

Derrick Jensen

Quotes

*Civilization, Culture, Thinking, Mean, Believe, People, Lying, Long, Children,
Hope, Doe, Important, Agency, Land, Law, Eight, Fighting, Environmental,
Order, Way*

I thought a forest was made up entirely of trees, but now I know that the foundation lies below ground, in the fungi.

~Derrick Jensen

We must learn how to think like the planet.

~Derrick Jensen

A culture that values production over life values the wrong things, because it will produce things at the expense of living beings, human or otherwise.

~Derrick Jensen

If your homeland were invaded by aliens who cut down the forests, poisoned the water and air and contaminated the food supply, would you resist?

~Derrick Jensen

For us to maintain our way of living, we must tell lies to each other and especially to ourselves. The lies are necessary because, without them, many deplorable acts would become impossibilities.

~Derrick Jensen

I am only so beautiful as the character of my relationships, only so rich as I enrich those around me, only so alive as I enliven those I greet.

~Derrick Jensen

No matter what we call it, poison is still poison, death is still death, and industrial civilization is still causing the greatest mass extinction in the history of the planet.

~Derrick Jensen

We have been too kind to those who are killing the planet. We have been inexcusably, unforgivably, insanely kind.

~Derrick Jensen

Hope is a longing for a future condition over which you have no agency; it means you are essentially powerless.

~Derrick Jensen

Within this culture wealth is measured by one's ability to consume and destroy.

~Derrick Jensen

In order to maintain our way of living, we must tell lies to each other, and especially to ourselves.

~Derrick Jensen

The stories we are told shape the way we see the world, which shapes the way we experience the world.

~Derrick Jensen

If your community is founded on an injustice, that injustice cannot be questioned.

~Derrick Jensen

The global industrial economy is the engine for massive environmental degradation and massive human (and nonhuman) impoverishment.

~Derrick Jensen

A primary purpose of the police is to enforce the delusions of those with lots of green paper.

~Derrick Jensen

We have a need for enchantment that is as deep and devoted as our need for food and water.

~Derrick Jensen

Every morning when I awake I ask myself whether I should write or blow up a dam. I tell myself I should keep writing, though I'm not sure

that's right

~Derrick Jensen

Love does not imply pacifism.

~Derrick Jensen

I think it's very important for us to start to build a culture of resistance, because what we're doing isn't working, clearly.

~Derrick Jensen

Like the layers of an onion, under the first lie is another, and under that another, and they all make you cry.

~Derrick Jensen

We cannot hope to create a sustainable culture with any but sustainable souls.

~Derrick Jensen

If you only had a limited time to life (which is of course the case), how would you spend your time?

~Derrick Jensen

So long as we only believe in the justice of the state, of the law-made by those in power, to serve those in power-so long will we continue to be exploited by those in power.

~Derrick Jensen

Writing is really very easy. Tap a vein and bleed onto the page. Everything else is just technical.

~Derrick Jensen

There is always money to kill people. There is never enough money for life affirming ends.

~Derrick Jensen

Civilization is not and can never be sustainable.

~Derrick Jensen

The task we all face as human beings ... is to find and become who we are. The task teachers face is to find their own way of teaching, one that manifests who they are.

~Derrick Jensen

Premise Eight: The needs of the natural world are more important than the needs of the economic system.

~Derrick Jensen

If we wish to stop the atrocities, we need merely to step away from the isolation. There is a whole world waiting for us, ready to welcome us home.

~Derrick Jensen

As is true for most people I know, I've always loved learning. As is also true for most people I know, I always hated school. Why is that?

~Derrick Jensen

a real partnership in which all parties help all others to be more fully themselves

~Derrick Jensen

If any thing can be predicated as universally true of uncultivated man, it is that he will not labour beyond what is absolutely necessary to maintain his existence.

~Derrick Jensen

To believe Christianity stands in opposition to slavery is at best to think anachronistically and at worst to not understand Christianity.

~Derrick Jensen

All writers are propagandists.

~Derrick Jensen

Civilization can never be sustainable.

~Derrick Jensen

When we realize the degree of agency we actually do have, we no longer have to "hope" at all. We simply do the work.

~Derrick Jensen

Learning has to come from doing, not intellectualizing.

~Derrick Jensen

I no longer see Descartes' statement as arbitrary. It is representative of our culture's narcissism. This narcissism leads to a disturbing disrespect for direct experience and a negation of the body.

~Derrick Jensen

A language Older Than Words

~Derrick Jensen

Forests precede us and deserts dog our heels.

~Derrick Jensen

From the beginning, this culture - civilization - has been a culture of occupation.

~Derrick Jensen

I think a lot of us are increasingly recognizing that the dominant culture is killing the planet.

~Derrick Jensen

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