

MERCHANT OF VENICE QUOTABLE QUOTES

1. `Believe me no, I thank my fortune for it – My ventures are not in one bottom trusted, nor to one place; nor is my whole estate upon the fortune of this present year; therefore my merchandise makes me not sad.’ **(ANTONIO)**
2. `I hold the world but as the world, Gratiano, a stage, where every man must play a part, and mine a sad one.’ **(ANTONIO)**
3. `Well, tell me now what lady is the same to whom you swore a secret pilgrimage, that you to-day promised to tell me of.’ **(ANTONIO)**
4. `I pray you, good Bassanio, let me know it, and if it stand, as you yourself still do, within the eye of honour, be assured my purse, my person, my extremest means lie all unlocked to your occasions.’ **(ANTONIO)**
5. `If to do were as easy as to know what were good to do, chapels had been churches, and poor men’s cottages princes’ palaces. It is a good divine that follows his own instructions. I can easier teach twenty what were good to be done than be one of the twenty to follow mine own teaching; the brain may devise laws for the blood, but a hot temper leaps o’er a cold decree; - such a hare is madness the youth, to skip o’er the meshes of good counsel the cripple. But this reasoning is not in the fashion to choose me a husband. – O me, the word “choose”! I may neither choose who I would, nor refuse who I dislike, so is the will of a living daughter curbed by the will of a dead father. Is it not hard, Nerissa, that I cannot choose one, nor refuse none?’ **(PORTIA)**
6. `If I live to be as old as Sibylla, I will die as chaste as Diana, unless I be obtained by the manner of my father’s will. I am glad this parcel of wooers are so reasonable, for there is not one among them but I dote on his very absence; and I pray God grant them a fair departure.’ **(PORTIA)**
7. `Yes, to smell pork, to eat of the habitation which your prophet the Nazarite conjured the devil into. I will buy with you, sell with you, talk with you, walk with you, and so following, but I will not eat with you, drink with you, nor pray with you. What news on the Rialto? – Who is he come here?’ **(SHYLOCK)**
8. `How like a fawning publican he looks! I hate him for he is a Christian: but more, for that in low simplicity he lends out money gratis, and brings down the rate of usance here with us in Venice. If I can catch him once upon the hip, I will feed fat the ancient grudge I bear him. He hates our sacred nation, and he rails, even there where merchants most do congregate, on me, my bargains, and my well-won thrift, which he calls interest; cursed be my tribe if I forgive him!’ **(SHYLOCK)**
9. `Mark you this, Bassanio, the devil can cite Scripture for his purpose; An evil soul producing holy witness is like a villain with a smiling cheek, a goodly apple rotten at the heart. O what a goodly outside falsehood hath!
10. `This kindness will I show. Go with me to a notary; seal me there your single bond, and, in a merry sport, if you repay me not on such a day, in such a place, such sum, or sums as are expressed in the condition, let the forfeit be nominated for an equal pound of your fair flesh, to be cut off and taken in what part of the body pleaseth me.’ **(SHYLOCK)**
11. `You must take your chance, and either not attempt to choose at all, or swear before you choose, if you choose wrong, never to speak to lady afterward in way of marriage; therefore be advised.’ **(PORTIA)**
12. `Why then you must – but hear thee, Gratiano; thou art too wild, too rude, and bold of voice, parts that become thee happily enough, and in such eyes as ours appear not faults. But where thou art not known, why, there they show something

- too liberal. Pray thee, take pain to allay with some cold drops of modesty thy skipping spirit, lest through thy wild behaviour I be misconsterd in the place I go to, and lose my hopes.' **(BASSANIO)**
13. `Signior Bassanio, hear me: if I do not put on a sober habit, talk with respect, and swear but now and then, wear prayer-books in my pocket, look demurely, nay more, while grace is saying, hood mine eyes thus with my hat, and sigh and say "amen", use all the observance of civility like one well studied in a sad ostent to please his grandam, never trust me more.' **(GRATIANO)**
14. `O hell! What have we here? A carrion Death, within whose empty eye there is a written scroll; - I 'll read the writing.
*All that glisters is not gold;
 Often have you heard that told.
 Many a man his life hath sold
 But my outside to behold –
 Gilded tombs do worms infold;
 Had you been as wise as bold,
 Young in limbs, in judgement old,
 Your answer had not been inscrolled –
 Fare you well; your suit is cold.*
 Cold indeed and labour lost; then, farewell, heat, and welcome, frost! Portia, adieu! I have too grieved a heart to take a tedious leave; thus losers part.'
(MOROCCO)
15. `I am enjoined by oath to observe three things: - First, never to unfold to anyone which casket 't was I chose; next, if I fail of the right casket, never in my life to woo a maid in way of marriage; lastly, if I do fail in fortune of my choice, immediately to leave you, and be gone.' **(ARRAGON)**
16. `... Still more fool I shall appear by the time I linger here; with one fool's head I came to woo, but I go away with two. Sweet, adieu! I 'll keep my oath, patiently to bear my wrath.' **(ARRAGON)**
17. `There I have another bad match, a bankrupt, a prodigal, who dare scarce show his head on the Rialto, a beggar that was used to come so smug upon the mart. Let him look to his bond! He was wont to call me usurer; let him look to his bond! He was wont to lend money for a Christian courtesy; let him look to his bond!' **(SHYLOCK)**
18. `To bait fish withal; - if it will feed nothing else, it will feed my revenge. He hath disgraced me, and hindered me half a million – laughed at my losses, mocked at my gains, scorned my nation, thwarted my bargains, cooled my friends, heated mine enemies – and what 's his reason? I am a Jew. Hath not a Jew eyes? Hath not a Jew hands, organs, dimensions, senses, affections, passions? Fed with the same food, hurt with the same weapons, subject to the same diseases, healed by the same means, warmed and cooled by the same winter and summer as a Christian is? If you prick us, do we not bleed? If you tickle us, do we not laugh? If you poison us, do we not die? – And if you wrong us, shall we not revenge? If we are like you in the rest, we will resemble you in that. If a Jew wrong a Christian, what is his humility? Revenge! If a Christian wrong a Jew, what should his sufferance be by Christian example? Why, revenge! The villainy you teach me I will execute, and it shall go hard but I will better the instruction.' **(SHYLOCK)**
19. `Madam, you have bereft me of all words; only my blood speaks to you in my veins, and there is such confusion in my powers, as after some oration fairly spoke by a beloved prince, there doth appear among the buzzing pleased multitude – where every something being blent together, turns to a wild of nothing, save of joy expressed. But when this ring parts from this finger, then parts life from hence; - O, then be bold to say Bassanio 's dead!' **(BASSANIO)**

20. `But little. I am armed and well prepared. Give me your hand, Bassanio; fare you well, Grieve not that I am fall'n to this for you, for herein Fortune shows herself more kind than is her custom. It is still her use to let the wretched man outlive his wealth, to view with hollow eye and wrinkled brow an age of poverty: from which ling'ring penance of such misery doth she cut me off. Commend me to your honourable wife; tell her the process of Antonio's end, say how I loved you, speak me fair in death; and when the tale is told, bid her be judge whether Bassanio had not once a love; repent but you that you shall lose your friend and he repents not that he pays your debt. For if the Jew do cut but deep enough, I 'll pay it instantly, with all my heart.' **(ANTONIO)**
21. `Therefore prepare thee to cut off the flesh; Shed thou no blood, nor cut thou less nor more but just a pound of flesh. If thou tak'st more or less than a just pound, be it but so much as makes it light or heavy in the substance or the division of the twentieth part of one poor scruple – nay, if the scale do turn but in the estimation of a hair, thou diest, and all thy goods are confiscate.' **(PORTIA)**
22. `He is well paid that is well satisfied, and I, delivering you, am satisfied, and therein do account myself well paid; my mind was never yet more mercenary. I pray you know me when we meet again; I wish you well, and so I take my leave.' **(PORTIA)**
23. `Dear sir, of force I must attempt you further; take some remembrance of us as a tribute, not as a fee. Grant me two things, I pray you: not to deny me, and to pardon me.' **(BASSANIO)**