

# Vita Sackville-West Quotes

*Travel, Writing, Gardening, Years, Summer, Men, Life, Women, Art, Flower,  
Strong, Garden, Long, Bees, Love, Inspirational, Poor, People, Funny, Spring*

The more one gardens, the more one learns; And the more one learns, the more one realizes how little one knows.

~Vita Sackville-West

I loved you when love was Spring, and May, Loved you when summer deepened into June, and now when autumn yellows all the leaves.

~Vita Sackville-West

I miss you even more than I could have believed; and I was prepared to miss you a good deal.

~Vita Sackville-West

Flowers really do intoxicate me.

~Vita Sackville-West

There is nothing more lovely in life than the union of two people whose love for one another has grown through the years, from the small acorn of passion, into a great rooted tree

~Vita Sackville-West

I have come to the conclusion, after many years of sometimes sad experience, that you cannot come to any conclusion at all.

~Vita Sackville-West

I suppose the pleasure of country life lies really in the eternally renewed evidences of the determination to live.

~Vita Sackville-West

A flowerless room is a soulless room, to my way of thinking; but even a solitary little vase of a living flower may redeem it.

~Vita Sackville-West

Successful gardening is not necessarily a question of wealth, it is a question of love, taste, and knowledge.

~Vita Sackville-West

Still, no gardener would be a gardener if he did not live in hope.

~Vita Sackville-West

Not seeing is half-believing.

~Vita Sackville-West

But you, oh gardener, poet that you be / Though unaware, now use  
your seeds like words / And make them lilt with color nicely flung.

~Vita Sackville-West

Is it better to be extremely ambitious, or rather modest? Probably the  
latter is safer; but I hate safety, and would rather fail gloriously than  
dingily succeed.

~Vita Sackville-West

I cannot abide the Mr. and Mrs. Noah attitude towards marriage; the  
animals went in two by two, forever stuck together with glue.

~Vita Sackville-West

It is dreadful how I miss you, and everything that everybody says  
seems flat and stupid.

~Vita Sackville-West

Ambition, old as mankind, the immemorial weakness of the strong.

~Vita Sackville-West

Forget not bees in winter, though they sleep.

~Vita Sackville-West

For the last 40 years of my life I have broken my back, my fingernails,  
and sometimes my heart, in the practical pursuit of my favourite  
occupation.

~Vita Sackville-West

A man and his tools make a man and his trade.

~Vita Sackville-West

Autumn in felted slipper shuffles on, Muted yet fiery.--Vita Sackville-West

~Vita Sackville-West

It isn't that I don't like sweet disorder, but it has to be judiciously arranged.

~Vita Sackville-West

The Saluki is a marvel of elegance.

~Vita Sackville-West

There is always something else to do. A gardener should have nine times as many lives as a cat.

~Vita Sackville-West

Travel is in sad case. It is uncomfortable, it is expensive; it is a source of annoyance to our friends, and of loneliness to ourselves.

~Vita Sackville-West

Everywhere bees go racing with the hours, / For every bee becomes a drunken lover, / Standing upon his head to sup the flowers.

~Vita Sackville-West

It is no good my telling you. One never believes other people's experientem and one is only very gradually convinced by one's own.

~Vita Sackville-West

See the last orange roses, how they blow / Deeper and heavier than in their prime, / In one defiant flame before they go.

~Vita Sackville-West

Serenity of spirit and turbulence of action should make up the sum of a man's life.

~Vita Sackville-West

What is beautiful is good, and who is good will soon be beautiful.

~Vita Sackville-West

Of course I should love to throw a toothbrush into a bag, and just go, quite vaguely, without any plans or even a real destination. It is the Wanderlust.

~Vita Sackville-West

Tools have their own integrity.

~Vita Sackville-West

Summer makes a silence after spring.

~Vita Sackville-West

There are no signposts in the sea.

~Vita Sackville-West

I worshipped dead men for their strength, Forgetting I was strong.

~Vita Sackville-West

Growth is exciting; growth is dynamic and alarming.

~Vita Sackville-West

Travel is the most private of pleasures. There is no greater bore than the travel bore. We do not in the least want to hear what he has seen in Hong-Kong.

~Vita Sackville-West

It is necessary to write, if the days are not to slip emptily by. How else, indeed, to clap the net over the butterfly of the moment?

~Vita Sackville-West

April, the angel of the months, the young love of the year.

~Vita Sackville-West

My garden all is overblown with roses,/ My spirit all is overblown with rhyme.

~Vita Sackville-West

To hope for Paradise is to live in Paradise, a very different thing from actually getting there.

~Vita Sackville-West

The writer catches the changes of his mind on the hop. Growth is exciting; growth is dynamic and alarming. Growth of the soul, growth of the mind.

~Vita Sackville-West

Every garden-maker should be an artist along his own lines. That is the only possible way to create a garden, irrespective of size or wealth.

~Vita Sackville-West

All craftsmen share a knowledge. They have held Reality down fluttering to a bench.

~Vita Sackville-West

Prose is a poor thing, a poor inadequate thing, compared with poetry which says so much more in shorter time.

~Vita Sackville-West

I cannot bear that you / Should think me faithful, when I am untrue.

~Vita Sackville-West

however many resolutions one makes, one's pen, like water, always finds its own level, and one can't write in any way other than one's own.

~Vita Sackville-West

I do not like January very much. It is too stationary. Not enough happens. I like the evidences of life, and in January there are too few of them.

~Vita Sackville-West

One must be businesslike, although the glass is falling.

~Vita Sackville-West

Travel is a private pleasure, since it consists entirely of things felt and things seen.

~Vita Sackville-West

how poor and disheartening a thing is experience compared with hope!

~Vita Sackville-West

There's no beginning to the farmer's year, / Only recurrent patterns on a scroll / Unwinding...

~Vita Sackville-West

Women, like men, ought to have their years so glutted with freedom that they hate the very idea of freedom.

~Vita Sackville-West

Among the many problems which beset the novelist, not the least weighty is the choice of the moment at which to begin his novel.

~Vita Sackville-West

Nothing shows up the difference between the things said or read, so much as the daily experience of it.

~Vita Sackville-West

[On writing:] The most egotistic of occupations, and the most gratifying while it lasts.

~Vita Sackville-West

all the small squalors of the body, known only to oneself, insignificant in youth, easily dismissed, in old age became dominant and entered into fulfilment of the tyranny they had always threatened.

~Vita Sackville-West

For bees are captious folk / And quick to turn against the lubber's touch.

~Vita Sackville-West

Things were not tragic for us then, because although we cared passionately we didn't care deeply.

~Vita Sackville-West

The wise traveler is he who is perpetually surprised.

~Vita Sackville-West



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