

# Donna Leon

## Quotes

*People, Writing, Justice, Cities, Book, Way, Ideas, Television, Distance, Film,  
Thinking, Asks, Angel, Particular, Facts, Fiction, Fate, Murder Mysteries,  
Pleasure, Lazy*

I just go to lunch. And I never know when something is going into the file and something is not.

~Donna Leon

I find the idea of vigilante justice very attractive. I like the idea that the murderer decides that this person has gone too far, and nothing will happen to him unless she does something to stop him.

~Donna Leon

I have always had a particular antagonism for the military.

~Donna Leon

I never know what's going to happen in a novel. I don't have a plan or an outline.

~Donna Leon

And off in the far distance, the gold on the wings of the angel atop the bell tower of San Marco flashed in the sun, bathing the entire city in its glistening benediction.

~Donna Leon

Venetians feel affection and loyalty to their city, rather than to the Italian state.

~Donna Leon

This is a fallen world. People lie, the truth gets distorted, and that's the way it is. What's for dinner ?

~Donna Leon

All through graduate school, instead of having a television I read murder mysteries: Hammett, Chandler, Ruth Rendell, P. D. James.

~Donna Leon

So much of contemporary crime fiction is painful to read and obsessed

with violence, particularly against women, and I can't read that.

~Donna Leon

favors are always for ourselves. Especially when we ask for things for other people.

~Donna Leon

Ruth Bader Ginsburg is the most liberal and illumined of the nine Justices of the U.S. Supreme Court.

~Donna Leon

And I don't want to live anywhere where I am famous. It makes me very, very uncomfortable, because it conveys an advantage over people, and I don't like that.

~Donna Leon

Oh, so seldom does fate cast our enemy into our hands, to do with as we will

~Donna Leon

The Germans and Austrians are very polite, the Swiss are very reserved and the Spanish usually kiss me. The Brits write me letters.

~Donna Leon

I do not take any pleasure whatsoever in being a famous person.

~Donna Leon

A story begins and it always passes from the subjunctive to the declarative. And Italians don't seem to care about making a fine distinction between that which is speculation and that which is fact.

~Donna Leon

I know you shouldn't spit in your own soup but I think most crime writing is like TV and doesn't make enormous demands on one's intellect.

~Donna Leon

I love music. But I've never owned a TV in my adult life, and I've never lived in a place with a television.

~Donna Leon

I never wanted to be rich or successful or famous. I just wanted to be happy and have fun.

~Donna Leon

The ending is one of my blackest, utterly without hope of any sort.

~Donna Leon

Sit around the bars, talked to people, ate in the restaurants, and chatted with the old ladies on the street. Fishermen are pretty much that way.

~Donna Leon

I don't go to the movies because I don't like films.

~Donna Leon

My father read 'The New York Times,' my mother did secretarial work, we had a dog, we had a garden, I had a brother.

~Donna Leon

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