as a mink! Stiff as a goat!

~Tallulah Bankhead

I'm the foe of moderation, the champion of excess.

~Tallulah Bankhead



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