

William Makepeace Thackeray Quotes

*Men, Love, Heart, Eye, Life, Book, People, World, Character, Years, Wise,
Vanity, Kindness, Thinking, Giving, Lying, Looks, Believe, Children, Women*

The world is a looking glass and gives back to every man the reflection of his own face.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

What woman, however old, has not the bridal-favours and raiment stowed away, and packed in lavender, in the inmost cupboards of her heart?

~William Makepeace Thackeray

When you look at me, when you think of me, I am in paradise.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

A good laugh is sunshine in the house.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Mother is the name for God in the lips and hearts of little children.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

To love and win is the best thing. To love and lose, the next best.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Remember, it's as easy to marry a rich woman as a poor woman.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Never lose a chance of saying a kind word.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Next to excellence is the appreciation of it.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Which of us that is thirty years old has not had its Pompeii? Deep under ashes lies the life of youth--the careless sport, the pleasure and the passion, the darling joy.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Life is a mirror: if you frown at it, it frowns back; if you smile, it returns the greeting.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Those we love can but walk down to the pier with us - the voyage we must make alone.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

The pipe draws wisdom from the lips of the philosopher, and shuts up the mouth of the foolish; it generates a style of conversation, contemplative, thoughtful, benevolent, and unaffected.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

It was in the reign of George II. that the above-named personages lived and quarrelled ; good or bad, handsome or ugly, rich or poor, they are all equal now

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Dinner was made for eating, not for talking.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Do not be in a hurry to succeed. What would you have to live for afterwards? Better make the horizon your goal; it will always be ahead of you.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Malice is of the boomerang character, and is apt to turn upon the projector.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

A cheerful look brings joy to the heart.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

It is impossible, in our condition of Society, not to be sometimes a

Snob.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

People who do not know how to laugh are always pompous and self-conceited.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Bravery never goes out of fashion.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

A clever, ugly man every now and then is successful with the ladies, but a handsome fool is irresistible.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

That which we call a snob by any other name would still be snobbish.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Bad husbands will make bad wives.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

An immense percentage of snobs, I believe, is to be found in every rank of this mortal life.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

If fathers are sometimes sulky at the appearance of the destined son-in-law, is it not a fact that mothers become sentimental and, as it were, love their own loves over again.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

He who meanly admires a mean thing is a snob--perhaps that is a safe definition of the character.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

There are a thousand thoughts lying within a man that he does not

know till he takes up a pen to write.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

A snob is that man or woman who is always pretending to be something better--especially richer or more fashionable--than he is.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

It is best to love wisely, no doubt; but to love foolishly is better than not to be able to love at all.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

No particular motive for living, except the custom and habit of it.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

You can't order remembrance out of the mind; and a wrong that was a wrong yesterday must be a wrong to-morrow.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

To see a young couple loving each other is no wonder; but to see an old couple loving each other is the best sight of all.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

The two most engaging powers of an author are to make new things familiar, familiar things new.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Though small was your allowance, You saved a little store: And those who save a little, Shall get a plenty more.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

There are many sham diamonds in this life which pass for real, and vice versa.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Women are jealous of cigars... they regard them as a strong rival.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

It is a friendly heart that has plenty of friends.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

To forego even ambition when the end is gained - who can say this is not greatness?

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Which of us is happy in this world? Which of us has his desire? or, having it, is satisfied?

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Life is soul's nursery- its training place for the destinies of eternity.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Vanity is often the unseen spur.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

I would rather make my name than inherit it.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

If there is no love more in yonder heart, it is but a corpse unburied.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

An evil person is like a dirty window, they never let the light shine through.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

People hate as they love, unreasonably.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

We are most of us very lonely in this world; you who have any who love

you, cling to them and thank God.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

A fool can no more see his own folly than he can see his ears.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Oh, Vanity of vanities! How wayward the decrees of Fate are; How very weak the very wise, How very small the very great are!

~William Makepeace Thackeray

The world is good natured to people who are good natured.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

There is a skeleton in every house.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

I want a sofa, as I want a friend, upon which I can repose familiarly. If you can't have intimate terms and freedom with one and the other, they are of no good.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Those who forgets their friends to follow those of a higher status are truly snobs.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

You, who are ashamed of your poverty, and blush for your calling, are a snob; as are you who boast of your wealth.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Under the magnetism of friendship the modest man becomes bold; the shy, confident; the lazy, active; and the impetuous, prudent and peaceful.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Follow your honest convictions and be strong.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

...the greatest tyrants over women are women.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Let a man who has to make his fortune in life remember this maxim: Attacking is the only secret. Dare and the world yields, or if it beats you sometimes, dare it again and you will succeed.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Novelty has charms that our minds can hardly withstand.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Despair is perfectly compatible with a good dinner, I promise you.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

'Tis strange what a man may do, and a woman yet think him an angel.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Some cynical Frenchman has said that there are two parties to a love-transaction: the one who loves and the other who condescends to be so treated.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

If a man's character is to be abused, say what you will, there's nobody like a relative to do the business.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

When I walk with you I feel as if I had a flower in my buttonhole.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

We pass by common objects or persons without noticing them; but the keen eye detects and notes types everywhere and among all classes.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Is beauty beautiful, or is it only our eyes that make it so?

~William Makepeace Thackeray

The best of women are hypocrites.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Choose a good disagreeable friend, if you be wise--a surly, steady, economical, rigid fellow.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

To be thought rich is as good as to be rich.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Never marry with the expectation of changing a person.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Except for the young or very happy, I can't say I am sorry for anyone who dies.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Benevolence and feeling ennoble the most trifling actions.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

It is to the middle-class we must look for the safety of England.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

In effective womanly beauty form is more than face, and manner more than either.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

I wonder is it because men are cowards in heart that they admire bravery so much, and place military valor so far beyond every other

quality for reward and worship.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Next to the very young, I suppose the very old are the most selfish.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

He that has ears to hear, let him stuff them with cotton.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

All amusements to which virtuous women are not admitted, are, rely upon it, deleterious in their nature.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Why do they always put mud into coffee on board steamers? Why does the tea generally taste of boiled boots?

~William Makepeace Thackeray

I have long gone about with a conviction on my mind that I had a work to do—a Work, if you like, with a great W; a Purpose to fulfil; ... a Great Social Evil to Discover and to Remedy.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

If you take temptations into account, who is to say that he is better than his neighbor?

~William Makepeace Thackeray

I never knew whether to pity or congratulate a man on coming to his senses.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

'Tis not the dying for a faith that's so hard... 'Tis the living up to it that's difficult.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

What stories are new? All types of all characters march through all fables.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

It is comparatively easy to leave a mistress, but very hard to be left by one.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Alas! we are the sport of destiny.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

All is vanity, look you; and so the preacher is vanity too.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

It's a great comfort to some people to groan over their imaginary ills.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

All is vanity, nothing is fair.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Kindness is very indigestible. It disagrees with very proud stomachs.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Learn to admire rightly; the great pleasure of life is that. Note what the great men admired; they admired great things; narrow spirits admire basely, and worship meanly.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

I set it down as a maxim, that it is good for a man to live where he can meet his betters, intellectual and social.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

I believe that remorse is the least active of all a man's moral senses.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Who was the blundering idiot who said 'fine words butter no parsnips'?
Half the parsnips of society are served and rendered palatable with no other sauce.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Revenge may be wicked, but it's natural.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

It is only hope which is real, and reality is a bitterness and a deceit.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

Titles are abolished; and the American Republic swarms with men claiming and bearing them.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

So, with their usual sense of justice, ladies argue that because a woman is handsome, therefore she is a fool. O ladies, ladies! there are some of you who are neither handsome nor wise.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

The affection of young ladies is of as rapid growth as Jack's beanstalk, and reaches up to the sky in a night.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

The ladies--Heaven bless them!--are, as a general rule, coquettes from babyhood upwards.

~William Makepeace Thackeray

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