

John Berryman

Quotes

Writing, Song, Self, World, Resources, Funny, Literature, Vanity, Bored, Mean, Rooms, Want, Boring, Mouths, Lying, Clever, Faces, Life, Trying, Sobriety

Bats have no bankers and they do not drink and cannot be arrested and pay no tax and, in general, bats have it made.

~John Berryman

The artist is extremely lucky who is presented with the worst possible ordeal which will not actually kill him. At that point, he's in business.

~John Berryman

We must travel in the direction of our fear.

~John Berryman

Two daiquiris withdrew into a corner of a gorgeous room and one told the other a lie.

~John Berryman

Praise will lead you to vanity, and blame will lead you to self-pity, and both are bad for writers.

~John Berryman

I am so wise I had my mouth sewn shut.

~John Berryman

Ever to confess you're bored means you have no Inner Resources.

~John Berryman

That is our appointed task. Love & die.

~John Berryman

This world is gradually becoming a place Where I do not care to be any more.

~John Berryman

I conclude now I have no inner resources, because I am heavy bored. Peoples bore me, literature bores me, especially great literature.

~John Berryman

We are using our own skins for wallpaper and we cannot win.

~John Berryman

These Songs are not meant to be understood, you understand. They are only meant to terrify & comfort.

~John Berryman

I didn't want to be like Yeats; I wanted to be Yeats.

~John Berryman

Them lady poets must not marry, pal.

~John Berryman

I can offer you only: this world like a knife

~John Berryman

One must be ruthless with one's own writing or someone else will be.

~John Berryman

something has been said for sobriety but very little.

~John Berryman

Life, friends, is boring. We must not say so.

~John Berryman

Literature bores me, especially great literature

~John Berryman

Life, friends, is boring. We must not say so. After all, the sky flashes, the great sea yearns, we ourselves flash and yearn

~John Berryman

We have reason to be afraid. This is a terrible place.

~John Berryman

Offering Dragons quarter is no good, they regrow all their parts and come on again. They have to be killed.

~John Berryman

Wishin' was dyin' but I gotta make it all this way to that bed on these feet.

~John Berryman

I think that what happens in my poetic work in the future will depend on my being knocked in the face, and thrown flat, and given cancer, and all kinds of other things short of senile dementia.

~John Berryman

I cry. Evil dissolves, & love, like foam; that love. Prattle of children powers me home, my heart claps like the swan's under a frenzy of who love me & who shine.

~John Berryman

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