

Caroline Knapp Quotes

*Dog, Thinking, Way, Solitude, Order, Self, Culture, Alcohol, Real, Simple,
Fantasy, Cat, Attachment, Risk, Giving, Air, Beauty, Cake, Four, Secretive*

The real struggle is about you: you, a person who has to learn to live in the real world, to inhabit her own skin, to know her own heart, to stop waiting for life to begin.

~Caroline Knapp

All dogs can be guide dogs of a sort, leading us to places we didn't even know we needed or wanted to go.

~Caroline Knapp

Before you get a dog, you can't quite imagine what living with one might be like; afterward, you can't imagine living any other way.

~Caroline Knapp

Happy and alone, you say? Reclusive and merry? How oxymoronic! Pas possible! Alas, the concept is lost on so many.

~Caroline Knapp

I've always been drawn to solitude, felt a kind of luxurious relief in its self-generated pace and rhythms.

~Caroline Knapp

When you quit drinking you stop waiting.

~Caroline Knapp

Solitude is a breeding ground for idiosyncrasy, and I relish that about it, the way it liberates whim.

~Caroline Knapp

Fall in love with a dog, and in many ways you enter a new orbit, a universe that features not just new colors but new rituals, new rules, a new way of experiencing attachment.

~Caroline Knapp

Dogs are fantasies that don't disappoint.

~Caroline Knapp

Academic achievement was something I'd always sought as a form of reward. Good grades pleased my parents, good grades pleased my teachers; you got them in order to sew up approval.

~Caroline Knapp

It happened this way: I fell in love and then, because the love was ruining everything I cared about, I had to fall out.

~Caroline Knapp

Me, I walk along and feel quietly defensive, a recluse in the Land of We. That's quite the loaded word, 'we.

~Caroline Knapp

Desires collide; the wish to eat bumping up against the wish to be thin, the desire to indulge conflicting with the injunction to restrain. Small wonder food makes a woman nervous.

~Caroline Knapp

To a drinker the sensation is real and pure and akin to something spiritual: you seek; in the bottle, you find.

~Caroline Knapp

Cottage cheese is one of our culture's most visible symbols of self-denial; marketed honestly, it would appear in dairy cases with warning labels: this substance is self-punitive; ingest with caution.

~Caroline Knapp

Our culture thrives on black-and-white narratives, clearly defined emotions, easy endings, and so, this thrust into complexity exhausts.

~Caroline Knapp

When you love somebody, or something, its amazing how willing you

are to overlook the flaws.

~Caroline Knapp

I am shy by nature, a person who's always found something burdensome about human interaction and who probably always will, at least to some degree.

~Caroline Knapp

When I drank, the part that felt dangerous and needy grew bright and strong and real. The part that coveted love kicked into gear. The yes grew louder than the no.

~Caroline Knapp

A lot of people, quite frankly, think intense attachments to animals are weird and suspect, the domain of people who can't quite handle attachments to humans.

~Caroline Knapp

I'm 38 and I'm single, and I'm having my most intense and gratifying relationship with a dog. But we all learn about love in different ways, and this way happens to be mine.

~Caroline Knapp

Passivity is corrosive to the soul; it feeds on feelings of integrity and pride, and it can be as tempting as a drug.

~Caroline Knapp

Consumerism thrives on emotional voids.

~Caroline Knapp

Smooth and ordered on the outside; roiling and chaotic and desperately secretive underneath, but not noticeably so, never noticeably so.

~Caroline Knapp

I don't think that the world would be a better place if everyone owned a dog, and I don't think that all relationships between dogs and their owners are good, healthy, or enriching.

~Caroline Knapp

Why do I find the fantasy - husband, family, kids - exhausting instead of alluring? Is there something wrong with me? Do I have a life?

~Caroline Knapp

Before you open the lunch menu or order that cheeseburger or consider eating the cake with the frosting intact, haul out the psychic calculator and start tinkering with the budget.

~Caroline Knapp

For years, I ate the same foods every day, in exactly the same manner, at exactly the same times.

~Caroline Knapp

The key, I suppose, has less to do with insight than with willingness, the former being relatively useless without the latter.

~Caroline Knapp

Cats ... are like four-legged poster children for OCD.

~Caroline Knapp

You'll reach into your wallet to brandish a photograph of a new puppy, and a friend will say, 'Oh, no - not pictures.

~Caroline Knapp

The hard things in life, the things you really learn from, happen with a clear mind.

~Caroline Knapp

Alcoholism is the disease of more.

~Caroline Knapp

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