

# Mark Van Doren

## Quotes

*World, Failing, Love, Ideas, Wisdom, Book, Men, Taste, Tables, Loss, Art, Truth, Words Of Wisdom, Life, Artist, Water, Teacher, Mind, Thinking, Beautiful*

The art of teaching is the art of assisting discovery.

~Mark Van Doren

If you look around the table and you can't tell who the sucker is, it's you.

~Mark Van Doren

Any piece of knowledge I acquire today has a value at this moment exactly proportional to my skill to deal with it. Tomorrow, when I know more, I recall that piece of knowledge and use it better.

~Mark Van Doren

Respect for the Truth is an acquired taste.

~Mark Van Doren

Nothing in man is more serious than his sense of humor; it is the sign that he wants all the truth.

~Mark Van Doren

The art of reading is the art of adopting the pace the author has set. Some books are fast and some are slow, but no book can be understood if it is taken at the wrong speed.

~Mark Van Doren

Bring ideas in and entertain them royally, for one of them may be the king.

~Mark Van Doren

Our best chance for happiness is education.

~Mark Van Doren

There are two statements about human beings that are true: that all human beings are alike, and that all are different. On those two facts all human wisdom is founded.

~Mark Van Doren

There is one thing we can do, and the happiest of people are those who do it to the limit of their ability. We can be completely present.

~Mark Van Doren

To fail to love is not to exist at all.

~Mark Van Doren

Wisdom before experience is only words; wisdom after experience is of no avail.

~Mark Van Doren

The job of the poet is to render the world-to see it and report it without loss, without perversion. No poet ever talks about feelings. Only sentimental people do.

~Mark Van Doren

An unexamined idea, to paraphrase Socrates, is not worth having and a society whose ideas are never explored for possible error may eventually find its foundations insecure.

~Mark Van Doren

A classic is a book that remains in print

~Mark Van Doren

Wit is the only wall between us and the dark.

~Mark Van Doren

I have always had the greatest respect for students. There is nothing I hate more than condescensionâ€”the attitude that they are inferior to you. I always assume they have good minds.

~Mark Van Doren

There is no appeal from the ways of the world, which must continue on its own terms or take us all down with it into chaos and confusion.

~Mark Van Doren

I love the fall. I love it because of the smells that you speak of; and also because things are dying, things that you don't have to take care of anymore, and the grass stops growing.

~Mark Van Doren

The literature of the world has exerted its power by being translated.

~Mark Van Doren

Weightless in water, swift as the wind, Subtle of purpose - a feather blown - I go with my oarsmen where they will, My beautiful body and theirs all one.

~Mark Van Doren

To be what no one ever was, to be what everyone has been: Freedom is the mean of those extremes that fence all effort in.

~Mark Van Doren

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