

Don Marquis Quotes

*Men, Funny, Literature, Atheism, Country, Work, Life, Civilization, Too Much,
Blood, Children, People, Believe, Witty, Order, Humor, Wish, Long, Grief, Would
Be*

Pity the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

~Don Marquis

By the time a bartender knows what drink a man will have before he orders, there is little else about him worth knowing.

~Don Marquis

Procrastination is the art of keeping up with yesterday.

~Don Marquis

Punctuality is one of the cardinal business virtues: always insist on it in your subordinates.

~Don Marquis

When a man tells you that he got rich through hard work, ask him: 'Whose?'

~Don Marquis

Publishing a volume of verse is like dropping a rose petal down the Grand Canyon and waiting for the echo.

~Don Marquis

A pessimist is a person who has had to listen to too many optimists.

~Don Marquis

The chief obstacle to the progress of the human race is the human race.

~Don Marquis

A fierce unrest seethes at the core, of all existing things: it was the eager wish to soar, that gave the gods their wings.

~Don Marquis

personally my ambition is to get my time as a cockroach shortened for

good behavior and be promoted to a revenue officer it is not much of a step up but i am humble

~Don Marquis

Every cloud has its silver lining but it is sometimes a little difficult to get it to the mint.

~Don Marquis

Not every woman in old slippers can manage to look like Cinderella

~Don Marquis

Of middle age the best that can be said is that a middle aged person has likely learned how to have a little fun in spite of his troubles.

~Don Marquis

One of the most important things to remember about infant care is: don't change diapers in midstream.

~Don Marquis

Middle age is the time when a man is always thinking that in a week or two he will feel as good as ever.

~Don Marquis

Happiness is the interval between periods of unhappiness.

~Don Marquis

When you can't have anything else, you can have virtue.

~Don Marquis

A demagogue is a person with whom we disagree as to which gang should mismanage the country.

~Don Marquis

In all systems of theology the devil figures as a male person. Yes, it is

women who keep the church going.

~Don Marquis

Blood will tell, but often it tells too much.

~Don Marquis

Persian pussy from over the sea demure and lazy and smug and fat
none of your ribbons and bells for me ours is the zest of the alley cat

~Don Marquis

Ideas pull the trigger, but instinct loads the gun.

~Don Marquis

In order to influence a child, one must be careful not to be that child's
parent or grandparent.

~Don Marquis

I would rather start a family than finish one.

~Don Marquis

Too many creatures both insects and humans estimate their own value
by the amount of minor irritation they are able to cause to greater
personalities than themselves.

~Don Marquis

The most pleasant and useful persons are those who leave some of the
problems of the universe for God to worry about.

~Don Marquis

Honesty is a good thing, but it is not profitable to its possessor unless it
is kept under control.

~Don Marquis

We pay for the mistakes of our ancestors, and it seems only fair that

they should leave us the money to pay with.

~Don Marquis

I once heard the survivors of a colony of ants that had been partially obliterated by a cow's foot seriously debating the intention of the gods towards their civilization.

~Don Marquis

The trouble with the public is that there is too much of it; what we need in public is less quantity and more quality.

~Don Marquis

An idea isn't responsible for the people who believe in it.

~Don Marquis

Fishing is a delusion entirely surrounded by liars in old clothes.

~Don Marquis

Man cannot be uplifted; he must be seduced into virtue

~Don Marquis

If you want to get rich from writing, write the sort of thing that's read by persons who move their lips when they're reading to themselves.

~Don Marquis

It takes all sorts of people to make the underworld.

~Don Marquis

Nearly every night before I go to bed I ask myself, "Have I vibrated in tune with the Infinite today, or have I failed?"

~Don Marquis

Yes, he's got all them different kinds of thoroughbred blood in him, and he's got other kinds you ain't mentioned and that you ain't slick enough

to see.

~Don Marquis

A sequel is an admission that you've been reduced to imitating yourself.

~Don Marquis

I get up in the morning with an idea for a three-volume novel and by nightfall it's a paragraph in my column.

~Don Marquis

I do not see why men should be so proud insects have the more ancient lineage according to the scientists insects were insects when man was only a burbling whatisit.

~Don Marquis

For him who fain would teach the world The world holds hate in fee- For Socrates, the hemlock cup; For Christ, Gethsemane.

~Don Marquis

Insects have their own point of view about civilization a man thinks he amounts to a great deal but to a flea or a mosquito a human being is merely something good to eat.

~Don Marquis

I suppose the human race is doing the best it can but hells bells thats only an explanation its not an excuse.

~Don Marquis

If a child shows himself incorrigible, he should be decently and quietly beheaded at the age of twelve, lest he grow to maturity, marry, and perpetuate his kind.

~Don Marquis

I have often noticed that ancestors never boast of the descendants who boast of ancestors. I would rather start a family than finish one. Blood will tell, but often it tells too much.

~Don Marquis

The art of newspaper paragraphing is to stroke a platitude until it purrs like an epigram.

~Don Marquis

He worked like hell in the country so he could live in the city, where he worked like hell so he could live in the country.

~Don Marquis

The things that I can't have I want, And what I have seems second-rate,
The things I want to do I can't, And what I have to do I hate.

~Don Marquis

What man calls civilization always results in deserts.

~Don Marquis

Poetry is what Milton saw when he went blind.

~Don Marquis

There is always a comforting thought in time of trouble when it is not our trouble.

~Don Marquis

Most of the people living in New York have come here from the far to try to make enough money to go back to the farm

~Don Marquis

No form of government matters nearly as much as the spirit and intelligence brought to the administration of any form of government.

~Don Marquis

You want to know whether I believe in ghosts? Of course I do not believe in them. If you had known as many of them as I have, you would not believe in them either.

~Don Marquis

Life's too damn funny for me to explain.

~Don Marquis

An optimist is a guy that has never had much experience.

~Don Marquis

It has been my observation and experience, and that of my family, that nothing human works out well.

~Don Marquis

A great many people who spend their time mourning over the brevity of life could make it seem longer if they did a little more work.

~Don Marquis

It would be a colorless world if each individual did not secretly believe himself superior to almost everyone else.

~Don Marquis

I love you as New Englanders love pie!

~Don Marquis

A certain alloy of expediency improves the gold of morality and makes it wear all the longer.

~Don Marquis

That stern and rockbound coast felt like an amateur when it saw how grim the puritans that landed on it were.

~Don Marquis

An optimist is the person who has never had any experience at all.

~Don Marquis

it is better to be a part of beauty for one instant and then cease to exist than to exist forever and never be a part of beauty

~Don Marquis

A little while with grief and laughter, And then the day will close; The shadows gather ... what comes after No man knows.

~Don Marquis

the high cost of living isnt so bad if you dont have to pay for it

~Don Marquis

My heart hath followed all my days Something I cannot name.

~Don Marquis

Just as soon as the uplifters get a country reformed it slips into a nose dive.

~Don Marquis

Give up the dream that Love may trick the fates To live again somewhere beyond the gleam Of dying stars, or shatter the strong gates Some god has builded high; give up the dream.

~Don Marquis

Many a man spans his children for things his own father should have spanked out of him.

~Don Marquis

Old godheads sink in space and drown Their arks like foundered galleons sucked down.

~Don Marquis

Vibrations are the key to everything. Atoms used to be, but atoms have quite gone out.

~Don Marquis

Censors are necessary, increasingly necessary, if America is to avoid having a vital literature.

~Don Marquis

It is a cheering thought to think that God is on the side of the best digestion.

~Don Marquis

Life is one damned kitten after another." Mehitabel the Alley Cat

~Don Marquis

An old stomach reforms more whiskey drinkers than a new resolve.

~Don Marquis

The female of all species are most dangerous when they appear to retreat.

~Don Marquis

This is another day! Are its eyes blurred with maudlin grief for any wasted past? A thousand thousand failures shall not daunt! Let dust clasp dust, death, death; I am alive!

~Don Marquis

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