



The Sexes

Women prefer to talk in two's; while men prefer to talk in three's.

CHESTERTON

Men's vows are women's traitors.

SHAKESPEARE

Women eat while they talk, men talk while they eat. At table, men talk for a long time between mouthfuls, women while eating. At breakfast, when the courses are light and hurried, women preside; at banquets and formal dinners when the intervals between courses are long, the voices of the men are predominant.

CHAZAL

Men who do not make advances to women are apt to become victims to women who make advances to them.

BAGEHOT

In mixed company, women practice a sort of visual shorthand, which, later, they will laboriously and at great length decode in the company of other women.

CHAZAL

A woman knows how to keep quiet when she is in the right, whereas a man, when he is in the right, will keep on talking.

CHAZAL

The Sexes

The great question that has never been answered, and which I have not yet been able to answer despite my thirty years of research into the feminine soul, is: What does a woman want?

FREUD

If a man hears much that a woman says, she is not beautiful.

HASKINS

Most men who rail against women are railing at one woman only.

GOURMONT

There is one phase of life that I have never heard
discussed in any seminar
And that is that all women think men are funny and
all men think that we seminar.

NASH

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

THACKERAY

Women do not properly understand that when an idea fills and elevates a man's mind it shuts out love and crowds out people.

RICHTER

A woman may very well form a friendship with a man, but for this to endure, it must be assisted by a little physical antipathy.

NIETZSCHE

One can, to an almost laughable degree, infer what a man's wife is like from his opinions about women in general.

MILL

A woman is more responsive to a man's forgetfulness than to his attentions.

JANIN

The Sexes

Feminine passion is to masculine as an epic to an epigram.

KRAUS

Men who cherish for women the highest respect are seldom popular with [them].

ADDISON

A man would create another man if one did not already exist, but a woman might live an eternity without even thinking of reproducing her own sex.

GOETHE

The woman possesses a theatrical exterior and a circumspect interior, while in the man it is the interior which is theatrical. The woman goes to the theater; the man carries it inside himself and is the impresario of his own life.

ORTEGA Y GASSET

The best man for a man and the best man for a woman are not the same.

ORTEGA Y GASSET

Men are men, but Man is a woman.

CHESTERTON

Men are so made that they can resist sound argument, and yet yield to a glance.

BALZAC

Men who make money rarely saunter; men who save money rarely swagger.

BULWER-LYTTON

All the books extolling the simple life are written by men.

FEATHER

Chaste men engender obscene literatures.

AUSONIUS

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Female murderers get sheaves of offers of marriage. SHAW

The years that a woman subtracts from her age are not lost.
They are added to other women's. DIANE DE POITIERS

The fundamental fault of the female character is that it has
no sense of justice. SCHOPENHAUER

Even when they meet in the street, women look at one
another like Guelphs and Ghibellines. SCHOPENHAUER

Woman gives herself as a prize to the weak and as a prop
to the strong, and no man ever has what he should.
PAVESE

Next to the wound, what women make best is the bandage.
BARBEY D'AUREVILLY

Women are the wild life of a country: morality corresponds
to game laws. ANONYMOUS

Women are always afraid of things which have to be divided.
BALZAC

Most women are not so young as they are painted.
BEERBOHM

A beautiful and sparkling, but superficial woman rules a
wide circle; a woman of real culture a small one. GOETHE

Can you recall a woman who ever showed you with pride
her library? DE CASSERES

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Woman inspires us to great things, and prevents us from achieving them. DUMAS

What is truly indispensable for the conduct of life has been taught us by women—the small rules of courtesy, the actions that win us the warmth or deference of others; the words that assure us a welcome; the attitudes that must be varied to mesh with character or situation; all social strategy. It is listening to women that teaches us to speak to men.

GOURMONT

A woman who cannot be ugly is not beautiful. KRAUS

Women always show more taste in their choice of under-clothing than in their choice of jewelry. CHAZAL

I have heard with admiring submission the experience of the lady who declared that the sense of being well-dressed gives a feeling of inward tranquillity, which religion is powerless to bestow. EMERSON

Women who are either indisputably beautiful or indisputably ugly are best flattered upon the score of their understandings. CHESTERFIELD

A beautiful woman should break her mirror early. GRACIAN

The marvelous instinct with which women are usually credited seems too often to desert them on the only occasions when it would be of any real use. One would say that it was there for trivialities only, since in a crisis they are usually dense, fatally doing the wrong thing. It is hardly too much to say that most domestic tragedies are caused by the feminine intuition of men and the want of it in women. ADA LEVERSON

The Sexes

You don't know a woman until you have had a letter from her. ADA LEVERSON

A woman, the more curious she is about her face, is commonly the more careless about her house. JONSON

Nature has given women so much power that the law has very wisely given them little. DR. JOHNSON

The woman whose behavior indicates that she will make a scene if she is told the truth asks to be deceived. ELIZABETH JENKINS

I have met with women whom I really think would like to be married to a poem, and to be given away by a novel. KEATS

The females of all species are most dangerous when they appear to retreat. MARQUIS

Woman learns how to hate in the degree that she forgets how to charm. NIETZSCHE

When women kiss it always reminds one of prizefighters shaking hands. MENCKEN

With women all ideas easily become human beings. RICHTER

To tell a woman what she may not do is to tell her what she can. SPANISH PROVERB

The Sexes

A small woman always seems newly married.

GENOESE PROVERB

There is but an hour a day between a good housewife and a bad one.

ENGLISH PROVERB

For women, history does not exist. Murasaki, Sappho, and Madame Lafayette might be their own contemporaries. Yet *fashion* exists for them. Is it a trick they have, or some great talent, that enables them to appear at any moment exactly as fashion decrees?

PAVESE

Variability is one of the virtues of a woman. It obviates the crude requirements of polygamy. If you have one good wife you are sure to have a spiritual harem.

CHESTERTON

A man keeps another's secret better than he does his own. A woman, on the other hand, keeps her own better than another's.

LA BRUYÈRE

The two things that a healthy person hates most between heaven and hell are a woman who is not dignified and a man who is.

CHESTERTON

Men are cleverer than women at reasoning, women are cleverer than men at drawing conclusions. A parliament in which the members were predominantly women would get through its legislation much faster.

CHAZAL

It is a mistake for a taciturn, serious-minded woman to marry a jovial man, but not for a serious-minded man to marry a lighthearted woman.

GOETHE

The Sexes

In contrast to the concentric structure of the feminine mind, there are always epicenters in that of the man. The more masculine, in a spiritual sense, a man is, the more his mind is disjointed in separate compartments. ORTEGA Y GASSET

The man's desire is for the woman; but the woman's desire is rarely other than for the desire of the man. COLERIDGE

I should like to know what is the proper function of women, if it is not to make reasons for husbands to stay at home, and still stronger reasons for bachelors to go out.

GEORGE ELIOT

In Paris, when God provides a beautiful woman, the devil at once retorts with a fool to keep her. BARBEY D'AUREVILLY

As the faculty of writing has been chiefly a masculine endowment, the reproach of making the world miserable has been always thrown upon the women. DR. JOHNSON

When the husband drinks to the wife, all would be well; when the wife drinks to the husband, all is. ENGLISH PROVERB

When men watch them, nursemaids kiss and rock children with vigor; when only women are looking on, they handle them very quietly. LICHTENBERG

In woman the seat of the *point d'honneur* coincides with the center of gravity; in man it is located higher, in the chest near the diaphragm. Hence, in man, the buoyant fullness in that region when he embarks on splendid deeds, and the flabby emptiness when he embarks on petty ones.

LICHTENBERG

The Sexes

The wife carries the husband on her face; the husband carries the wife on his linen.

BULGARIAN PROVERB

Women are infinitely fonder of clinging to and beating about, hanging upon and keeping up and reluctantly letting fall, any doleful or painful or unpleasant subject, than men of the same class and rank.

COLERIDGE

Woman's vanity demands that a man be more than a happy husband.

NIETZSCHE

Women have served all these centuries as looking glasses possessing the . . . power of reflecting the figure of man at twice its natural size.

VIRGINIA WOOLF

Men always want to be a woman's first love, women like to be a man's last romance.

WILDE

It is because of men that women dislike one another.

LA BRUYÈRE

All women become like their mothers. That is their tragedy. No man does. That is his.

WILDE