



THE TOP QUOTATIONS

Marriage/Fidelity

1. 'Game of marriage' (Darlington Act 1)
2. 'I can resist everything except temptation.' (Darlington Act 1)
3. 'Just take him abroad, and he will come back to you alright.' (DoB Act 1)
4. 'Windermere and I married for love.' (LaW Act 1)
5. 'London is full of women who trust their husbands. One can always recognize them. They look so thoroughly unhappy.' (LaW Act 2)
6. 'Between men and women there is no friendship possible.' (Darlington Act 2)
7. 'It is wrong for a wife to remain with a man who so dishonours her.'
(Darlington Act 2)
8. 'It is he who has broken the bond of marriage – not I. I only break its
bondage.' (LaW Act 2)
9. 'a vile woman, a woman who comes between husband and wife!' (LaW Act
3)
10. 'before Heaven your husband is guiltless of all offence towards you!' (Erlynne
Act 3)
11. 'Well, there's nothing in the world like the devotion of a married woman. It's
a thing no married man knows anything about.' (Graham Act 3)
12. 'I am going to tell my husband everything. It is my duty.' (LaW Act 4)
13. 'Mrs Erlynne has done me the honour of accepting my hand.' (Augustus Act
4)

Family

1. 'Yes, Mamma.' (Agatha Act 1)
2. 'We are only married two years. Our child is but six months old.'
(LaW Act 1)
3. 'Her husband died many years ago. She is alone in the world.'
(LoW Act 1)
4. '£2000 a year left to me by a third cousin – or second husband –
or some distant relative of that kind.' (Erlynn Act 2)
5. 'I feel a passion awakening within me that I never felt before.'
(Erlynn Act 2)
6. 'If he abandoned you, your place is with your child.' (Erlynn Act
3)
7. 'Only once in my life I have forgotten my own mother.' (LaW Act
4)
8. 'A Mother's love means devotion, unselfishness, sacrifice.' (LoW
Act 4)
9. 'You have no right to claim her as your daughter.' (LoW Act 4)
10. 'I have no ambition to play the part of mother.' (Erlynn Act 4)
11. 'I want to live childless still.' (Erlynn Act 4)

Social codes/etiquette

1. 'People are either charming or tedious.' (Darlington Act I)
2. 'I think life too complex a thing to be settled by these hard and fast rules.' (Darlington Act I)
3. 'It's only an affectation.' (Darlington Act I)
4. 'I will have no one in my house about whom thee is any scandal.' (LaW Act I)
5. 'If that woman comes here, I shall insult her.' (LaW Act I)
6. Cards – They're a mother's only safeguard.' (DoB Act 2)
7. 'I suppose this will be the last ball of the season?' (Dumby Act 2)
8. 'Do you think she will ever get into this demmed thing called Society?' (Augustus Act 2)
9. 'Isn't that your aunt, Lady Jedburgh? I should so much like to know her.' (Erlyne Act 2)
10. 'He thinks like a Tory and talks like a Radical.' (Erlyne Act 2)
11. 'I—saw it, I opened it, I—read it.' (Erlyne Act 3)
12. 'I never talk scandal. I only talk gossip.' (Graham Act 3)
13. 'we are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars.' (Darlington Act 3)
14. 'My dear fellow, what on earth should we men do going about with purity and innocence? A carefully thought-out button hole is much more effective.' (Graham Act 3)
15. 'If I lost my ideals, I should lose everything.' (LaW Act 4)

Deception

1. 'I dare not tell her who this woman really is. The shame would kill her.' (LoW Act 1)
2. 'I suppose this will be the last ball of the season?' (Dumby Act 2)
3. 'The world has grown so suspicious of anything that looks like a happy married life.' (Plymdale Act 2)
4. London is full of women who trust their husbands. One can always recognize them. They look so thoroughly unhappy.' (LaW Act 2)
5. 'nothing looks so like innocence as indiscretion.' (Graham Act 2)
6. '£2000 a year left to me by a third cousin – or second husband – or some distant relative of that kind.' (Erlynnne Act 2)
7. '*(Points to the curtain across the window)*' (Erlynnne Act 3)
8. 'Experience is name Tuppy gives to his mistakes. That is all.' (Graham Act 3)
9. 'he has got a woman in his rooms all the time.' (Graham Act 3)
10. 'I am going to tell my husband everything. It is my duty.' (LaW Act 4)
11. 'Then pay your debt by silence.' (Erlynnne Act 4)
12. 'Arthur, she has explained everything! (Augustus Act 4)

Morality

1. 'So many people go about Society pretending to be good...' (Darlington Act I)
2. 'She allowed of no compromise. I allow of none.' (LaW Act I)
3. 'Nowadays people seem to look on life like a speculation.' (LaW Act I)
4. 'I can resist everything except temptation.' (Darlington Act I)
5. 'plain, dreadfully plain, but so good.' (DoB Act I)
6. 'Boys are so wicked.' (DoB Act I)
7. 'You are on the brink of ruin.' (Erlyne Act 3)
8. 'Then it is I who am lost.' (Erlyne Act 3)
9. 'Wicked women bother one. Good women bore one.' (Graham Act 3)
10. 'Scandal is gossip made tedious by morality.' (Graham Act 3)
11. 'A man who moralizes is usually a hypocrite, and a woman who moralizes in invariably plain.' (Graham Act 3)
12. 'Love changes one -- I am changed.' (Darlington Act 3)
13. 'You scoundrel!' (Darlington Act 3)
14. '*The other men smile at each other.*' (Act 3)
15. 'self-sacrifice' (LaW Act 4)
16. 'I don't think now that people can be divided into the good and the bad.' (LaW Act 4)
17. 'My dear Windermere, manners before morals.' (Erlyne Act 4)
18. 'Only once in my life have I known a mother's feelings.' (Erlyne Act 4)
19. 'If I lost my ideals, I should lose everything.' (LaW Act 4)

Attitudes to women/Role of women

1. 'Because the husband is vile-should the wife be vile also?' (LaW Act 1)
2. 'Yes, Mamma.' (Agatha Act 1)
3. 'Most women, for instance, nowadays, are rather mercenary.' (Darlington Act 1)
4. 'Do you think that there should be the same laws for men as there are for women?' (Darlington) 'Certainly!' (LaW Act 1)
5. 'With women it is different. We are good.' (DoB Act 1)
6. 'I dismissed her at once without a character.' (DoB Act 1)
7. 'Crying is the refuge of plain women but the ruin of pretty ones.' (DoB Act 1)
8. 'If a woman really repents, she never wishes to return to the society that has made or seen her ruin.' (LaW Act 1)
9. 'That woman can make one do anything she wants.' (Graham Act 2)
10. 'Women of that kind are most useful.' (Plymdale Act 2)
11. 'It takes a thoroughly good woman to do a thoroughly stupid thing.' (Plymdale Act 2)
12. 'That woman can make one do anything she wants. How, I don't know.' (Graham Act 2)
13. 'It is wrong for a wife to remain with a man who so dishonours her.' (Darlington Act 2)
14. 'I feel a passion awakening within me that I never felt before.' (Erlyne Act 2)
15. 'Women like you have no heart. Heart is not in you. You are bought and sold.' (LaW Act 2)
16. 'If he abandoned you, your place is with your child.' (Erlyne Act 3)
17. 'a vile woman, a woman who comes between husband and wife!' (LaW Act 3)
18. 'I am going to tell my husband everything. It is my duty.' (LaW Act 4)
19. 'A Mother's love means devotion, unselfishness, sacrifice.' (LoW Act 4)
20. 'I have no ambition to play the part of mother.' (Erlyne Act 4)
21. 'I want to live childless still.' (Erlyne Act 4)

Attitudes to men

1. 'But I shouldn't like you at all if I thought you were what other men are.' (LaW Act 1)
2. 'I can resist everything except temptation.' (Darlington Act I)
3. 'Because the husband is vile-should the wife be vile also?' (LaW Act 1)
4. 'Just take him abroad, and he will come back to you alright.' (DoB Act I)
5. 'Boys are so wicked. My boy is excessively immoral.' (DoB Act 1)
6. 'Disreputable men friends.' (DoB Act 1)
7. 'Oh! Men don't matter.' (DoB Act 1)
8. 'How weak bad men are!' (LaW Act 1)
9. 'none of us men may be good enough for the women we marry.' (LoW Act 1)
10. 'There is hardly a husband in London who does not waste his life over some shameful passion.' (LaW Act 1)
11. 'I should like to have a chat with the Duke, Duchess.' (Hopper Act 2)
12. 'We make gods of men and they leave us.' (LaW Act 3)
13. 'Men are such cowards. They outrage every law of the world, and are afraid if the world's tongue.' (Erlyne Act 3)
14. 'How marriage ruins a man!' (Dumby Act 3)
15. 'They [women] like to find us irretrievably bad, and to leave us quite unattractively good.' (Graham Act 3)