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Quotes by Wilde, Oscar

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Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde (October 16, 1854 - November 30, 1900) was an Anglo-Irish playwright, novelist, poet, and short story writer. One of the most successful playwrights of late Victorian London, and one of the greatest celebrities of his day, known for his barbed and clever wit, he suffered a dramatic downfall and was imprisoned after being convicted in a famous trial of "gross indecency" for homosexual acts.

Self-denial is the shining sore on the leprous body of Christianity.

- Wilde, Oscar

Art is not to be taught in Academies. It is what one looks at, not what one listens to, that makes the artist. The real schools should be the streets.

- Wilde, Oscar

The only thing to do with good advice is to pass it on. It is never of any use to oneself.

- Wilde, Oscar

Once can survive everything nowadays, except death.

- Wilde, Oscar

Alas, I am dying beyond my means.

- Wilde, Oscar

For he who lives more lives than one: More deaths than one must die.

- Wilde, Oscar

I am dying beyond my means.

- Wilde, Oscar

Democracy means simply the bludgeoning of the people by the people for the people.

- Wilde, Oscar

Through our sunless lanes creeps Poverty with her hungry eyes, and Sin with his sodden face follows close behind her. Misery wakes us in the morning and Shame sits with us at night.

- Wilde, Oscar

She wore far too much rouge last night and not quite enough clothes. That is always a sign of despair in a woman.

- Wilde, Oscar

There are three kinds of despots. There is the despot who tyrannizes over the body.

There is the despot who tyrannizes over the soul. There is the despot who tyrannizes over

the soul and body alike. The first is called the Prince. The second is called the Pope. The third is called the People.

- Wilde, Oscar

Despotism is unjust to everybody, including the despot, who was probably made for better things.

- Wilde, Oscar

Better the rule of One, whom all obey, than to let clamorous demagogues betray our freedom with the kiss of anarchy.

- Wilde, Oscar

Every great man nowadays has his disciples, and it is usually Judas who writes the biography.

- Wilde, Oscar

Discontent is the first step in the progress of a man or a nation.

- Wilde, Oscar

She is absolutely inadmissible into society. Many a woman has a past, but I am told that she has at least a dozen, and that they all fit.

- Wilde, Oscar

It is he who has broken the bond of marriage -- not I. I only break its bondage.

- Wilde, Oscar

Society often forgives the criminal; it never forgives the dreamer.

- Wilde, Oscar

A dreamer is one who can only find his way by moonlight, and his punishment is that he sees the dawn before the rest of the world.

- Wilde, Oscar

One should either be a work of art, or wear a work of art.

- Wilde, Oscar

Dullness is the coming of age of seriousness.

- Wilde, Oscar

Oh, duty is what one expects from others, it is not what one does oneself.

- Wilde, Oscar

The first duty of life is to be as artificial as possible. What the second duty is no one as yet discovered.

- Wilde, Oscar

The whole theory of modern education is radically unsound. Fortunately in England, at any rate, education produces no effect whatsoever. If it did, it would prove a serious danger to the upper classes, and probably lead to acts of violence.

- Wilde, Oscar

Education is an admirable thing, but it is well to remember from time to time that nothing that is worth knowing can be taught.

- Wilde, Oscar

The advantage of the emotions is that they lead us astray.

- Wilde, Oscar

A man cannot be too careful in the choice of his enemies.

- Wilde, Oscar

Pardon me, you are not engaged to any one. When you do become engaged to some one, I, or your father, should his health permit him, will inform you of the fact. An engagement should come on a young girl as a surprise, pleasant or unpleasant, as the case may be. It is hardly a matter that she could be allowed to arrange for herself.

- Wilde, Oscar

No artist has ethical sympathies. An ethical sympathy in an artist is an unpardonable mannerism of style.

- Wilde, Oscar

Nothing makes one so vain as being told that one is a sinner.

- Wilde, Oscar

The great events of life often leave one unmoved; they pass out of consciousness, and, when one thinks of them, become unreal. Even the scarlet flowers of passion seem to grow in the same meadow as the poppies of oblivion.

- Wilde, Oscar

Examinations, sir, are pure humbug from beginning to end. If a man is a gentleman, he knows quite enough, and if he is not a gentleman, whatever he knows is bad for him.

- Wilde, Oscar

I have the simplest tastes. I am always satisfied with the best.

- Wilde, Oscar

Experience is one thing you can't get for nothing.

- Wilde, Oscar

We can have in life but one great experience at best, and the secret of life is to reproduce that experience as often as possible.

- Wilde, Oscar

An ordinary man away from home giving advice.

- Wilde, Oscar

Where there is no extravagance there is no love, and where there is no love there is no understanding.

- Wilde, Oscar

A man's face is his autobiography. A woman's face is her work of fiction.

- Wilde, Oscar

Misfortunes one can endure -- they come from outside, they are accidents. But to suffer for one's own faults -- Ah! there is the sting of life.

- Wilde, Oscar

I can believe anything provided it is incredible.

- Wilde, Oscar

Relations are simply a tedious pack of people, who haven't got the remotest knowledge of how to live, nor the smallest instinct about when to die.

- Wilde, Oscar

I can't help detesting my relations. I suppose it comes from the fact that none of us can stand other people having the same faults as ourselves.

- Wilde, Oscar

And now, I am dying beyond my means. 'Sipping champagne on his deathbed';

- Wilde, Oscar

One's real life is so often the life that one does not lead.

- Wilde, Oscar

Woman's first duty in life is to her dressmaker. What the second duty is no one has yet discovered.

- Wilde, Oscar

Nothing is so dangerous as being too modern; one is apt to grow old fashioned quite suddenly.

- Wilde, Oscar

Fashion is a form of ugliness so intolerable that we have to alter it every six months.

- Wilde, Oscar

Fashion, by which what is really fantastic becomes for a moment the universal.

- Wilde, Oscar

The American father is never seen in London. He passes his life entirely in Wall Street

and communicates with his family once a month by means of a telegram in cipher.

- Wilde, Oscar

Fathers should be neither seen nor heard. That is the only proper basis for family life.

- Wilde, Oscar

None of us can stand other people having the same faults as ourselves.

- Wilde, Oscar

One should not be too severe on English novels; they are the only relaxation of the intellectually unemployed.

- Wilde, Oscar

The good ended happily, and the bad unhappily. That is what Fiction means.

- Wilde, Oscar

People who love only once in their lives are shallow people. What they call their loyalty, and their fidelity, I call either the lethargy of custom or their lack of imagination.

Faithfulness is to the emotional life what consistency is to the life of the intellect -- simply a confession of failures.

- Wilde, Oscar

What a fuss people make about fidelity! Why, even in love it is purely a question for

physiology. It has nothing to do with our own will. Young men want to be faithful, and are not; old men want to be faithless, and cannot: that is all one can say.

- Wilde, Oscar

The amount of women in London who flirt with their own husbands is perfectly scandalous. It looks so bad. It is simply washing one's clean linen in public.

- Wilde, Oscar

Flowers are as common in the country as people are in London.

- Wilde, Oscar

Only dull people are brilliant at breakfast.

- Wilde, Oscar

Always forgive your enemies -- nothing annoys them so much.

- Wilde, Oscar

An acquaintance that begins with a compliment is sure to develop into a real friendship.

- Wilde, Oscar

Laughter is not at all a bad beginning for a friendship, and it is far the best ending for one.

- Wilde, Oscar

We can forgive a man for making a useful thing as long as he does not admire it. The only excuse for making a useless thing is that one admires it intensely.

- Wilde, Oscar

The past is of no importance. The present is of no importance. It is with the future that we have to deal. For the past is what man should not have been. The present is what man ought not to be. The future is what artists are.

- Wilde, Oscar

One should always play fair when one has the winning cards.

- Wilde, Oscar

The longer I live the more keenly I feel that whatever was good enough for our fathers is not good enough for us.

- Wilde, Oscar

I put all my genius into my life; I put only my talent into my works.

- Wilde, Oscar

Genius lasts longer than Beauty. That accounts for the fact that we all take such pains to over-educate ourselves.

- Wilde, Oscar

The public is wonderfully tolerant. It forgives everything except genius.

- Wilde, Oscar

I have nothing to declare except my genius.

- Wilde, Oscar

A true gentleman is one who is never unintentionally rude.

- Wilde, Oscar

Thirty-five is a very attractive age. London society is full of women of the highest birth who have, of their own free choice, remained thirty-five for years.

- Wilde, Oscar

The tragedy of old age is not that one is old, but that one is young.

- Wilde, Oscar

No woman should ever be quite accurate about her age. It looks so calculating.

- Wilde, Oscar

I delight in men over seventy. They always offer one the devotion of a lifetime.

- Wilde, Oscar

Ambition is the last refuge of failure.

- Wilde, Oscar

America had often been discovered before Columbus, but it had always been hushed up.

- Wilde, Oscar

America is the only country that went from barbarism to decadence without civilization in between.

- Wilde, Oscar

The youth of America is their oldest tradition. It has been going on now for three hundred years.

- Wilde, Oscar

There is no country in the world where machinery is so lovely as in America.

- Wilde, Oscar

People sometimes inquire what form of government is most suitable for an artist to live under. To this question there is only one answer. The form of government that is most suitable to the artist is no government at all.

- Wilde, Oscar

We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars.

- Wilde, Oscar

If you pretend to be good, the world takes you very seriously. If you pretend to be bad, it doesn't. Such is the astounding stupidity of optimism.

- Wilde, Oscar

To be good, according to the vulgar standard of goodness, is obviously quite easy. It merely requires a certain amount of sordid terror, a certain lack of imaginative thought, and a certain low passion for middle-class respectability.

- Wilde, Oscar

There is only one thing in the world worse than being talked about, and that is not being talked about.

- Wilde, Oscar

It is perfectly monstrous the way people go about nowadays saying things against one, behind one's back, that are absolutely and entirely true.

- Wilde, Oscar

Frank Harris has been received in all the great houses -- once!

- Wilde, Oscar

When we are happy we are always good, but when we are good we are not always happy.

- Wilde, Oscar

Some cause happiness wherever they go; others whenever they go.

- Wilde, Oscar

How else but through a broken heart may Lord Christ enter in?

- Wilde, Oscar

To give an accurate description of what has never occurred is not merely the proper occupation of the historian, but the inalienable privilege of any man of parts and culture.

- Wilde, Oscar

Anybody can make history. Only a great man can write it.

- Wilde, Oscar

Like two doomed ships that pass in storm we had crossed each other's way: but we made no sign, we said no word, we had no word to say.

- Wilde, Oscar

I'm sure I don't know half the people who come to my house. Indeed, from all I hear, I shouldn't like to.

- Wilde, Oscar

Man is made for something better than disturbing dirt.

- Wilde, Oscar

The only thing that one really knows about human nature is that it changes. Change is the one quality we can predicate of it. The systems that fail are those that rely on the permanency of human nature, and not on its growth and development. The error of Louis XIV was that he thought human nature would always be the same. The result of his error was the French Revolution. It was an admirable result.

- Wilde, Oscar

In the old times men carried out their rights for themselves as they lived, but nowadays every baby seems born with a social manifesto in its mouth much bigger than itself.

- Wilde, Oscar

The brotherhood of man is not a mere poet's dream: it is a most depressing and humiliating reality.

- Wilde, Oscar

I sometimes think that God in creating man somewhat overestimated his ability.

- Wilde, Oscar

It is because Humanity has never known where it was going that it has been able to find its way.

- Wilde, Oscar

One knows so well the popular idea of health. The English country gentleman galloping after a fox -- the unspeakable in full pursuit of the uneatable.

- Wilde, Oscar

They are horribly tedious when they are good husbands, and abominably conceited when they are not.

- Wilde, Oscar

The husbands of very beautiful women belong to the criminal classes.

- Wilde, Oscar

The value of an idea has nothing whatever to do with the sincerity of the man who expresses it.

- Wilde, Oscar

How clever you are, my dear! You never mean a single word you say.

- Wilde, Oscar

And the wild regrets, and the bloody sweats, none knew so well as I: for he who lives more lives than one more deaths than one must die.

- Wilde, Oscar

A map of the world that does not include Utopia is not worth even glancing at, for it leaves out the one country at which Humanity is always landing.

- Wilde, Oscar

Ignorance is like a delicate fruit; touch it, and the bloom is gone.

- Wilde, Oscar

The modern sympathy with invalids is morbid. Illness of any kind is hardly a thing to be encouraged in others.

- Wilde, Oscar

The one person who has more illusions than the dreamer is the man of action.

- Wilde, Oscar

Imagination is a quality given a man to compensate him for what he is not, and a sense of humor was provided to console him for what he is.

- Wilde, Oscar

Man can believe the impossible, but man can never believe the improbable.

- Wilde, Oscar

To do nothing at all is the most difficult thing in the world, the most difficult and the most intellectual.

- Wilde, Oscar

My great mistake, the fault for which I can't forgive myself, is that one day I ceased my obstinate pursuit of my own individuality.

- Wilde, Oscar

Those who are faithful know only the trivial side of love: it is the faithless who know love's tragedies.

- Wilde, Oscar

Private information is practically the source of every large modern fortune.

- Wilde, Oscar

Nothing looks so like innocence as an indiscretion.

- Wilde, Oscar

Nowadays to be intelligible is to be found out.

- Wilde, Oscar

The intellect is not a serious thing, and never has been. It is an instrument on which one plays, that is all.

- Wilde, Oscar

Questions are never indiscreet. Answers sometimes are.

- Wilde, Oscar

It is only the unimaginative who ever invents. The true artist is known by the use he makes of what he annexes.

- Wilde, Oscar

With an evening coat and a white tie, anybody, even a stock broker, can gain a reputation for being civilized.

- Wilde, Oscar

Plain women are always jealous of their husbands. Beautiful women never are. They are always so occupied with being jealous of other women's husbands.

- Wilde, Oscar

There is much to be said in favor of modern journalism. By giving us the opinions of the uneducated, it keeps us in touch with the ignorance of the community. By carefully chronicling the current events of contemporary life, it shows us of what very little importance such events really are. By invariably discussing the unnecessary, it makes us understand what things are requisite for culture, and what are not.

- Wilde, Oscar

It was a fatal day when the public discovered that the pen is mightier than the paving-stone, and can be made as offensive as the brickbat. They at once sought for the

journalist, found him, developed him, and made him their industrious and well-paid servant. It is greatly to be regretted, for both their sakes.

- Wilde, Oscar

Bad manners make a journalist.

- Wilde, Oscar

A kiss may ruin a human life.

- Wilde, Oscar

I am not young enough to know everything.

- Wilde, Oscar

There are only two kinds of people who are really fascinating --people who know absolutely everything, and people who know absolutely nothing.

- Wilde, Oscar

We have really everything in common with America nowadays, except, of course, language.

- Wilde, Oscar

The mind of the thoroughly well-informed man is a dreadful thing. It is like a bric-?-brac shop, all monsters and dust, with everything priced above its proper value.

- Wilde, Oscar

Cultivated leisure is the aim of man.

- Wilde, Oscar

When liberty comes with hands dabbled in blood it is hard to shake hands with her.

- Wilde, Oscar

The liar at any rate recognizes that recreation, not instruction, is the aim of conversation, and is a far more civilized being than the blockhead who loudly expresses his disbelief in a story which is told simply for the amusement of the company.

- Wilde, Oscar

As one knows the poet by his fine music, so one can recognize the liar by his rich rhythmic utterance, and in neither case will the casual inspiration of the moment suffice. Here, as elsewhere, practice must precede perfection.

- Wilde, Oscar

We quaff the cup of life with eager haste without draining it, instead of which it only overflows the brim -- objects press around us, filling the mind with the throng of desires that wait upon them, so that we have no room for the thoughts of death.

- Wilde, Oscar

To live is the rarest thing in the world. Most people exist, that is all.

- Wilde, Oscar

The man who says he has exhausted life generally means that life has exhausted him.

- Wilde, Oscar

Life! Life! Don't let us go to life for our fulfillment or our experience. It is a thing narrowed by circumstances, incoherent in its utterance, and without that fine correspondence of form and spirit which is the only thing that can satisfy the artistic

- Wilde, Oscar

Life, Lady Stutfield, is simply a mauvais quart d'heure made up of exquisite moments.

- Wilde, Oscar

The suspense is terrible, I hope it will last.

- Wilde, Oscar

He would stab his best friend for the sake of writing an epigram on his tombstone.

- Wilde, Oscar

It is only shallow people who do not judge by appearances. The true mystery of the world is the visible, not the invisible.

- Wilde, Oscar

Arguments are to be avoided; they are always vulgar and often convincing.

- Wilde, Oscar

I dislike arguments of any kind. They are always vulgar, and often convincing.

- Wilde, Oscar

You should study the Peerage, Gerald. It is the one book a young man about town should know thoroughly, and it is the best thing in fiction the English have ever done.

- Wilde, Oscar

Anybody can write a three-volume novel. It merely requires a complete ignorance of both life and literature.

- Wilde, Oscar

The difference between literature and journalism is that journalism is unreadable and literature is not read.

- Wilde, Oscar

Literature always anticipates life. It does not copy it, but moulds it to its purpose. The nineteenth century, as we know it, is largely an invention of Balzac.

- Wilde, Oscar

Yet each man kills the thing he loves from all let this be heard some does it with a bitter look some with a flattering word the coward does it with a kiss the brave man with the sword.

- Wilde, Oscar

When one is in love, one always begins by deceiving one's self, and one always ends by deceiving others. That is what the world calls a romance.

- Wilde, Oscar

One should always be in love. That is the reason one should never marry.

- Wilde, Oscar

Keep love in your heart. A life without it is like a sunless garden when the flowers are dead.

- Wilde, Oscar

When a man has once loved a woman, he will do anything for her, except continue to love her.

- Wilde, Oscar

There is always something ridiculous about the emotions of people whom one has ceased to love.

- Wilde, Oscar

There's nothing in the world like the devotion of a married woman. It's a thing no married man knows anything about.

- Wilde, Oscar

If you are not too long, I will wait here for you all my life.

- Wilde, Oscar

When a woman marries again it is because she detested her first husband. When a man marries again it is because he adored his first wife. Women try their luck; men risk theirs.

- Wilde, Oscar

Twenty years of romance make a woman look like a ruin, but twenty years of marriage make her something like a public building.

- Wilde, Oscar

They flaunt their conjugal felicity in one's face, as if it were the most fascinating of sins.

- Wilde, Oscar

On the whole, the great success of marriage in the States is due partly to the fact that no American man is ever idle, and partly to the fact that no American wife is considered responsible for the quality of her husband's dinners.

- Wilde, Oscar

Men marry because they are tired; women, because they are curious; both are disappointed.

- Wilde, Oscar

Long engagements give people the opportunity of finding out each other's character before marriage, which is never advisable.

- Wilde, Oscar

No man dies for what he knows to be true. Men die for what they want to be true, for what some terror in their hearts tells them is not true.

- Wilde, Oscar

My experience is that as soon as people are old enough to know better, they don't know anything at all.

- Wilde, Oscar

In old days men had the rack. Now they have the Press.

- Wilde, Oscar

I know, of course, how important it is not to keep a business engagement, if one wants to retain any sense of the beauty of life.

- Wilde, Oscar

Memory is the diary that we all carry about with us.

- Wilde, Oscar

The Ideal Man should talk to us as if we were goddesses, and treat us as if we were children. He should refuse all our serious requests, and gratify every one of our whims. He should encourage us to have caprices, and forbid us to have missions. He should always say much more than he means, and always mean much more than he says.

- Wilde, Oscar

A man can be happy with any woman, as long as he does not love her.

- Wilde, Oscar

Between men and women there is no friendship possible. There is passion, enmity, worship, love, but no friendship.

- Wilde, Oscar

The fact is, you have fallen lately, Cecily, into a bad habit of thinking for yourself. You should give it up. It is not quite womanly... men don't like it.

- Wilde, Oscar

Women love us for our defects. If we have enough of them, they will forgive us everything, even our gigantic intellects.

- Wilde, Oscar

What is mind but motion in the intellectual sphere?

- Wilde, Oscar

There are many things that we would throw away if we were not afraid that others might pick them up.

- Wilde, Oscar

There is always something infinitely mean about other people's tragedies.

- Wilde, Oscar

Experience is the name we give to our mistakes.

- Wilde, Oscar

Life would be dull without them.

- Wilde, Oscar

For an artist to marry his model is as fatal as for a gourmet to marry his cook: the one gets no sittings, and the other gets no dinners.

- Wilde, Oscar

Moderation is a fatal thing. Nothing succeeds like excess.

- Wilde, Oscar

It is only the modern that ever becomes old-fashioned.

- Wilde, Oscar

When I was young I used to think that money was the most important thing in life; now that I am old, I know it is.

- Wilde, Oscar

There is only one class in the community that thinks more about money than the rich, and that is the poor. The poor can think of nothing else.

- Wilde, Oscar

If a man needs an elaborate tombstone in order to remain in the memory of his country, it is clear that his living at all was an act of absolute superfluity.

- Wilde, Oscar

I never approve, or disapprove, of anything now. It is an absurd attitude to take towards life. We are not sent into the world to air our moral prejudices. I never take any notice of what common people say, and I never interfere with what charming people do.

- Wilde, Oscar

A man who moralizes is usually a hypocrite, and a woman who moralizes is invariably

plain.

- Wilde, Oscar

Morality is the attitude we adopt toward people whom we personally dislike.

- Wilde, Oscar

There is no such thing as morality or immorality in thought. There is immoral emotion.

- Wilde, Oscar

Lord Illingworth: All women become like their mothers. That is their tragedy. Mrs. Allonby:

No man does. That is his.

- Wilde, Oscar

Whenever a man does a thoroughly stupid thing, it is always from the noblest motives.

- Wilde, Oscar

Murder is always a mistake. One should never do anything that one cannot talk about after dinner.

- Wilde, Oscar

Of course the music is a great difficulty. You see, if one plays good music, people don't listen, and if one plays bad music people don't talk.

- Wilde, Oscar

Musical people are so absurdly unreasonable. They always want one to be perfectly dumb at the very moment when one is longing to be absolutely deaf.

- Wilde, Oscar

If one hears bad music, it is one's duty to drown it by one's conversation.

- Wilde, Oscar

It is a sad truth, but we have lost the faculty of giving lovely names to things. Names are everything. I never quarrel with actions. My one quarrel is with words. The man who could call a spade a spade should be compelled to use one. It is the only thing he is fit for.

- Wilde, Oscar

We live in an age when unnecessary things are our only necessities.

- Wilde, Oscar

It is always the unreadable that occurs.

- Wilde, Oscar

Newspapers have degenerated. They may now be absolutely relied upon.

- Wilde, Oscar

Disobedience, in the eyes of any one who has read history, is man's original virtue. It is

through disobedience that progress has been made, through disobedience and through rebellion.

- Wilde, Oscar

The sign of a Philistine age is the cry of immorality against art.

- Wilde, Oscar

No work of art ever puts forward views. Views belong to people who are not artists.

- Wilde, Oscar

For his mourners will be outcast men, and outcasts always mourn.

- Wilde, Oscar

Every portrait that is painted with feeling is a portrait of the artist, not of the sitter.

- Wilde, Oscar

The way of paradoxes is the way of truth. To test Reality we must see it on the tight-rope.

When the Verities become acrobats we can judge them.

- Wilde, Oscar

To lose one parent may be regarded as a misfortune... to lose both seems like carelessness.

- Wilde, Oscar

One's past is what one is. It is the only way by which people should be judged.

- Wilde, Oscar

It is absurd to divide people into good and bad. People are either charming or tedious.

- Wilde, Oscar

The condition of perfection is idleness: the aim of perfection is youth.

- Wilde, Oscar

The true perfection of man lies not in what man has, but in what man is.

- Wilde, Oscar

A pessimist is one who, when he has the choice of two evils, chooses both.

- Wilde, Oscar

Philanthropic people lose all sense of humanity. It is their distinguishing characteristic.

- Wilde, Oscar

In modern life nothing produces such an effect as a good platitude. It makes the whole world kin.

- Wilde, Oscar

The play was a great success, but the audience was a disaster.

- Wilde, Oscar

The world is a stage, but the play is badly cast.

- Wilde, Oscar

Pleasure is Nature's test, her sign of approval. When man is happy, he is in harmony with himself and his environment.

- Wilde, Oscar

A poet can survive anything but a misprint.

- Wilde, Oscar

In a very ugly and sensible age, the arts borrow, not from life, but from each other.

- Wilde, Oscar

Modern pictures are, no doubt, delightful to look at. At least, some of them are. But they are quite impossible to live with; they are too clever, too assertive, too intellectual. Their meaning is too obvious, and their method too clearly defined. One

- Wilde, Oscar

No great artist ever sees things as they really are, if he did he would cease to be an artist.

- Wilde, Oscar

Bad artists always admire each other's work. They call it being large-minded and free from prejudice. But a truly great artist cannot conceive of life being shown, or beauty fashioned, under any conditions other than those he has selected.

- Wilde, Oscar

Bad art is a great deal worse than no art at all.

- Wilde, Oscar

All art is quite useless.

- Wilde, Oscar

Art, like Nature, has her monsters, things of bestial shape and with hideous voices.

- Wilde, Oscar

Seriousness is the only refuge of the shallow.

- Wilde, Oscar

The basis of optimism is sheer terror.

- Wilde, Oscar

I dislike modern memoirs. They are generally written by people who have either entirely

lost their memories, or have never done anything worth remembering.

- Wilde, Oscar

Nowadays, all the married men live like bachelors, and all the bachelors like married men.

- Wilde, Oscar

By persistently remaining single, a man converts himself into a permanent public temptation. Men should be more careful.

- Wilde, Oscar

Only people who look dull ever get into the House of Commons, and only people who are dull ever succeed there.

- Wilde, Oscar

I adore political parties. They are the only place left to us where people don't talk politics.

- Wilde, Oscar

He thinks like a Tory, and talks like a Radical, and that's so important nowadays.

- Wilde, Oscar

Popularity is the only insult that has not yet been offered to Mr. Whistler.

- Wilde, Oscar

Popularity is the crown of laurel which the world puts on bad art. Whatever is popular is wrong.

- Wilde, Oscar

Most of our modern portrait painters are doomed to absolute oblivion. They never paint what they see. They paint what the public sees, and the public never sees anything.

- Wilde, Oscar

Who, being loved, is poor?

- Wilde, Oscar

As for the virtuous poor, one can pity them, of course, but one cannot possibly admire them. They have made private terms with the enemy, and sold their birthright for very bad pottage. They must also be extraordinarily stupid.

- Wilde, Oscar

In going to America one learns that poverty is not a necessary accompaniment to civilization.

- Wilde, Oscar

When the gods wish to punish us they answer our prayers.

- Wilde, Oscar

One can only give an unbiased opinion about things that do not interest one, which is no doubt the reason an unbiased opinion is always valueless. The man who sees both sides of a question is a man who sees absolutely nothing.

- Wilde, Oscar

He to whom the present is the only thing that is present, knows nothing of the age in which he lives.

- Wilde, Oscar

In America, the President reigns for four years, and journalism governs for ever and ever.

- Wilde, Oscar

I like persons better than principles, and I like persons with no principles better than anything else in the world.

- Wilde, Oscar

We who live in prison, and in whose lives there is no event but sorrow, have to measure time by throbs of pain, and the record of bitter moments.

- Wilde, Oscar

I know not whether Laws be right or whether Laws be wrong; all that we know who live in gaol is that the wall is strong; and that each day is like a year, a year whose days are long.

- Wilde, Oscar

There is something tragic about the enormous number of young men there are in England at the present moment who start life with perfect profiles, and end by adopting some useful profession.

- Wilde, Oscar

Only mediocrities progress. An artist revolves in a cycle of masterpieces, the first of which is no less perfect than the last.

- Wilde, Oscar

If property had simply pleasures, we could stand it; but its duties make it unbearable. In the interest of the rich we must get rid of it.

- Wilde, Oscar

What between the duties expected of one during one's lifetime, and the duties exacted from one after one's death, land has ceased to be either a profit or a pleasure. It gives one position, and prevents one from keeping it up. That's all that can be said about land.

- Wilde, Oscar

The more one analyses people, the more all reasons for analysis disappear. Sooner or later one comes to that dreadful universal thing called human nature.

- Wilde, Oscar

Yes; the public is wonderfully tolerant. It forgives everything except genius.

- Wilde, Oscar

The English public, as a mass, takes no interest in a work of art until it is told that the work in question is immoral.

- Wilde, Oscar

Public Opinion... an attempt to organize the ignorance of the community, and to elevate it to the dignity of physical force.

- Wilde, Oscar

No publisher should ever express an opinion on the value of what he publishes. That is a matter entirely for the literary critic to decide. I can quite understand how any ordinary critic would be strongly prejudiced against a work that was accompanied by a premature and unnecessary panegyric from the publisher. A publisher is simply a useful middle-man. It is not for him to anticipate the verdict of criticism.

- Wilde, Oscar

He was always late on principle, his principle being that punctuality is the thief of time.

- Wilde, Oscar

Punctuality is the thief of time. Wilde I never travel without my diary. One should always have something sensational to read in the train.

- Wilde, Oscar

One is absolutely sickened, not by the crimes that the wicked have committed, but by the punishments that the good have inflicted; and a community is infinitely more brutalized by the habitual employment of punishment than it is by the occasional occurrence of crime.

- Wilde, Oscar

The sick do not ask if the hand that smoothes their pillow is pure, nor the dying care if the lips that touch their brow have known the kiss of sin.

- Wilde, Oscar

Most people are other people. Their thoughts are someone else's opinions, their lives a mimicry, their passions a quotation.

- Wilde, Oscar

I hate vulgar realism in literature. The man who could call a spade a spade should be compelled to use one. It is the only thing he is fit for.

- Wilde, Oscar

I can stand brute force, but brute reason is quite unbearable. There is something unfair about its use. It is hitting below the intellect.

- Wilde, Oscar

Religions die when they are proved to be true. Science is the record of dead religions.

- Wilde, Oscar

Yes, I am a thorough republican. No other form of government is so favorable to the growth of art.

- Wilde, Oscar

One can survive everything nowadays, except death, and live down anything except a good reputation.

- Wilde, Oscar

Good resolutions are useless attempts to interfere with scientific laws. Their origin is pure vanity. Their result is absolutely nil. They give us, now and then, some of those luxurious sterile emotions that have a certain charm for the weak. They a

- Wilde, Oscar

The old-fashioned respect for the young is fast dying out.

- Wilde, Oscar

He rides in the row at ten o'clock in the morning, goes to the Opera three times a week, changes his clothes at least five times a day, and dines out every night of the season. You don't call that leading an idle life, do you?

- Wilde, Oscar

To love oneself is the beginning of a life long romance.

- Wilde, Oscar

Romance should never begin with sentiment. It should begin with science and end with a settlement.

- Wilde, Oscar

He must have a truly romantic nature, for he weeps when there is nothing at all to weep about.

- Wilde, Oscar

Men always want to be a woman's first love. Women have a more subtle instinct: What they like is to be a man's last romance.

- Wilde, Oscar

Nothing spoils a romance so much as a sense of humor in the woman.

- Wilde, Oscar

There is no necessity to separate the monarch from the mob; all authority is equally bad.

- Wilde, Oscar

It is well for his peace that the saint goes to his martyrdom. He is spared the sight of the horror of his harvest.

- Wilde, Oscar

The salesman knows nothing of what he is selling save that he is charging a great deal too much for it.

- Wilde, Oscar

Scandal: gossip made tedious by morality.

- Wilde, Oscar

One should never make one's debut with a scandal. One should reserve that to give an interest to one's old age.

- Wilde, Oscar

Gossip is charming! History is merely gossip. But scandal is gossip made tedious by morality.

- Wilde, Oscar

It is better to have a permanent income than to be fascinating.

- Wilde, Oscar

Life has been your art. You have set yourself to music. Your days are your sonnets.

- Wilde, Oscar

Selfishness is not living as one wishes to live; it is asking others to live as one wishes to live. And unselfishness is letting other people's lives alone, not interfering with them. Selfishness always aims at uniformity of type. Unselfishness recognizes infinite variety of type as a delightful thing, accepts it, acquiesces in it, enjoys it.

- Wilde, Oscar

Nothing can cure the soul but the senses, just as nothing can cure the senses but the soul.

- Wilde, Oscar

A person who, because he has corns himself, always treads on other people's toes.

- Wilde, Oscar

A sentimentalist is simply one who desires to have the luxury of an emotion without paying for it.

- Wilde, Oscar

Life is too important to be taken seriously.

- Wilde, Oscar

He knew the precise psychological moment when to say nothing.

- Wilde, Oscar

The great things in life are what they seem to be. And for that reason, strange as it may sound to you, often are very difficult to interpret (understand). Great passions are for the great of souls. Great events can only be seen by people who are on a level with them. We think we can have our visions for nothing. We cannot. Even the finest and most self-sacrificing visions have to be paid for. Strangely enough, that is what makes them fine.

- Wilde, Oscar

I adore simple pleasures. They are the last refuge of the complex.

- Wilde, Oscar

The only difference between the saint and the sinner is that every saint has a past, and every sinner has a future.

- Wilde, Oscar

What is termed Sin is an essential element of progress. Without it the world would stagnate, or grow old, or become colorless. By its curiosity Sin increases the experience of the race. Through its intensified assertion of individualism it saves us from monotony of type. In its rejection of the current notions about morality, it is one with the higher ethics.

- Wilde, Oscar

There is no sin except stupidity.

- Wilde, Oscar

The body sins once, and has done with its sin, for action is a mode of purification. Nothing

remains then but the recollection of a pleasure, or the luxury of a regret.

- Wilde, Oscar

A little sincerity is a dangerous thing, and a great deal of it is absolutely fatal.

- Wilde, Oscar

Skepticism is the beginning of Faith.

- Wilde, Oscar

I never saw a man who looked with such a wistful eye upon that little tent of blue which prisoners call the sky.

- Wilde, Oscar

What is said of a man is nothing. The point is, who says it.

- Wilde, Oscar

The fact is, that civilization requires slaves. Human slavery is wrong, insecure, and demoralizing. On mechanical slavery, on the slavery of the machine, the future of the world depends.

- Wilde, Oscar

A cigarette is the perfect type of a perfect pleasure. It is exquisite, and it leaves one unsatisfied. What more can one want?

- Wilde, Oscar

To make men Socialists is nothing, but to make Socialism human is a great thing.

- Wilde, Oscar

When one pays a visit it is for the purpose of wasting other people's time, not one's own.

- Wilde, Oscar

Never speak disrespectfully of Society. Only people who can't get into it do that.

- Wilde, Oscar

Society exists only as a mental concept; in the real world there are only individuals.

- Wilde, Oscar

Where there is sorrow there is holy ground.

- Wilde, Oscar

How strange a thing this is! The Priest telleth me that the Soul is worth all the gold in the world, and the merchants say that it is not worth a clipped piece of silver.

- Wilde, Oscar

Lots of people act well, but few people talk well. This shows that talking is the more difficult of the two.

- Wilde, Oscar

Talk to a woman as if you loved her, and to a man as if he bored you.

- Wilde, Oscar

The State is to make what is useful. The individual is to make what is beautiful.

- Wilde, Oscar

The greatest of all sins is stupidity.

- Wilde, Oscar

The only thing that ever consoles man for the stupid things he does is the praise he always gives himself for doing them.

- Wilde, Oscar

While one should always study the method of a great artist, one should never imitate his manner. The manner of an artist is essentially individual, the method of an artist is absolutely universal. The first is personality, which no one should copy; the second is perfection, which all should aim at.

- Wilde, Oscar

Nothing succeeds like success.

- Wilde, Oscar

To become a spectator of one's own life is to escape the suffering of life.

- Wilde, Oscar

I can sympathize with everything, except suffering.

- Wilde, Oscar

While we look to the dramatist to give romance to realism, we ask of the actor to give realism to romance.

- Wilde, Oscar

Man is least himself when he talks in his own person. Give him a mask, and he will tell you the truth.

- Wilde, Oscar

I love acting. It is so much more real than life.

- Wilde, Oscar

The mere mechanical technique of acting can be taught, but the spirit that is to give life to lifeless forms must be born in a man. No dramatic college can teach its pupils to think or to feel. It is Nature who makes our artists for us, though it may be Art who taught them their right mode of expression.

- Wilde, Oscar

It is better to be beautiful than to be good, but it is better to be good than to be ugly.

- Wilde, Oscar

Beauty is a form of genius -- is higher, indeed, than genius, as it needs no explanation. It is of the great facts in the world like sunlight, or springtime, or the reflection in dark water of that silver shell we call the moon.

- Wilde, Oscar

I have found that all ugly things are made by those who strive to make something beautiful, and that all beautiful things are made by those who strive to make something useful.

- Wilde, Oscar

As for begging, it is safer to beg than to take, but it is finer to take than to beg.

- Wilde, Oscar

The old believe everything; the middle aged suspect everything, and the young know everything.

- Wilde, Oscar

It is only by not paying one's bills that one can hope to live in the memory of the commercial classes.

- Wilde, Oscar

Formerly we used to canonize our heroes. The modern method is to vulgarize them. Cheap editions of great books may be delightful, but cheap editions of great men are absolutely detestable.

- Wilde, Oscar

There is luxury in self-reproach. When we blame ourselves, we feel no one else has a right to blame us.

- Wilde, Oscar

The fact is, the public make use of the classics of a country as a means of checking the progress of Art. They degrade the classics into authorities. They use them as bludgeons for preventing the free expression of Beauty in new forms.

- Wilde, Oscar

The books that the world calls immoral are the books that show the world its own shame.

- Wilde, Oscar

There is no such thing as a moral book or an immoral book. Books are well written or badly written. That is all.

- Wilde, Oscar

It is very vulgar to talk about one's business. Only people like stockbrokers do that, and then merely at dinner parties.

- Wilde, Oscar

The only difference between a caprice and a life-long passion is that the caprice lasts a little longer.

- Wilde, Oscar

Each of the professions means a prejudice. The necessity for a career forces every one to take sides. We live in the age of the overworked, and the under-educated; the age in which people are so industrious that they become absolutely stupid.

- Wilde, Oscar

It is a dangerous thing to reform anyone.

- Wilde, Oscar

It is only the superficial qualities that last. Man's deeper nature is soon found out.

- Wilde, Oscar

Charity creates a multitude of sins.

- Wilde, Oscar

All charming people, I fancy, are spoiled. It is the secret of their attraction.

- Wilde, Oscar

It's absurd to divide people into good and bad. People are either charming or tedious.

- Wilde, Oscar

Nobody of any real culture, for instance, ever talks nowadays about the beauty of sunset. Sunsets are quite old fashioned. To admire them is a distinct sign of provincialism of temperament. Upon the other hand they go on.

- Wilde, Oscar

There is no such thing as an omen. Destiny does not send us heralds. She is too wise or too cruel for that.

- Wilde, Oscar

There is something terribly morbid in the modern sympathy with pain. One should sympathize with the color, the beauty, the joy of life. The less said about life's sores the better.

- Wilde, Oscar

Sympathy with joy intensifies the sum of sympathy in the world, sympathy with pain does not really diminish the amount of pain.

- Wilde, Oscar

To have the reputation of possessing the most perfect social tact, talk to every woman as if you loved her, and to every man as if he bored you.

- Wilde, Oscar

I like to do all the talking myself. It saves time, and prevents arguments.

- Wilde, Oscar

Good taste is the excuse I have given for leading such a bad life.

- Wilde, Oscar

Absolute catholicity of taste is not without its dangers. It is only an auctioneer who should admire all schools of art.

- Wilde, Oscar

Rich bachelors should be heavily taxed. It is not fair that some men should be happier than others.

- Wilde, Oscar

Everybody who is incapable of learning has taken to teaching.

- Wilde, Oscar

Nothing that is worth knowing can be taught.

- Wilde, Oscar

Technique is really personality. That is the reason why the artist cannot teach it, why the pupil cannot learn it, and why the aesthetic critic can understand it. To the great poet, there is only one method of music -- his own. To the great painter, there is only one manner of painting -- that which he himself employs. The aesthetic critic, and the aesthetic critic alone, can appreciate all forms and all modes. It is to him that Art makes her appeal.

- Wilde, Oscar

Man is a rational animal who always loses his temper when called upon to act according with the dictates of reason.

- Wilde, Oscar

I can resist everything except temptation.

- Wilde, Oscar

Do you really think, Arthur, that it is weakness that yields to temptation? I tell you that there are terrible temptations that it requires strength, strength and courage, to yield to.

- Wilde, Oscar

Anybody can be good in the country. There are no temptations there.

- Wilde, Oscar

The stage is not merely the meeting place of all the arts, but is also the return of art to life.

- Wilde, Oscar

Thinking is the most unhealthy thing in the world, and people die of it just as they die of any other disease. Fortunately, in England at any rate, thought is not catching. Our splendid physique as a people is entirely due to our national stupidity.

- Wilde, Oscar

Time is waste of money.

- Wilde, Oscar

In this world there are two tragedies. One is not getting what one wants, and the other is getting it. The last is much the worst.

- Wilde, Oscar

It often happens that the real tragedies of life occur in such an inartistic manner that they hurt us by their crude violence, their absolute incoherence, their absurd want of meaning, their entire lack of style.

- Wilde, Oscar

I was disappointed in Niagara -- most people must be disappointed in Niagara. Every American bride is taken there, and the sight of the stupendous waterfall must be one of the earliest, if not the keenest, disappointments in American married life.

- Wilde, Oscar

I never travel without my diary. One should always have something sensational to read on the train.

- Wilde, Oscar

All trials are trials for one's life, just as all sentences are sentences of death.

- Wilde, Oscar

One should never trust a woman who tells her real age. If she tells that, she'll tell anything.

- Wilde, Oscar

A thing is not necessarily true because a man dies for it.

- Wilde, Oscar

If one tells the truth, one is sure, sooner or later, to be found out.

- Wilde, Oscar

The truth is rarely pure, and never simple

- Wilde, Oscar

The worst form of tyranny the world has ever known the tyranny of the weak over the strong. It is the only tyranny that lasts.

- Wilde, Oscar

The ugly and the stupid have the best of it in this world. They can sit at their ease and gape at the play. If they know nothing of victory, they are at least spared the knowledge of defeat.

- Wilde, Oscar

Nowadays people know the price of everything and the value of nothing.

- Wilde, Oscar

Whatever harsh criticisms may be passed on the construction of her sentences, she at least possesses that one touch of vulgarity that makes the whole world kin.

- Wilde, Oscar

Vulgarity is the conduct of other people, just as falsehoods are the truths of other people.

- Wilde, Oscar

Vulgarity is simply the conduct of other people.

- Wilde, Oscar

As long as war is regarded as wicked, it will always have its fascination. When it is looked upon as vulgar, it will cease to be popular.

- Wilde, Oscar

She lacks the indefinable charm of weakness.

- Wilde, Oscar

Every man of ambition has to fight his century with its own weapons. What this century worships is wealth. The God of this century is wealth. To succeed one must have wealth. At all costs one must have wealth.

- Wilde, Oscar

Ordinary riches can be stolen, real riches cannot. In your soul are infinitely precious things that cannot be taken from you.

- Wilde, Oscar

Pray don't talk to me about the weather, Mr. Worthing. Whenever people talk to me about the weather, I always feel quite certain that they mean something else.

- Wilde, Oscar

Wickedness is a myth invented by good people to account for the curious attraction of others.

- Wilde, Oscar

As a wicked man I am a complete failure. Why, there are lots of people who say I have never really done anything wrong in the whole course of my life. Of course they only say it

behind my back.

- Wilde, Oscar

London is full of women who trust their husbands. One can always recognize them. They look so thoroughly unhappy.

- Wilde, Oscar

Every woman is a rebel, and usually in wild revolt against herself.

- Wilde, Oscar

There is only one real tragedy in a woman's life. The fact that her past is always her lover, and her future invariably her husband.

- Wilde, Oscar

The strength of women comes from the fact that psychology cannot explain us. Men can be analyzed, women merely adored.

- Wilde, Oscar

Work is the curse of the drinking class.

- Wilde, Oscar

Work is a refuge of people who have nothing better to do.

- Wilde, Oscar

This morning I took out a comma and this afternoon I put it back in again.

- Wilde, Oscar

From the point of view of literature Mr. Kipling is a genius who drops his aspirates. From the point of view of life, he is a reporter who knows vulgarity better than any one has ever known it.

- Wilde, Oscar

His style is chaos illumined by flashes of lightning. As a writer he has mastered everything except language.

- Wilde, Oscar

Those whom the gods love grow young.

- Wilde, Oscar

In America the young are always ready to give to those who are older than themselves the full benefits of their inexperience.

- Wilde, Oscar

Youth! There is nothing like youth. The middle-aged are mortgaged to Life. The old are in Life's lumber-room. But youth is the Lord of Life. Youth has a kingdom waiting for it. Every one is born a king, and most people die in exile.

- Wilde, Oscar

Action is the last resource of those who know not how to dream.

- Wilde, Oscar

No, Ernest, don't talk about action. It is the last resource of those who know not how to dream.

- Wilde, Oscar

The best way to make children good is to make them happy.

- Wilde, Oscar

Children begin by loving their parents. After a time they judge them. Rarely, if ever, do they forgive them.

- Wilde, Oscar

Few parents nowadays pay any regard to what their children say to them. The old-fashioned respect for the young is fast dying out.

- Wilde, Oscar

The cities of America are inexpressibly tedious. The Bostonians take their learning too sadly; culture with them is an accomplishment rather than an atmosphere; their Hub, as they call it, is the paradise of prigs. Chicago is a sort of monster-shop, full of bustles and

bores. Political life at Washington is like political life in a suburban vestry. Baltimore is amusing for a week, but Philadelphia is dreadfully provincial; and though one can dine in New York one could not dwell there.

- Wilde, Oscar

Civilization is not by any means an easy thing to attain to. There are only two ways by which man can reach it. One is by being cultured, the other by being corrupt.

- Wilde, Oscar

Really, if the lower orders don't set us a good example, what on earth is the use of them? They seem, as a class, to have absolutely no sense of moral responsibility.

- Wilde, Oscar

In spite of the roaring of the young lions at the Union, and the screaming of the rabbits in the home of the vivisection, in spite of Keble College, and the tramways, and the sporting prints, Oxford still remains the most beautiful thing in England, and nowhere else are life and art so exquisitely blended, so perfectly made one.

- Wilde, Oscar

The exquisite art of idleness, one of the most important things that any University can teach.

- Wilde, Oscar

He had that curious love of green, which in individuals is always the sign of a subtle

artistic temperament, and in nations is said to denote a laxity, if not a decadence of morals.

- Wilde, Oscar

Mere color, unspoiled by meaning, and unallied with definite form, can speak to the soul in a thousand different ways.

- Wilde, Oscar

Nowadays most people die of a sort of creeping common sense, and discover when it is too late that the only things one never regrets are one's mistakes.

- Wilde, Oscar

Women are never disarmed by compliments. Men always are. That is the difference between the two sexes.

- Wilde, Oscar

It is the confession, not the priest, that gives us absolution.

- Wilde, Oscar

A man's very highest moment is, I have no doubt at all, when he kneels in the dust, and beats his breast, and tells all the sins of his life.

- Wilde, Oscar

Consistency is the last refuge of the unimaginative.

- Wilde, Oscar

Who is that man over there? I don't know him. What is he doing? Is he a conspirator?

Have you searched him? Give him till tomorrow to confess, then hang him! -- hang him!

- Wilde, Oscar

The well-bred contradict other people. The wise contradict themselves.

- Wilde, Oscar

Talk to every woman as if you loved her, and to every man as if he bored you, and at the end of your first season you will have the reputation of possessing the most perfect social tact.

- Wilde, Oscar

Conversation should touch everything, but should concentrate itself on nothing.

- Wilde, Oscar

To make a good salad is to be a brilliant diplomatist -- the problem is entirely the same in both cases. To know exactly how much oil one must put with one's vinegar.

- Wilde, Oscar

Crying is the refuge of plain women but the ruin of pretty ones.

- Wilde, Oscar

The true critic is he who bears within himself the dreams and ideas and feelings of myriad generations, and to whom no form of thought is alien, no emotional impulse obscure.

- Wilde, Oscar

That is what the highest criticism really is, the record of one's own soul. It is more fascinating than history, as it is concerned simply with oneself. It is more delightful than philosophy, as its subject is concrete and not abstract, real and not vague. It is the only civilized form of autobiography.

- Wilde, Oscar

Temperament is the primary requisite for the critic -- a temperament exquisitely susceptible to beauty, and to the various impressions that beauty gives us.

- Wilde, Oscar

On an occasion of this kind it becomes more than a moral duty to speak one's mind. It becomes a pleasure.

- Wilde, Oscar

The critic has to educate the public; the artist has to educate the critic.

- Wilde, Oscar

What is a cynic? A man who knows the price of everything and the value of nothing.

- Wilde, Oscar

As long as a woman can look ten years younger than her own daughter, she is perfectly satisfied.

- Wilde, Oscar

Ambition is the last refuge of the failure.

- Wilde, Oscar

One should never trust a woman who tells one her real age. A woman who would tell one that would tell one anything.

- Wilde, Oscar

There can be nothing more frequent than an occasional drink.

- Wilde, Oscar

Only the shallow know themselves.

- Wilde, Oscar

Talent borrows, genius steals

- Wilde, Oscar

Talent borrows, genius steals.

- Wilde, Oscar

I always pass on good advice. It is the only thing to do with it. It is never of any use to oneself.

- Wilde, Oscar

It is better to have a permanent income than to be fascinating.

(The Model Millionaire, 1912)

- Wilde, Oscar

Een dichter kan alles overleven, behalve een misdruk.

- Wilde, Oscar

Wat is het verschil tussen journalistiek en literatuur? Journalistiek is onleesbaar, literatuur wordt niet gelezen...

- Wilde, Oscar



QuotationsBook