

COMEDY

ACT I

- "And, speaking of the science of Life, have you got the cucumber sandwiches cut for Lady Bracknell?" (pg. 253)
- "I have only been married once. That was in consequence of a misunderstanding between myself and a young person" (pg. 253)
- "Got nice neighbours in your part of Shropshire?" "Perfectly horrid! Never speak to them!" (pg. 254)
- "The Divorce Court was specially invented for people whose memories are so curiously constituted" (pg. 255)
- "Divorces are made in Heaven" (pg. 255)
- "That is quite a different matter. She is my aunt" (pg. 255)
- "It is very vulgar to talk like a dentist when one isn't a dentist. It produces a false impression" (pg. 257)
- "You are one of the most advanced Bunburyists I know" (pg. 258)
- "The amount of women in London who flirt with their own husbands is perfectly scandalous" (pg. 259)
- "A man who marries without knowing Bunbury has a very tedious time of it" (pg. 259)
- "You don't seem to realize, that in married life three is company and two is none" (pg. 259)
- "Good heavens! Lane! why are there no cucumber sandwiches?" (pg. 260)
- "I think it is high time that Mr. Bunbury made up his mind whether he was going to live or die" (pg. 261)
- "I should be much obliged if you would ask Mr. Bunbury, from me, to be kind enough not to have a

relapse on Saturday" (pg. 261)

- "Miss Fairfax, ever since I met you I have admired you more than any girl... I have ever met since I met you" (pg. 262)

- "Jack? ... No... it does not thrill. It produces absolutely no vibrations... I have known several Jacks, and they all, without exception, were more than usually plain (pg. 263)

"Well... may I propose to you now? (pg. 263)

- "An engagement should come on a young girl as a surprise" (pg. 264)

- "I must admit I smoke" "I am glad to hear it. A man should always have an occupation of some kind" (pg. 265)

- "To be born, or at any rate bred, in a hand-bag, whether it had handles or not, seems to me to display a contempt for the ordinary decencies of family life that reminds one of the worst excesses of the French Revolution" (pg. 267)

- "Never met such a Gorgon... I don't really know what a Gorgon is like, but I am quite sure Lady Bracknell is one" (pg. 268)

ACT 2

- "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..." (pg. 275)

- "Quite dead". "What a lesson for him! I trust he will profit by it" (pg. 277)

- "If I am occasionally a little over-dressed, I make

up for it by being always immensely over-educated" (pg. 281)

- "You see, it is simply a very young girl's record of her own thoughts and impressions, and consequently meant for publication when it appears in volume form. I hope you will order a copy" (pg. 282)

- "Why we have been engaged for the last three months" (pg. 283)

- "I remember only too well that I was forced to write your letters for you" (pg. 284)

- "No thank you. Sugar is not fashionable any more" Cecily looks angrily at her, takes up the tongs and puts four lumps of sugar into the cup. (pg. 289)

- "My name certainly is ~~John~~ John. It has been John for years" (pg. 291)

- "One has a right to Bunbury anywhere one chooses. Every serious Bunburyist knows that" (pg. 292)

- "I can't eat muffins in an agitated manner. One should always eat muffins quite calmly. It is the only way to eat them" (pg. 295)

- "If you are not sure about your ever having been christened, I must say I think it rather dangerous your venturing on it now. It might make you very unwell. You can hardly forget that someone very close to you was very nearly carried ~~away~~ off this week ~~in~~ in Paris by a severe chill" (pg. 294)

ACT 3

- "They have been eating muffins. That looks like repentance"

"killed Bunbury this afternoon! I mean poor Bunbury died this afternoon... Oh, he was quite exploded" "Exploded! WCU he a victim of revolutionary outrage? I was not aware Mr. Bunbury was interested in social legislation" (pg. 297)

The Importance of Being Earnest

GENDER

ACT I:

"... girls never marry the men they flirt with. Girls don't think it right."

↳ Algernon

"You seem to think every Aunt should be exactly like your aunt"

↳ Jack

"When one is in the position of guardian, one has to adopt a very high moral tone on all subjects."

↳ Jack

"The amount of women who flirt with their own husbands is scandalous"

↳ Algernon

"I never saw a woman so altered: she looks quite 20 years younger"

↳ Lady Bracknell

"She is such a nice woman; and so attentive to her husband."

↳ Lady Bracknell about Mary Farguhar

"I pity any woman who marries a man named Jack"

↳ Gwendolyn

"What wonderful blue eyes you have"

↳ Gwendolyn taking over the traditional male role of compliments

"girl with a simple, unspoiled nature,
like Gwendolyn could hardly be asked
to live in the country"

↳ Lady Bracknell

"She is a monster without being
a myth which I think is rather unfair"

↳ Jack about Lady Bracknell

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

↳ Algernon

"The truth isn't the sort of thing
one tells a sweet refined girl."

↳ Jack

"... I bet you anything within half an
hour after they have met they are
calling each other sister."

↳ Jack

"Women only do that when they have
called each other a lot of other
things first"

↳ Algernon

ACT II:

"your guardian enjoys the best of health and his gravity of demeanor is especially to be commended in one so comparatively young"

↳ Mrs Prism about Jack

"as a man sows so let him reap"

↳ Mrs Prism

"they are a snare that every sensible man would like to be caught in".

↳ Algernon about Cecily's beauty

"ripeness can be trusted. Young women are green".

↳ Mrs Prism

"the home seems to be the proper sphere for a man"

↳ Guendolyn

"I cannot help but express the wish that you were - well just a bit older than you seem to be and not quite so alluring in appearance".

↳ Guendolyn

ACT III:

"where questions of self sacrifice are concerned, men are infinitely beyond us".

↳ Guendolyn

"they have moments of physical courage which we women know nothing about"

↳ Cecily

"few girls of the present have any solid qualities"

↳ lady bracknell about Cecily

"London society is full of women of the highest regard who have, of their own free choice, remained thirty five for years."

↳ lady bracknell

Why should there be one law for men and another for women?"

↳ Jack

~~There's~~ "the only thing to do to a pretty woman is to make love to her, but someone else if she is plain."

↳ Algernon

Honest:

Act I:

"that, my dear Algernon, is the whole truth, plain and simple."

↳ Jack

"the truth is rarely pure and never simple"

↳ Algernon in response to Jack

"I am greatly distressed, Aunt Augusta,
about there being no cucumber sandwiches,
not even for ready money!"

↳ Jack lying about cucumbers

Act II:

"it usually chronicles the things that have
never happened, and couldn't possibly have
happened".

↳ Cecily

"if you are not [wicked] then you have
certainly been deceiving us all in a most
unexcusable manner!"

↳ Cecily

"disloyalty would be as dishonorable to him
as deception".

↳ Guendolyn about Jack

"a gross deception has been practiced
on both of us".

↳ Cecily

"it is very painful for me to be forced
to speak the truth".

↳ Jack

"that is nonsense, you are always
talking nonsense".

↳ Jack about Algernon

Act III:

"In matters of grave importance,
style, not sincerity seems to be the
thing"

↳ Gwendolyn

"that seems to have the stamp of
truth upon it"

↳ Cecily

"I do not propose to undecieve him. Indeed
I have never undecieved him about many
things"

↳ Lady Bracknell about her husband

"untruthful. my nephew Algernon. impossible"

↳ Lady Bracknell

"it is a terrible thing for a man to
find out suddenly that all his life he
has been speaking nothing but the
truth"

↳ Jack to Gwendolyn

* "I've now realized for the first time
in my life the vital importance
of Being Earnest"

↳ Jack * last line of play

MUSIC:

ACT I:

"the sound of the piano is heard in the other room"
↳ staging

"I don't play accurately. - anyone can play accurately - but I play with wonderful expression. As far as piano is concerned, sentiment is my forte"
↳ Algernon

"if one plays good music, people don't listen, and if one plays bad music people don't talk".
↳ algernon

"French songs I cannot possibly allow".
↳ lady bracknell

"it is a divine name. It has music of its own, it produces vibrations".
↳ guendolyn

ACT III:

"they whistle some dreadful popular air from a British opera"
↳ staging

"this diminished silence seems to produce the most unpleasant effect".
↳ guendolyn