

COURTSHIP

1. ESSENCE

- 254 Courtship consists in a number of quiet attentions, not so pointed as to alarm, nor so vague as not to be understood.
Lawrence Sterne (1713-1768)
- 255 Courtship - A man pursuing a woman until she catches him.
Anonymous
- 256 Romance has been elegantly defined as the offspring of fiction and love.
Benjamin Disraeli (1804-1881)
- 257 Romance is the glamour which turns the dust of everyday life into a golden haze.
Elinor Glyn (1864-1943)
- 258 Charm is the measure of attraction's power
To chain the fleeting fancy of the hour.
Louisa Thomas (b. 1865)
"What is Charm?"
- 259 Flirtation, attention without intention.
Max O'Rell (1848-1903)
Best Quotations for All Occasions
- 260 Flirt: a woman who thinks it's every man for herself.
Anonymous

2. OPPOSITES

- 261 She was always pleased to have him come
and never sorry to see him go.
Dorothy Parker (1893-1967)
"Big Blonde" Pt. II
- 262 It is the woman who chooses the man who will choose her.
Paul Gerald (b. 1885)
- 263 The game women play is men.
Adam Smith (1723-1790)
- 264 By keeping men off, you keep them on.
Gay (1688-1732)
- 265 Woman begins by resisting a man's advances and ends by
blocking his retreat.
Oscar Wilde (1856-1900)
- 266 Women still remember the first kiss after men have forgotten
the last.
Remy de Gourmont (1858-1915)
- 267 It is in love as in war, we are often more indebted for
success to the weakness of the defense, than to the energy
of the attack; for mere idleness has ruined more women than
passion; vanity more than idleness, and credulity more than
either.
Caleb Charles Colton (1780-1832)
- 268 The damsel yearneth for chivalry, but the matron desireth
impertinence.
Gelett Burgess (1866-1951)
The Maxims of Methuselah

269 Scratch a lover, and find a foe.

Dorothy Parker (1893-1967)

"Chant for Dark Hours," Ballade of a Great Weariness

3. INSIGHT

270 Some women are to be captured by storm and some taken by
siege; yet if there be not a traitor in her heart that shall
deliver up the garrison, thou shalt not prevail over her.

Gelett Burgess (1866-1951)

The Maxims of Methuselah

271 Neither a fortress nor a maidenhead withhold out long after
they begin to parley.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

272 Men like to pursue an elusive woman, like a cake of wet soap
in a bathtub - even men who hate baths.

Gelett Burgess (1866-1951)

273 It is natural for a man to woo a woman, not for a woman to
woo a man: the loser seeks what he has lost (the rib).

The Talmud (B.C. 500?-400? A.D.)

274 If I am not worth the wooing,
I am surely not worth the winning.

Longfellow (1819-1892)

275 It is assumed that the woman must wait, motionless, until
she is wooed. That is how the spider waits for the fly.

George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950)

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

Walter Bagehot (1826-1877)

- 277 What woman says to fond lover should be written on air
or the swift water.
Catullus (B.C. 84?-54?)
Carmina. LXX 3.
- 278 Lovers' vows do not reach the ears of the gods.
Callimachus (5th Cent. B.C.)
Epigrams
- 279 All women enthuse over an Adonis, but when one looks around,
one sees it is the brainy man who wins them.
Minna Antrim (fl. 1900)
Naked Truths and Veiled Illusions
- 280 Kiss rhymes to Bliss in fact, as well as verse.
Byron (1788-1824)
Don Juan
- 281 Kissing is a means of getting two people so close together
that they can't see anything wrong with each other.
Rene Yasenek
Quoted in: *1,911 Best Things Anybody Ever Said*
- 282 Blondes have the hottest kisses. Red-heads are fair-to-
middling torrid, and brunettes are the frigidest of all.
It's something to do with the hormones, no doubt.
Ronald Reagan (b. 1911)
quoted in *News Review* (1947)
- 283 A man snatches the first kiss, pleads for the second,
demands the third, takes the fourth, accepts the fifth -
and endures all the rest.
Helen Rowland (1876-1950)
- 284 When a young man complains that a young lady has no heart,
it is a pretty certain sign that she has his.
George D. Prentice (1802-1870)

- 285 A man may deceive a woman by a pretence of love,
provided he is not really in love with someone else.
Jean de La Bruyere (1645-1696)
"Of Women," Characters
- 286 Good dates don't necessarily make good mates.
Barnett Brickner
Quoted in: *A Treasury of the Art of Living*
- 287 A fool and her money are soon courted.
Helen Rowland (1876-1950)

4. POSITIVE

- 288 In a great romance, each person basically plays a part that
the other really likes.
Elizabeth Ashley (b. 1941)
- 289 Oh, what a dear ravishing thing is the beginning of an
Amour!
Aphra Behn (1640-1689)
- 290 Those marriages generally abound most with love and
constancy that are preceded by a long courtship.
Joseph Addison (1672-1719)
The Spectator, Dec. 29, 1711
- 291 On with the dance! let joy be unconfined!
No sleep till morn, when youth and pleasure meet,
To chase the glowing hours with flying feet.
Byron (1788-1824)
Childe Harold

- 292 She is pretty to walk with,
And witty to talk with,
And pleasant, too, to think on.

John Suckling (1609-1642)
The Brennoralt

- 293 Parent of all golden dreams, Romance!
Auspicious queen of childish joys,
Who lead'st along, in airy dance,
Thy votive train of girls and boys.

Byron (1788-1824)
To Romance

- 294 The pleasantest part of a man's life is generally that which
passes in courtship, provided his passion be sincere, and
the party beloved, kind, with discretion. Love, desire,
hope, all the pleasing motions of the soul, rise in the
pursuit.

Joseph Addison (1672-1719)

- 295 Son, when thou art old it will please thee more to remember
the duties thou hast NEGLECTED for love of women, than all
thine honors.

Gelett Burgess (1866-1951)
The Maxims of Methuselah

- 296 Thus far my daughter has understood very clearly that the
best part of her life would be that which she spent in
allowing herself to be courted, and she did not feel in
haste to become the servant of one man, when she can
command several. Therefore, so long as the game pleases
her, she can amuse herself; but if you pleasure her better
than the game, the game can cease.

George Sand (1804-1876)
The Haunted Pool, Ch. 13

- 297 She always believed in the old adage:
 "Leave them while you're looking good."
 Anita Loos (1893-1981)
Gentlemen Prefer Blondes

5. NEGATIVE

- 298 What lies lurk in kisses.
 Heinrich Heine (1797-1856)
- 299 You have to kiss an awful lot of frogs before you find a
 prince.
 Graffito
 quoted BBC Radio, *Quote Unquote* (1979)
- 300 For though I know he loves me
 Tonight my heart is sad
 His kiss was not so wonderful
 As all the dreams I had.
 Sara Teasdale (1884-1933)
- 301 The adoration of his heart had been to her only as the
 perfume of a wild flower, which she had carelessly crushed
 with her foot in passing.
 Longfellow (1819-1892)
- 302 The time I've lost in wooing,
 In watching and pursuing
 The light that lies
 in woman's eyes,
 Has been my heart's undoing.
 Thomas Moore (1779-1852)
The Time I've Lost in Wooing

- 303 Romance, like the rabbit at the dog track, is the elusive, fake, and never attained reward which, for the benefit and amusement of our masters, keeps us running and thinking in safe circles.

Beverly Jones (b. 1927)

- 304 Once a woman has given you her heart, you can never get rid of the rest of her.

John Vanbrugh (1666-1726)
The Relapse II

- 305 Every young girl...tries to smother her first love in possessiveness. Oh what tears and rejection await the girl who imbues her first delicate match with fantasies of permanence, expecting that he at this gelatinous stage will fit with her in a finished puzzle for all the days.

Gail Sheehy

- 306 Many a girl has gotten into trouble by obeying that boyological urge.

Katharine Brush (born 1893)

- 307 "I hate men!" she says as she goes back for more.

Katie Shulte (b. 1964)

- 308 There is no fury like a woman searching for a new lover.

Cyril Connolly (1903-1974)

- 309 Beware of her fair hair, for she excels
All women in the magic of her locks;
And when she winds them round a young man's neck,
She will not ever set him free again.

Johann W. von Goethe (1749-1832)
Faust

- 310 When billing and cooing results in matrimony,
the billing always comes after the cooing.
Tom Masson (1866-1934)

6. ADVICE

- 311 An absence, the decline of a dinner invitation, an
unintentional coldness, can accomplish more than all
the cosmetics and beautiful dresses in the world.
Marcel Proust (1871-1922)
- 312 Women who sway men are like the sea, full of moods,
changeable, hard to fathom, never twice the same and
often quite as treacherous.
Minna Antrim (fl. 1900)
Naked Truths and Veiled Illusions
- 313 He that would win his dame, must do
As Love does when he draws his bow;
With one hand thrust the lady from,
And with the other pull her home.
Samuel Butler (1612-1680)
Hudibras
- 314 Next to being married, a girl likes to be crossed in love,
a little now and then.
Jane Austen (1775-1817)
- 315 All really great lovers are articulate, and verbal seduction
is the surest road to actual seduction.
Marya Mannes
- 316 If you are ever in doubt as to whether or not you should
kiss a pretty girl, always give her the benefit of the
doubt.
Thomas Carlyle (1795-1881)

- 317 He who hesitates is a damned fool.
Mae West (1893?-1980)
- 318 Hast thou given the first kiss to a maiden? Write her
speedily on the morrow before she giveth thee fierce words;
assure her and comfort her woe; let her remorse be abated,
give unto her an excuse for her conduct.
Gelett Burgess (1866-1951)
The Maxims of Methuselah
- 319 Wouldst thou become acquainted with a damsel? See that
thou havest A SECRET with her straightway.
That when she seeth THY photograph she may smile and
think untellable thoughts.
Gelett Burgess (1866-1951)
The Maxims of Methuselah
- 320 Leave a little unsaid, a little to be explored in your
mental attitude toward men, if you would be accounted
interesting.
Minna Antrim (fl. 1900)
Naked Truths and Veiled Illusions
- 321 Yea, as fascinating as a loose tooth is a secret to a young
maid. For she knoweth not whether to spit it out or keep it
safe; yet she cannot forget it.
Gelett Burgess (1866-1951)
The Maxims of Methuselah
- 322 Never tell a man you are "always the same." Monotony
appeals to few men.
Minna Antrim (fl. 1900)
Naked Truths and Veiled Illusions
- 323 Don't tell a woman she's pretty; tell her there is no
other woman like her, and all roads will open to you.
Jules Renard (1864-1910)

324 My son, wouldst thou flatter women? I counsel thee,
avoid generalities; say NOT unto her: Thou art fair, my
love, thou rejoicest my heart with thy comeliness,

But let thy words be DEFINITE, go thou into details,
for this will cause her joy;

Say unto her: Love, thy nostrils are proud, they show
thy caste; and thine ear is like a seashell. How cunning
are the tips of thy fingers, and the line of thine eyebrows,
naught can match it.

Gelett Burgess (1866-1951)
The Maxims of Methuselah

325 Very ugly or very beautiful women should be flattered on
their understanding, mediocre ones, on their beauty.

Earl of Chesterfield (1694-1773)

326 My son, wouldst thou flatter women?

Praise not a woman for what she hath, but for what she
hath NOT, and thy reward shall be exceedingly great;

A witty woman for her beauty, and a comely damsel for
her intellect; a wise woman for her jests, and a frivolous
maid for her literary criticism;

But the mother of ONE babe shall be flattered through
that alone, for there the straight way lieth.

Gelett Burgess (1866-1951)
The Maxims of Methuselah

327 To attract a cynical man assume the negative to all his
propositions. The assenting female is his bete noire.

Minna Antrim (fl. 1900)
Naked Truths and Veiled Illusions

328 It is better to be silent than to say things at the wrong
time that are too tender; what was appropriate ten seconds
ago is no longer, and hurts one's cause, rather than helps it.

Stendhal (1783-1842)

- 329 Women like silent men. They think they're listening.
Marcel Achard (b. 1900)
- 330 Do proper homage to thine idol's eyes;
But not too humbly, or she will despise
Thee and thy suit, though told in moving tropes:
Disguise even tenderness, if thou art wise.
Byron (1788-1824)
Childe Harold
- 331 Let a woman once give you a task and you are hers, heart
and soul; all your care and trouble lend new charms to her
for whose sake they are taken. - To rescue, to revenge, to
instruct, or to protect a woman, is all the same as to love her.
Richter (1763-1825)
- 332 My son, beware of a plain damsel who charmeth thee, for
she needeth much wile, and DIVERS WEAPONS;
She expecteth not to win easily, and she maketh sure
her aim; she playeth the sympathetic. She studieth to
please, she doeth many favors.
But the fair maiden is simple of heart, she thinketh
much of HERSELF; she giveth naught, but receiveth always;
she basketh in her own beauty; she maketh men to be weary.
Gelett Burgess (1866-1951)
The Maxims of Methuselah
- 333 If you cannot inspire a woman with love of you,
fill her above the brim with love of herself;
all that runs over will be yours.
Caleb Charles Colton (1780-1832)
- 334 My son, if a woman confesseth that she love thee and thou
lovest not her, leave her not, forsake her not in her
anguish; make her to laugh, and let thy conduct be merry.
Gelett Burgess (1866-1951)
The Maxims of Methuselah

- 335 Curling locks rather to be chosen than great riches;
and a good figure is better than diamond rings.
Gelett Burgess (1866-1951)
The Maxims of Methuselah
- 336 Young man, if she asks you if you like her hair that way,
beware; the woman has already committed matrimony in her
heart.
Don Marquis (1878-1937)
- 337 But not alone with the silken snare
Did she catch her lovely floating hair,
For, tying her bonnet under her chin,
She tied a young man's heart within.
Nora Perry (1831-1896)
"The Love-Knot," St. 1
- 338 To write a love letter we must begin without knowing what we
intend to say, and end without knowing what we have written.
Jean Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778)
- 339 The best way to hold a man is in your arms.
Mae West (1893?-1980)
The Wit and Wisdom of Mae West
- 340 The surest way to hit a woman's heart is to take aim
kneeling.
Douglas Jerrold (1803-1857)
- 341 One should never give a woman anything she can't wear
in the evening.
Oscar Wilde (1856-1900)
An Ideal Husband
- 342 Maidens, like moths, are ever caught by glare.
Byron (1788-1824)
Childe Harold l.ix.

- 343 "Where should one use perfume?" a young woman asked.
 "Wherever one wants to be kissed," I said.

Coco Chanel (1883-1971)
Coco Chanel, Her Life, Her Secrets by Marcel Haedrich

- 344 Kisses kept are wasted;
 Love is to be tasted.
 There are some you love, I know;
 Be not loathe to tell them so.
 Lips go dry and eyes grow wet
 Waiting to be warmly met,
 Keep them not in waiting yet;
 Kisses kept are wasted.

Edmund Vance Cooke (1866-1932)
Kisses Kept Are Wasted

- 345 Son, mark the soft and oily lover, how women avoid him.
 His ways are devious and cunning, he covereth his tracks.
 He whispereth in the dark, he seeketh dim places.
 Yet will no thoroughbred endure him, for he putteth
 them to shame.

Verily, I say unto you, many a maid may be kissed in
 the open who, when her hand is touched under the table will
 cry: NAY, NAY!

A bold heart can conquer a princess, but he who seeketh
 her by craft getteth only SECONDS.

Gelett Burgess (1866-1951)
The Maxims of Methuselah

- 346 It is better to be first with an ugly woman
 than the hundredth with a beauty.

Pearl S. Buck (1892-1973)
The Good Earth, Ch. 1

7. POETRY

- 347 Talk to me tenderly, tell me lies;
I am a woman and time flies.
Vivian Yeiser Laramore (b. 1891)
"Talk to Me Tenderly"
- 348 She might struggle like a fly in a web. He wrapped
her around and around with beautiful sentences.
Mary Catherwood (1847-1901)
Marianson, Mackinac and Lake Stories "The King of Beaver"
- 349 But yet she listen'd - 't is enough -
Who listens once will listen twice
Her heart, be sure, is not of ice,
And one refusal's no rebuff.
Byron (1788-1824)
Mazeppa
- 350 So well he woo'd her, and so well he wrought her,
With fair entreaty and sweet blandishment,
That at the length unto a bay he brought her,
So that she to his speeches was content
To lend an ear, and softly to relent.
Edmund Spenser (1552-1599)
Fairy Queen
- 351 With easy freedom and gay address,
A pressing lover seldom wants success.
Nicholas Rowe (1674-1718)
- 352 But his kiss was so sweet,
And so closely he pressed,
That I languished and pined
Till I granted the rest.
Gay (1688-1732)

- 353 Once he drew
With one long kiss my whole soul thro'
My lips, as sunlight drinketh dew.
Alfred Tennyson (1809-1892)
Fatima
- 354 I love your lips when they're wet with wine
And red with a wicked desire.
Ella Wheeler Wilcox (1855-1919)
"I Love You," St. 1
- 355 Love is of the Phoenix kind,
And burns itself with self-made fire,
To breed still new birds in the mind,
From ashes of the old desire.
Fulke Greville (1554-1628)
The Phoenix Kind
- 356 The heart of a man to the heart of a maid -
Light of my tents, be fleet -
Morning awaits at the end of the world,
And the world is all at our feet.
Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936)
Gypsy Trail
- 357 When I behold, upon the night's starr'd face,
Huge cloudy symbols of a high romance.
Keats (1795-1821)
When I Have Fears

358 He loved the twilight that surrounds
 The border-land of old romance;
 Where glitter hauberk, helm, and lance,
 And banner waves, and trumpet sounds,
 And ladies ride with hawk on wrist,
 And mighty warriors sweep along,
 Magnified by the purple mist,
 The dusk of centuries and of song.

Longfellow (1819-1892)
Prelude to Tales of a Wayside Inn

359 The pools of art and memory keep
 Reflections of our fallen towers,
 And every princess there asleep,
 Whom once we kissed, is always ours.

Emily Beatrix Jones (b. 1893)
"Middle-Age"

360 Balmy seal of soft affection,
 Tenderest pledge of future bliss,
 Dearest tie of young connexion
 Love's first snow-drop, virgin kiss!

Unknown

361 Give me a kisse, and to that kisse a score;
 Then to that twenty, adde a hundred more;
 A thousand to that hundred; so kisse on,
 To make that thousand up a million;
 Treble that million, and when that is done,
 Let's kisse afresh, as when we first begun.

Robert Herrick (1591-1674)
To Anthea

362 She is beautiful, therefore to be woo'd;
 She is woman, therefore to be won.

Shakespeare (1564-1616)

- 363 Alas! to seize the moment
 When heart inclines to heart,
 And press a suit with passion,
 Is not a woman's part.
 Bryant (1794-1878)
Song, (translated from the Spanish of Iglesias)
- 364 When a woman like that whom I've seen so much
 All of a sudden drops out of touch,
 Is always busy and never can
 Spare you a moment, it means a Man.
 Alice Duer Miller (1874-1942)
"Forsaking All Others"
- 365 By the time you swear you're his
 Shivering and sighing,
 And he vows his passion is
 Infinite, undying -
 Lady make note of this:
 One of you is lying.
 Dorothy Parker (1893-1967)
Unfortunate Coincidence
- 366 ...And whilst I was in the act of framing my excuse to the
 lady, Life seized me and threw me into her arms as a sailor
 throws a scrap of fish into the mouth of a seabird.
 George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950)
Man and Superman
- 367 "Yes," I answered you last night;
 "No," this morning, sir, I say.
 Colours seen by candlelight
 Will not look the same by day.
 Robert Browning (1812-1889)

- 368 My only books,
Were woman's looks,
And folly's all they've taught me.

Thomas Moore (1779-1852)
The Time I've Lost in Wooing

8. JOKES

- 369 Men seldom make passes
At girls who wear glasses.

Dorothy Parker (1893-1967)
Best Quotations for All Occasions

- 370 Boys don't make passes at female smart-asses.

Letty Cottin Pogrebin

- 371 Men do make passes at girls who wear glasses -
but it all depends on their frames.

Optician
Quoted in: *The Concise Columbia Dictionary of Quotations*

- 372 The kiss originated when the first male reptile licked the
first female reptile, implying in a subtle, complimentary
way that she was as succulent as the small reptile he had
for dinner the night before.

F. Scott Fitzgerald (1896-1940)

- 373 HE: I'd like to marry your daughter.
FATHER: Have you seen my wife yet?
HE: Yes, I have. But I prefer your daughter.

Anonymous

- 374 He gave her a look that you could have poured on a waffle.

Ring Lardner (1885-1933)

- 375 In order to avoid being called a flirt, she always yielded easily.
Charles M. de Talleyrand (1754-1838)
- 376 Girls are always running through my mind. They don't dare walk.
Andy Gibb
- 377 Seine, n. A kind of net for effecting an involuntary change of environment. For fish it is made strong and coarse, but women are more easily taken with a singularly delicate fabric weighted with small, cut stones.
Ambrose Bierce (1842-1914?)
- 378 The cocktail party - as the name itself indicates - was originally invented by dogs. They are simply bottom-sniffings raised to the rank of formal ceremonies.
Lawrence Durrell (b. 1912)
- 379 Kiss: The anatomical juxtaposition of two orbicularis oris muscles in a state of contraction.
Henry Gibbons
Quoted in: *Dictionary of Quotable Definitions*
- 380 She knows how to raise a hem to get a him.
Anonymous
- 381 Accept every blind date you can get, even with a girl who wears jeans. Maybe you can talk her out of them.
Abigail Van Buren (b. 1918)
- 382 He doesn't want to take a girl out and do things - he'd rather take her in and undo things.
Anonymous

383 They call him the "Dry Cleaner" - he works fast and leaves
no ring.

Anonymous