

Washington Irving Quotes

*Men, Heart, Character, Mind, Thinking, Writing, Mother, Love, Home, Children,
Tree, Happiness, Funny, Christmas, Real, Age, Sorrow, Marriage, Sea, World*

Great minds have purposes; others have wishes.

~Washington Irving

Love is never lost. If not reciprocated, it will flow back and soften and purify the heart.

~Washington Irving

A kind heart is a fountain of gladness, making everything in its vicinity freshen into smiles.

~Washington Irving

I've had it with you and your emotional constipation!

~Washington Irving

A tart temper never mellows with age, and a sharp tongue is the only edged tool that grows keener with constant use.

~Washington Irving

Honest good humor is the oil and wine of a merry meeting, and there is no jovial companionship equal to that where the jokes are rather small and laughter abundant.

~Washington Irving

Sweet is the memory of distant friends! Like the mellow rays of the departing sun, it falls tenderly, yet sadly, on the heart.

~Washington Irving

There is a sacredness in tears. They are not the mark of weakness, but of power.

~Washington Irving

There is a serene and settled majesty to woodland scenery that enters into the soul and delights and elevates it, and fills it with noble inclinations.

~Washington Irving

A father may turn his back on his child, brothers and sisters may become inveterate enemies, husbands may desert their wives, wives their husbands. But a mother's love endures through all.

~Washington Irving

Christmas is a season for kindling the fire for hospitality in the hall, the genial flame of charity in the heart.

~Washington Irving

Little minds are tamed and subdued by misfortune; but great minds rise above them.

~Washington Irving

There is an enduring tenderness in the love of a mother to a son that transcends all other affections of the heart

~Washington Irving

There is in every true woman's heart, a spark of heavenly fire, which lies dormant in the broad daylight of prosperity, but which kindles up and beams and blazes in the dark hour of adversity.

~Washington Irving

One of the greatest and simplest tools for learning more and growing is doing more.

~Washington Irving

A mother is the truest friend we have when trials, heavy and sudden, fall upon us; when adversity takes the place of prosperity.

~Washington Irving

A mother is the truest friend we have.

~Washington Irving

Some minds seem almost to create themselves, springing up under every disadvantage and working their solitary but irresistible way through a thousand obstacles.

~Washington Irving

There is certainly something in angling that tends to produce a serenity of the mind.

~Washington Irving

The tongue is the only instrument that gets sharper with use.

~Washington Irving

They who drink beer will think beer.

~Washington Irving

The easiest thing to do, whenever you fail, is to put yourself down by blaming your lack of ability for your misfortunes.

~Washington Irving

A father may turn his back on his child, but a mother's love endures through all.

~Washington Irving

Man passes away; his name perishes from record and recollection; his history is as a tale that is told, and his very monument becomes a ruin.

~Washington Irving

There is never jealousy where there is not strong regard.

~Washington Irving

I am always at a loss at how much to believe of my own stories.

~Washington Irving

The idol of today pushes the hero of yesterday out of our recollection;

and will, in turn, be supplanted by his successor of tomorrow.

~Washington Irving

He who wins a thousand common hearts is entitled to some renown; but he who keeps undisputed sway over the heart of a coquette is indeed a hero.

~Washington Irving

The sorrow for the dead is the only sorrow from which we refuse to be divorced.

~Washington Irving

The tie which links mother and child is of such pure and immaculate strength as to be never violated.

~Washington Irving

Others may write from the head, but he writes from the heart, and the heart will always understand him.

~Washington Irving

An inexhaustible good nature is one of the most precious gifts of heaven, spreading itself like oil over the troubled sea of thought, and keeping the mind smooth and equable in the roughest weather.

~Washington Irving

He who would study nature in its wildness and variety, must plunge into the forest, must explore the glen, must stem the torrent, and dare the precipice.

~Washington Irving

Enthusiasts soon understand each other.

~Washington Irving

Marriage is the torment of one, the felicity of two, the strife and enmity

of three.

~Washington Irving

I have never found, in anything outside of the four walls of my study, an enjoyment equal to sitting at my writing desk with a clean page, a new theme, and a mind awake.

~Washington Irving

I consider a story merely as a frame on which to stretch my materials.

~Washington Irving

Villainy wears many masks; none so dangerous as the mask of virtue.

~Washington Irving

A barking dog is often more useful than a sleeping lion.

~Washington Irving

Jealous people poison their own banquet and then eat it

~Washington Irving

The moan of the whip-poor-will from the hillside; the boding cry of the tree-toad, that harbinger of storm; the dreary hooting of the screechowl.

~Washington Irving

There is a healthful hardiness about real dignity that never dreads contact and communion with others however humble.

~Washington Irving

Every antique farm-house and moss-grown cottage is a picture.

~Washington Irving

Every desire bears its death in its very gratification. Curiosity languishes under repeated stimulants, and novelties cease to excite

and surprise, until at length we cannot wonder even at a miracle.

~Washington Irving

There is a certain relief in change, even though it be from bad to worse.

~Washington Irving

It is not poverty so much as pretense that harasses a ruined man.

~Washington Irving

I sometimes think one of the great blessings we shall enjoy in heaven, will be to receive letters by every post and never be obliged to reply to them.

~Washington Irving

Society is like a lawn, where every roughness is smoothed, every bramble eradicated, and where the eye is delighted by the smiling verdure of a velvet surface

~Washington Irving

Rising genius always shoots forth its rays from among clouds and vapours, but these will gradually roll away and disappear, as it ascends to its steady and meridian lustre.

~Washington Irving

Those men are most apt to be obsequious and conciliating abroad, who are under the discipline of shrews at home.

~Washington Irving

The Englishman is too apt to neglect the present good in preparing against the possible evil.

~Washington Irving

There is a sacredness in tears

~Washington Irving

The only happy author in this world is he who is below the care of reputation.

~Washington Irving

The land of literature is a fairy land to those who view it at a distance, but, like all other landscapes, the charm fades on a nearer approach, and the thorns and briars become visible.

~Washington Irving

Acting provides the fulfillment of never being fulfilled. You're never as good as you'd like to be. So there's always something to hope for.

~Washington Irving

In civilized life, where the happiness, and indeed almost the existence, of man depends so much upon the opinion of his fellow men, he is constantly acting a studied part.

~Washington Irving

Into the space of one little hour sins enough may be conjured up by evil tongues to blast the fame of a whole life of virtue.

~Washington Irving

The natural principle of war is to do the most harm to our enemy with the least harm to ourselves; and this of course is to be effected by stratagem.

~Washington Irving

After all, it is the divinity within that makes the divinity without.

~Washington Irving

It is not poverty so much as pretense that harasses a ruined man - the struggle between a proud mind and an empty purse - the keeping up of

a hollow show that must soon come to an end.

~Washington Irving

Christmas is here, Merry old Christmas, Gift-bearing Christmas, Day of grand memories, King of the year!

~Washington Irving

I profess not to know how women's hearts are wooed and won. To me they have always been matters of riddle and admiration.

~Washington Irving

Who ever hears of fat men heading a riot, or herding together in turbulent mobs? No - no, your lean, hungry men who are continually worrying society, and setting the whole community by the ears.

~Washington Irving

There is a majestic grandeur in tranquillity.

~Washington Irving

The oil and wine of merry meeting.

~Washington Irving

From its peaceful bosom spring none but fond regrets and tender recollections.

~Washington Irving

I value this delicious home-feeling as one of the choicest gifts a parent can bestow.

~Washington Irving

Good temper, like a sunny day, sheds a ray of brightness over everything; it is the sweetener of toil and the soother of disquietude!

~Washington Irving

History is but a kind of Newgate calendar, a register of the crimes and miseries that man has inflicted on his fellow-man.

~Washington Irving

There was one species of despotism under which he had long groaned, and that was petticoat government.

~Washington Irving

I have often had occasion to remark the fortitude with which women sustain the most overwhelming reverses of fortunes.

~Washington Irving

The youthful freshness of a blameless heart.

~Washington Irving

Young lawyers attend the courts, not because they have business there, but because they have no business.

~Washington Irving

Wit, after all, is a mighty tart, pungent ingredient, and much too acid for some stomachs; but honest good humor is the oil and wine of a merry meeting.

~Washington Irving

He is the true enchanter, whose spell operates, not upon the senses, but upon the imagination and the heart.

~Washington Irving

Surely happiness is reflective, like the light of heaven.

~Washington Irving

The very difference of character in marriage produces a harmonious combination.

~Washington Irving

The natural effect of sorrow over the dead is to refine and elevate the mind.

~Washington Irving

Redundancy of language is never found with deep reflection. Verbiage may indicate observation, but not thinking. He who thinks much says but little in proportion to his thoughts.

~Washington Irving

Over no nation does the press hold a more absolute control than over the people of America, for the universal education of the poorest classes makes every individual a reader.

~Washington Irving

It's a fair wind that blew men to ale.

~Washington Irving

It lightens the stroke to draw near to Him who handles the rod.

~Washington Irving

A woman's whole life is a history of the affections.

~Washington Irving

Men are always doomed to be duped, not so much by the arts of the other as by their own imagination. They are always wooing goddesses, and marrying mere mortals.

~Washington Irving

With every exertion, the best of men can do but a moderate amount of good; but it seems in the power of the most contemptible individual to do incalculable mischief.

~Washington Irving

The almighty dollar, that great object of universal devotion throughout

our land, seems to have no genuine devotees in these peculiar villages.

~Washington Irving

No man is so methodical as a complete idler, and none so scrupulous in measuring out his time as he whose time is worth nothing.

~Washington Irving

There rise authors now and then, who seem proof against the mutability of language, because they have rooted themselves in the unchanging principles of human nature.

~Washington Irving

There are moments of mingled sorrow and tenderness, which hallow the caresses of affection.

~Washington Irving

To look upon its grass grown yard, where the sunbeams seem to sleep so quietly, one would think that there at least the dead might rest in peace.

~Washington Irving

There is an emanation from the heart in genuine hospitality which cannot be described, but is immediately felt and puts the stranger at once at his ease.

~Washington Irving

Small minds are subdued by misfortunes, greater minds overcome them.

~Washington Irving

No man knows what the wife of his bosom is until he has gone with her through the fiery trials of this world.

~Washington Irving

There is a remembrance of the dead to which we turn even from the charms of the living.

~Washington Irving

And if unhappy in her love, her heart is like some fortress that has been captured, and sacked, and abandoned, and left desolate.

~Washington Irving

He who would greatly deserve must greatly dare.

~Washington Irving

Believe me, the man who earns his bread by the sweat of his brow, eats oftener a sweeter morsel, however coarse, than he who procures it by the labor of his brains.

~Washington Irving

There is something nobly simple and pure in a taste for the cultivation of forest trees.

~Washington Irving

He who thinks much says but little in proportion to his thoughts. He selects that language which will convey his ideas in the most explicit and direct manner.

~Washington Irving

Nature seems to delight in disappointing the assiduities of art, with which it would rear legitimate dulness to maturity; and to glory in the vigour and luxuriance of her chance productions.

~Washington Irving

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