

Amiri Baraka

Quotes

People, Art, Men, World, America, Thinking, Freedom, Evil, Eye, Justice, White Man, Hate, Reality, Country, Emphasis, Father, Loss, Stars, Past, Musical

The artist's role is to raise the consciousness of the people. To make them understand life, the world and themselves more completely. That's how I see it. Otherwise, I don't know why you do it.

~Amiri Baraka

A man is either free or he is not. There cannot be any apprenticeship for freedom.

~Amiri Baraka

There is no justice in America, but it is the fight for justice that sustains you

~Amiri Baraka

Art is whatever makes you proud to be human.

~Amiri Baraka

The torture of being the unseen object, and the constantly observed subject.

~Amiri Baraka

My responsibility is to truth and beauty.

~Amiri Baraka

In America, black is a country.

~Amiri Baraka

I'd say I'm a revolutionary optimist. I believe that the good guys -the people- are going to win.

~Amiri Baraka

There is no depth to education without art.

~Amiri Baraka

Thought is more important than art....To revere art and have no

understanding of the process that forces it into existence, is finally not even to understand what art is.

~Amiri Baraka

All thinking people oppose terrorism both domestic & international but one should not be used to cover the other

~Amiri Baraka

When I die, the consciousness I carry I will to black people. May they pick me apart and take the useful parts, the sweet meat of my feelings. And leave the bitter bullshit rotten white parts alone.

~Amiri Baraka

I am inside someone who hates me. I look out from his eyes. Smell what fouled tunes come in to his breath. Love his wretched women.

~Amiri Baraka

from the slave ship to the citizenship we faced a lot of bullship

~Amiri Baraka

The African, because of the violent differences between what was native and what he was forced to in slavery, developed some of the most complex and complicated ideas about the world imaginable.

~Amiri Baraka

And now each night, I count the stars. And each night I get the same number. And when the stars won't come to be counted, I count the holes they leave.

~Amiri Baraka

If you are black, the only roads into the mainland of American life are through subservience, cowardice, and loss of manhood. These are the white man's roads.

~Amiri Baraka

I am inside someone who hates me. I look out from his eyes.

~Amiri Baraka

To name something is to wait for it in the place you think it will pass.

~Amiri Baraka

Warriors are poets and poems and all the loveliness here in the worlds.

~Amiri Baraka

Words have users, but as well, users have words. And it is the users that establish the world's realities.

~Amiri Baraka

The films of Warhol, when they are about anything are about sucking people off. This can be high art, to people who are interested in sucking people off. But that will not liberate Black people.

~Amiri Baraka

Hope is delicate suffering.

~Amiri Baraka

Art is a weapon in the struggle of ideas, the class struggle.

~Amiri Baraka

James Brown and Frank Sinatra are two different quantities in the universe. They represent two different experiences of the world.

~Amiri Baraka

The landscape should belong to the people who see it all the time.

~Amiri Baraka

Smile, jew. Dance, jew. Tell me you love me, jew...I got the extermination blues, jewboys. I got the hitler syndrome figured

~Amiri Baraka

A system that warehouses people is not the cure for social ills

~Amiri Baraka

God is man idealized.

~Amiri Baraka

& love is an evil word. Turn it backwards/see, see what I mean? An evol word.

~Amiri Baraka

what is lost because it is most precious what is most precious because it is lost

~Amiri Baraka

Poetry is music, and nothing but music. Words with musical emphasis.

~Amiri Baraka

You can't be an American without being related to other Americans.

~Amiri Baraka

Back home the black women are all beautiful

~Amiri Baraka

I am a soul in the world: in the world of my soul the whirled light from the day the sacked land of my father.

~Amiri Baraka

A rich man told me recently that a liberal is a man who tells other people what to do with their money.

~Amiri Baraka

The future is always here in the past

~Amiri Baraka

A man is either free or he is not.

~Amiri Baraka

Who has ever stopped to think of the divinity of Lamont Cranston?

~Amiri Baraka

What will be / the sacred words?

~Amiri Baraka

Most American white men are trained to be fags. For this reason it is no wonder their faces are weak and blank.

~Amiri Baraka

Lately, I've become accustomed to the way The ground opens up and envelopes me Each time I go out to walk the dog.

~Amiri Baraka

An evil word it is/ This Love.

~Amiri Baraka

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