

Thomas Mann

Quotes

Men, Love, Lying, People, Artist, Book, Beautiful, Eye, Passion, Giving, Adventure, Art, Sight, Order, Time, Needs, World, Simple, Magic, Self

A solitary, unused to speaking of what he sees and feels, has mental experiences which are at once more intense and less articulate than those of a gregarious man.

~Thomas Mann

For the myth is the foundation of life; it is the timeless schema, the pious formula into which life flows when it reproduces its traits out of the unconscious.

~Thomas Mann

Tolerance becomes a crime when applied to evil.

~Thomas Mann

Order and simplification are the first steps toward the mastery of a subject.

~Thomas Mann

Solitude gives birth to the original in us, to beauty unfamiliar and perilous - to poetry. But also, it gives birth to the opposite: to the perverse, the illicit, the absurd.

~Thomas Mann

Stupid â€” well, there are so many kinds of stupidity, and cleverness is one of the worst.

~Thomas Mann

A writer is somebody for whom writing is more difficult than it is for other people.

~Thomas Mann

Laughter is a sunbeam of the soul.

~Thomas Mann

War is only a cowardly escape from the problems of peace.

~Thomas Mann

In books we never find anything but ourselves. Strangely enough, that always gives us great pleasure, and we say the author is a genius.

~Thomas Mann

A harmful truth is better than a useful lie.

~Thomas Mann

It is love, not reason, that is stronger than death.

~Thomas Mann

Art is the funnel, as it were, through which spirit is poured into life.

~Thomas Mann

But my deepest and most secret love belongs to the fair-haired and the blue-eyed, the bright children of life, the happy, the charming and the ordinary.

~Thomas Mann

Is not life in itself a thing of goodness, irrespective of whether the course it takes for us can be called a 'happy' one?

~Thomas Mann

A great truth is a truth whose opposite is also a truth.

~Thomas Mann

For to be poised against fatality, to meet adverse conditions gracefully, is more than simple endurance; it is an act of aggression, a positive triumph.

~Thomas Mann

Solitude produces originality, bold and astonishing beauty, poetry. But solitude also produces perverseness, the disproportionate, the absurd

and the forbidden.

~Thomas Mann

We don't love qualities, we love persons; sometimes by reason of their defects as well as of their qualities.

~Thomas Mann

Reduced to a miserable mass level, the level of a Hitler, German Romanticism broke out into hysterical barbarism.

~Thomas Mann

A man lives not only his personal life, as an individual, but also, consciously or unconsciously, the life of his epoch and his contemporaries.

~Thomas Mann

I never can understand how anyone can not smoke it deprives a man of the best part of life. With a good cigar in his mouth a man is perfectly safe, nothing can touch him, literally.

~Thomas Mann

We do not fear being called meticulous, inclining as we do to the view that only the exhaustive can be truly interesting.

~Thomas Mann

What good would politics be, if it didn't give everyone the opportunity to make moral compromises.

~Thomas Mann

People's behavior makes sense if you think about it in terms of their goals, needs, and motives.

~Thomas Mann

What a wonderful phenomenon it is, carefully considered, when the

human eye, that jewel of organic structures, concentrates its moist brilliance on another human creature!

~Thomas Mann

Time cools, time clarifies; no mood can be maintained quite unaltered through the course of hours.

~Thomas Mann

Technology and comfort - having those, people speak of culture, but do not have it.

~Thomas Mann

There is only one real misfortune: to forfeit one's own good opinion of oneself. Lose your complacency, once betray your own self-contempt and the world will unhesitatingly endorse it.

~Thomas Mann

I tell them that if they will occupy themselves with the study of mathematics they will find in it the best remedy against the lusts of the flesh.

~Thomas Mann

Animals do not admire each other. A horse does not admire its companion.

~Thomas Mann

If you are possessed by an idea, you find it expressed everywhere, you even smell it.

~Thomas Mann

He who loves the more is the inferior and must suffer.

~Thomas Mann

Innate in nearly every artistic nature is a wanton, treacherous penchant

for accepting injustice when it creates beauty and showing sympathy for and paying homage to aristocratic privilege.

~Thomas Mann

One has the idea of a stupid man as perfectly healthy and ordinary, and of illness as making one refined and clever and unusual.

~Thomas Mann

Thought that can merge wholly into feeling, feeling that can merge wholly into thought - these are the artist's highest joy.

~Thomas Mann

All interest in disease and death is only another expression of interest in life.

~Thomas Mann

What pleases the public is lively and vivid delineation which makes no demands on the intellect; but passionate and absolutist youth can only be enthralled by a problem.

~Thomas Mann

Everything is politics.

~Thomas Mann

Distance in a straight line has no mystery. The mystery is in the sphere.

~Thomas Mann

I stand between two worlds. I am at home in neither, and I suffer in consequence. You artists call me a bourgeois, and the bourgeois try to arrest me...I don't know which makes me feel worse.

~Thomas Mann

The Freudian theory is one of the most important foundation stones for

an edifice to be built by future generations, the dwelling of a freer and wiser humanity.

~Thomas Mann

A man's dying is more the survivors' affair than his own.

~Thomas Mann

What we call National-Socialism is the poisonous perversion of ideas which have a long history in German intellectual life.

~Thomas Mann

One must die to life in order to be utterly a creator.

~Thomas Mann

Every reasonable human being should be a moderate Socialist.

~Thomas Mann

No man remains quite what he was when he recognizes himself.

~Thomas Mann

I shall need to sleep three weeks on end to get rested from the rest I've had.

~Thomas Mann

He took in the squeaky music, the vulgar and pining melodies, because passion immobilizes good taste and seriously considers what soberly would be thought of as funny and to be resented.

~Thomas Mann

I don't think anyone is thinking long-term now.

~Thomas Mann

Speech is civilization itself.

~Thomas Mann

Only love, and not reason, yields kind thoughts.

~Thomas Mann

Yes, they are carnal, both of them, love and death, and therein lies their terror and their great magic!

~Thomas Mann

He thought what a fine thing it was that people made music all over the world, even in the strangest settings - probably even on polar expeditions.

~Thomas Mann

Has the world ever been changed by anything save the thought and its magic vehicle the Word?

~Thomas Mann

â€œWhat our age needs, what it demands, what it will create for itself, isâ€”terror.

~Thomas Mann

He probably was mediocre after all, though in a very honorable sense of that word.

~Thomas Mann

Forbearance in the face of fate, beauty constant under torture, are not merely passive. They are a positive achievement, an explicit triumph.

~Thomas Mann

For the sake of goodness and love, man shall let death have no sovereignty over his thoughts.

~Thomas Mann

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