

# Thomas Browne

## Quotes

*Men, World, Death, Life, Nature, May, Sleep, Wise, Way, Thinking, Art, Years,  
Philosophy, Believe, Reason, Soul, Animal, Inspirational, Dying, Solitude*

It is the common wonder of all men, how among so many million faces, there should be none alike.

~Thomas Browne

Life itself is but the shadow of death, and souls departed but the shadows of the living.

~Thomas Browne

Light is the shadow of God.

~Thomas Browne

Rough diamonds may sometimes be mistaken for worthless pebbles.

~Thomas Browne

What song the Syrens sang, or what name Achilles assumed when he hid himself among women, though puzzling questions, are not beyond all conjecture.

~Thomas Browne

There are mystically in our faces certain characters which carry in them the motto of our souls, wherein he that cannot read may read our natures.

~Thomas Browne

All the wonders you seek are within yourself.

~Thomas Browne

There is musick, even in the beauty and the silent note which Cupid strikes, far sweeter than the sound of an instrument.

~Thomas Browne

Think it more satisfactory to live richly than die rich.

~Thomas Browne

We carry within us the wonders we seek without us.

~Thomas Browne

A wise man is out of the reach of fortune.

~Thomas Browne

By compassion we make others' misery our own, and so, by relieving them, we relieve ourselves also.

~Thomas Browne

Rich with the spoils of nature.

~Thomas Browne

All things are artificial, for nature is the art of God.

~Thomas Browne

Men live by intervals of reason under the sovereignty of humor and passion.

~Thomas Browne

Where life is more terrible than death, it is then the truest valor to dare to live.

~Thomas Browne

I am the happiest man alive. I have that in me that can convert poverty to riches, adversity to prosperity, and I am more invulnerable than Achilles; Fortune hath not one place to hit me.

~Thomas Browne

There is no man alone, because every man is a Microcosm, and carries the whole world about him.

~Thomas Browne

Life is a pure flame and we live by an invisible sun within us.

~Thomas Browne

Be able to be alone. Lose not the advantage of solitude.

~Thomas Browne

We all labour against our own cure, for death is the cure of all diseases.

~Thomas Browne

Let age, not envy, draw wrinkles on thy cheeks.

~Thomas Browne

Be thou what thou singly art and personate only thyself. Swim smoothly in the stream of thy nature and live but one man.

~Thomas Browne

Think before you act; think twice before you speak.

~Thomas Browne

As reason is a rebel to faith, so passion is a rebel to reason.

~Thomas Browne

There is no royal road or ready way to virtue.

~Thomas Browne

Man is a noble animal, splendid in ashes, and pompous in the grave.

~Thomas Browne

The heart of man is the place the devil dwells in; I feel sometimes a hell within myself.

~Thomas Browne

Forcible ways make not an end of evil, but leave hatred and malice behind them.

~Thomas Browne

Death hath a thousand doors to let out life. I shall find one.

~Thomas Browne

How shall we expect charity towards others, when we are uncharitable to ourselves?

~Thomas Browne

The long habit of living indisposeth us for dying.

~Thomas Browne

Obstinacy in a bad cause is but constancy in a good.

~Thomas Browne

It is we that are blind, not fortune.

~Thomas Browne

I have loved my friends as I do virtue, my soul, my God.

~Thomas Browne

Yet is every man his greatest enemy, and, as it were, his own executioner.

~Thomas Browne

The created World is but a small Parenthesis in Eternity.

~Thomas Browne

Were the happiness of the next world is as closely apprehended as the felicities of this, it were a martyrdom to live.

~Thomas Browne

Women do most delight in revenge.

~Thomas Browne

There is nothing strictly immortal, but immortality. Whatever hath no beginning may be confident of no end.

~Thomas Browne

Charity begins at home, is the voice of the world.

~Thomas Browne

But the iniquity of oblivion blindly scattereth her poppy, and deals with the memory of men without distinction to merit of perpetuity.

~Thomas Browne

A man may be in as just possession of the truth as of a city, and yet be forced to surrender.

~Thomas Browne

There are no grotesques in nature; not anything framed to fill up empty cantons, and unnecessary spaces.

~Thomas Browne

Though it be in the power of the weakest arm to take away life, it is not in the strongest to deprive us of death.

~Thomas Browne

I have often admired the mystical way of Pythagoras, and the secret magick of numbers.

~Thomas Browne

Many-have too rashly charged the troops of error, and remain as trophies unto the enemies of truth.

~Thomas Browne

We term sleep a death, and yet it is waking that kills us, and destroys those spirits that are the house of life.

~Thomas Browne

Festination may prove Precipitation; Deliberating delay may be wise cunctation.

~Thomas Browne

Be Charitable before wealth make thee covetous, and loose not the glory of the Mite.

~Thomas Browne

To believe only possibilities is not faith, but mere Philosophy.

~Thomas Browne

No man can justly censure or condemn another, because indeed no man truly knows another.

~Thomas Browne

No one should approach the temple of science with the soul of a money changer.

~Thomas Browne

Flattery is a juggler, and no kin unto sincerity.

~Thomas Browne

All things began in Order, so shall they end, and so shall they begin again, according to the Ordainer of Order, and the mystical mathematicks of the City of Heaven.

~Thomas Browne

Gravestones tell truth scarce forty years.

~Thomas Browne

We term sleep a death by which we may be literally said to die daily; in fine, so like death, I dare not trust it without my prayers.

~Thomas Browne

I cannot tell by what logic we call a toad, a bear, or an elephant ugly; they being created in those outward shapes and figures which best express the actions of their inward forms.

~Thomas Browne

Let him have the key of thy heart, who hath the lock of his own.

~Thomas Browne

Gold once out of the earth is no more due unto it; what was unreasonably committed to the ground, is reasonably resumed from it; let monuments and rich fabricks, not riches, adorn men's ashes.

~Thomas Browne

I had rather stand the shock of a basilisk than the fury of a merciless pen.

~Thomas Browne

There is surely a piece of divinity in us, something was before the elements, and owes no homage unto the sun.

~Thomas Browne

Since women do most delight in revenge, it may seem but feminine manhood to be vindictive.

~Thomas Browne

Quotation mistakes, inadvertency, expedition, and human lapses, may make not only moles but warts in learned authors.

~Thomas Browne

Persecution is a bad and indirect way to plan religion.

~Thomas Browne

It is we that are blind, not fortune; because our eye is too dim to discern the mystery of her effects, we foolishly paint her blind, and hoodwink



the providence of the Almighty.

~Thomas Browne

The discourses of the table among true loving friends are held in strict silence.

~Thomas Browne

Not to be content with Life is the unsatisfactory state of those which destroy themselves; who being afraid to live, run blindly upon their own Death, which no Man fears by Experience.

~Thomas Browne

The vices we scoff at in others laugh at us within ourselves.

~Thomas Browne

Affection should not be too sharp eyed, and love is not made by magnifying glasses.

~Thomas Browne

To be nameless in worthy deeds exceeds an infamous history.

~Thomas Browne

I could never divide myself from any man upon the difference of an opinion, or be angry with his judgment for not agreeing with me in that from which perhaps within a few days I should dissent myself.

~Thomas Browne

Praise is a debt we owe unto the virtue of others, and due unto our own from all whom malice hath not made mutes, or envy struck dumb.

~Thomas Browne

There is another man within me that's angry with me.

~Thomas Browne

Light that makes things seen, makes some things invisible.

~Thomas Browne

We do but learn to-day what our better advanced judgements will unteach us tomorrow.

~Thomas Browne

(Death is) A leap into the dark.

~Thomas Browne

I have tried if I could reach that great resolution . . . to be honest without a thought of Heaven or Hell.

~Thomas Browne

For the world, I count it not an inn, but a hospital; and a place not to live, but to die in.

~Thomas Browne

Who knows whether the best of men be known? or whether there be not more remarkable persons forgot, than any that stand remembered in the known account of time?

~Thomas Browne

With what shift and pains we come into the World we remember not; but 'tis commonly found no easy matter to get out of it.

~Thomas Browne

Art is the perfection of nature, ... nature is the art of God.

~Thomas Browne

Yes, even amongst wiser militants, how many wounds have been given, and credits slain, for the poor victory of an opinion, or beggarly conquest of a distinction.

~Thomas Browne

God hath varied the inclinations of men according to the variety of actions to be performed.

~Thomas Browne

Tis hard to find a whole age to imitate, or what century to propose for example.

~Thomas Browne

A man is never alone, not only because he is with himself and his own thoughts, but because he is with the Devil, who ever consorts with our solitude.

~Thomas Browne

For my part, I have ever believed, and do now know, that there are witches.

~Thomas Browne

Therefore for Spirits, I am so far from denying their existence that I could easily believe, that not only whole Countries, but particular persons, have their Tutelary and Guardian Angels.

~Thomas Browne

For there is a music wherever there is a harmony, order, or proportion, and thus far we may maintain the music of the spheres.

~Thomas Browne

Circles and right lines limit and close all bodies, and the mortal right-lined circle must conclude and shut up all.

~Thomas Browne

Let any stranger find mee so pleasant a county, such good way, large heath, three such places as Norwich, Yar. and Lin. in any county of England, and I'll bee once again a vagabond to visit them.

~Thomas Browne

A little water makes a sea, a small puff of wind a Tempest.

~Thomas Browne

The world, which took six days to make, is likely to take us six thousand years to make out.

~Thomas Browne

Oblivion is not to be hired: The greater part must be content to be as though they had not been, to be found in the Register of God, not in the record of man.

~Thomas Browne

Should your riches increase, let your mind keep pace with them.

~Thomas Browne

I envy no man that knows more than myself, but pity them that know less.

~Thomas Browne

Where I cannot satisfy my reason, I love to humour my fancy.

~Thomas Browne

To me avarice seems not so much a vice as a deplorable piece of madness.

~Thomas Browne

I would not live over my hours past ... not unto Cicero's ground because I have lived them well, but for fear I should live them worse.

~Thomas Browne

Sleep is death's younger brother, and so like him, that I never dare trust him without my prayers.

~Thomas Browne

**Related Links:**

- Men Quotes
- World Quotes
- Death Quotes
- Life Quotes
- Nature Quotes
- May Quotes
- Sleep Quotes
- Wise Quotes
- Way Quotes
- Thinking Quotes
- Art Quotes
- Years Quotes
- Philosophy Quotes
- Believe Quotes
- Reason Quotes
- Soul Quotes
- Animal Quotes
- Inspirational Quotes
- Dying Quotes
- Solitude Quotes