

Ken Kesey

Quotes

Thinking, Literature, Men, People, Writing, Mcmurphy, Long, Looks, Running, World, Life, Trying, Guy, Motivational, Jobs, Eye, Hands, Hurt, Needs, Truth

Since we don't know where we're going, we have to stick together in case someone gets there.

~Ken Kesey

Man, when you lose your laugh you lose your footing.

~Ken Kesey

Nowhere else in history has there ever been a flag that stands for the right to burn itself. This is the fractal of our flag. It stands for the right to destroy itself.

~Ken Kesey

If you've got love in your heart, whatever you do from that moment out is likely to be right. If you've got that one true note ringing inside you, then whatever you do is going to be OK.

~Ken Kesey

You don't lead by pointing and telling people some place to go. You lead by going to that place and making a case.

~Ken Kesey

You can count how many seeds are in the apple, but not how many apples are in the seed.

~Ken Kesey

All I know is this: nobody's very big in the first place, and it looks to me like everybody spends their whole life tearing everybody else down.

~Ken Kesey

The job of the writer is to kiss no ass, no matter how big and holy and white and tempting and powerful.

~Ken Kesey

He Who Marches Out Of Step Hears Another Drum

~Ken Kesey

The need for mystery is greater than the need for an answer.

~Ken Kesey

You've got to get out and pray to the sky to appreciate the sunshine; otherwise you're just a lizard standing there with the sun shining on you.

~Ken Kesey

People think love is an emotion. Love is good sense.

~Ken Kesey

Allen Ginsberg is a tremendous warrior as time goes by. He's a warrior first and a poet second.

~Ken Kesey

It is just as much an offense to take offense as it is to give offense.

~Ken Kesey

Loved. You can't use it in the past tense. Death does not stop that love at all.

~Ken Kesey

I had to keep on acting deaf if i wanted to hear at all.

~Ken Kesey

When you love someone it is forever, or it was never really love at all.

~Ken Kesey

It's time to move on to the next step in the psychedelic revolution. We've reached a certain point, but we're not moving any more.

~Ken Kesey

Always stay in your own movie.

~Ken Kesey

There've been a lot more people hurt on astro-turf than grass.

~Ken Kesey

When you're around the whole Dead scene, they're there as a tribal thing; they're there as part of a rendezvous and a pow-wow.

~Ken Kesey

I listened to them fade away till all I could hear was my memory of the sound.

~Ken Kesey

I've enjoyed being a famous writer-except that every once in a while you have to write something.

~Ken Kesey

The raw materials of reality without the glue of time are materials adrift and reality is as meaningless as the balsa parts of a model airplane scattered to the wind.

~Ken Kesey

There are going to be times when we can't wait for somebody. Now, you're either on the bus or off the bus.

~Ken Kesey

You can't really be strong until you see a funny side to things.

~Ken Kesey

No, my friend. We are lunatics from the hospital up the highway, psycho-ceramics, the cracked pots of mankind. Would you like me to decipher a Rorschach for you?

~Ken Kesey

The trouble with super heroes is what to do between phone booths.

~Ken Kesey

Plant a garden in which strange plants grow and mysteries bloom.

~Ken Kesey

When we first broke into that forbidden box in the other dimension, we knew we had discovered something as surprising and powerful as the New World when Columbus came stumbling onto it.

~Ken Kesey

If you don't watch it people will force you one way or the other, into doing what they think you should do, or into just being mule-stubborn and doing the opposite out of spite.

~Ken Kesey

Ritual is necessary for us to know anything.

~Ken Kesey

If you're a Conservative, why aren't you behind conserving the land?

~Ken Kesey

The world news might not be therapeutic.

~Ken Kesey

I've found psychedelics to be keys to worlds that have always existed, that have to be talked about.

~Ken Kesey

To hell with facts! We need stories.

~Ken Kesey

The Grateful Dead are our religion. This is a religion that doesn't pay homage to the God that all the other religions pay homage to.

~Ken Kesey

I'd rather be a lightning rod than a seismograph.

~Ken Kesey

There's no disgrace in failing, lad, Though friends and foes deride; In fact, a failure's not so bad As never having tried.

~Ken Kesey

Fascism wants Baptism coast to coast.

~Ken Kesey

The stars up close to the moon were pale; they got brighter and braver the farther they got out of the circle of light ruled by the giant moon

~Ken Kesey

People don't want other people to get high, because if you get high, you might see the falsity of the fabric of the society we live in.

~Ken Kesey

The truth doesn't have to do with cruelty, the truth has to do with mercy.

~Ken Kesey

See with your ears and hear with your eyes.

~Ken Kesey

Living is the purpose of life, And meaning can be found therein. I finds thou. Thou becomes it. And it begins again.

~Ken Kesey

Sometimes I looked at them and sometimes they looked at me, but rarely did we look at one another.

~Ken Kesey

But I tried, didn't I? Goddamnit, at least I did that.

~Ken Kesey

There's a lot of people who don't understand the circle crops in England. Pure enigma.

~Ken Kesey

There's no doubt in my mind that McMurphy's won, but I'm not sure what.

~Ken Kesey

The answer is never the answer. What's really interesting is the mystery.

~Ken Kesey

Take what you can use and let the rest go by.

~Ken Kesey

I was raised a Christian and was a stone-faced acid head.

~Ken Kesey

Of offering more than what I can deliver, I have a bad habit, it is true. But I have to offer more than I can deliver, To be able to deliver what I do.

~Ken Kesey

The man who seeks revenge digs two graves.

~Ken Kesey

I'd take a look at my own self in the mirror and wonder how it was possible that anybody could manage such an enormous thing as being what he was.

~Ken Kesey

There's something about taking a plow and breaking new ground. It gives you energy.

~Ken Kesey

But it's the truth even if it didn't happen.

~Ken Kesey

Tricker the Squirrel is the best piece I ever wrote. It's intricate.

~Ken Kesey

I sometimes have these spells of compulsive truth. But as Lady Macbeth would say, "The fit is momentary."

~Ken Kesey

He knows that you have to laugh at the things that hurt you just to keep yourself in balance, just to keep the world from running you plumb crazy.

~Ken Kesey

There's shames a man can never reason away, though he looks back and piles up reasons over them forty dozen deep. And maybe those are the shames a man never should reason away.

~Ken Kesey

The Grateful Dead are faster than light drive.

~Ken Kesey

I've been to too many Dead concerts. There've been smokin' holes where my memory used to be.

~Ken Kesey

When Shakespeare was writing, he wasn't writing for stuff to lie on the page; it was supposed to get up and move around.

~Ken Kesey

If grass were legalized, it would help our drug problem enormously.

~Ken Kesey

The job is to seek mystery, evoke mystery, plant a garden in which strange plants grow and mysteries bloom. The need for mystery is greater than the need for an answer.

~Ken Kesey

The Republican consciousness has no integrity and it falls apart once you check it out. If you're a Christian, why would you want to fry this dude?

~Ken Kesey

This world belongs to the strong, my friend! The ritual of our existence is based on the strong getting stronger by devouring the weak.

~Ken Kesey

Truth doesn't run on time like a commuter train.

~Ken Kesey

Listen, wait, and be patient. Every shaman knows you have to deal with the fire that's in your audience's eye.

~Ken Kesey

The secret of being a top-notch con man is being able to know what the mark wants, and how to make him think he's getting it.

~Ken Kesey

Like a cartoon world, where the figures are flat and outlined in black, jerking through some kind of goofy story that might be real funny if it weren't for the cartoon figures being real guys.

~Ken Kesey

But I remember one thing: it wasn't me that started acting deaf; it was people that first started acting like I was too dumb to hear or see or say anything at all

~Ken Kesey

They can't tell so much about you if you got your eyes closed.

~Ken Kesey

Me and Norman Mailer have talked about how hard it is in America to get better. Especially at writing.

~Ken Kesey

Memory whispers someplace in that jumbled machinery.

~Ken Kesey

What makes people so impatient is what I can't figure; all the guy had to do was wait.

~Ken Kesey

What do you think you are, for Chrissake, crazy or somethin'? Well you're not! You're not! You're no crazier than the average asshole out walkin' around on the streets and that's it.

~Ken Kesey

It is bad to suppress laughter. It goes back down to your hips. Man, when you lose your laugh you lose your footing.

~Ken Kesey

Your trouble is, you keep trying to unscrew the unscrutable.

~Ken Kesey

I'm so insane, I voted for Eisenhower. Oh yeah, well I'm so insane, I voted for Eisenhower TWICE!

~Ken Kesey

We think we're in the present, but we aren't. The present we know is only a movie of the past.

~Ken Kesey

I believe that a man should be... as big as he feels it in him to be!

~Ken Kesey

The '60s aren't over; they won't be over until the Fat Lady gets high.

~Ken Kesey

Now, you're either on the bus or you're off the bus.

~Ken Kesey

The fundamentalists have taken the fun out of the mental.

~Ken Kesey

That ain't me, that ain't my face. It wasn't even me when I was trying to be that face. I wasn't even really me then; I was just being the way I looked, the way people wanted.

~Ken Kesey

But he won't let the pain blot out the humor no more'n he'll let the humor blot out the pain.

~Ken Kesey

He's the sort of guy that gets a laugh out of people.

~Ken Kesey

The dead's dead ... get 'em in the ground and look to the live ones.

~Ken Kesey

Things you think you're saying for the first time ever, have been said better before by Shakespeare, though they may need saying again.

~Ken Kesey

He knows that there's no better way in the world to aggravate somebody who's trying to make it hard for you than by acting like you're not bothered.

~Ken Kesey

You're making sense, old man, a sense of your own. You're not crazy the way they think. Yes...I see.

~Ken Kesey

Good writin' ain't necessarily good readin'.

~Ken Kesey

They did type me as a horror writer, but I have been able to do all sorts of things within that framework.

~Ken Kesey

The best of all possible cages.' Ben stepped back to regard the job with a sad smile. 'What more can one ask?

~Ken Kesey

I don't think you fully understand the public, my friend; in this country, when something is out of order, then the quickest way to get it fixed is the best way.

~Ken Kesey

The frontiers we broke into in the '60s are still largely unexplored.

~Ken Kesey

Don't say it...I've seen too many loves sundered by too much needless honesty.

~Ken Kesey

Man is certain of nothing but his ability to fail. It is the deepest faith we have, and the unbeliever- the blasphemer, the dissenter- will stimulate

in us the most righteous of furies.

~Ken Kesey

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