

Mary Renault Quotes

*Men, Heart, Believe, Life, Kings, Hate, Excellence, Together, Grief, Lying,
Forever, Hatred, Thinking, Eye, Fate, Fall, Enemy, Horse, Despair, All Things*

One must live as if it would be forever, and as if one might die each moment. Always both at once.

~Mary Renault

It is better to believe in men too rashly, and regret, than believe too meanly. Men could be more than they are, if they would try for it. He has shown them that.

~Mary Renault

It is bitter to lose a friend to evil before one loses him to death.

~Mary Renault

All men seek esteem; the best by lifting themselves, which is hard to do, the rest by shoving others down, which is much easier.

~Mary Renault

How can people trust the harvest, unless they see it sown?

~Mary Renault

Everything is change; and you cannot step twice into the same river.

~Mary Renault

The rightness of a thing isn't determined by the amount of courage it takes.

~Mary Renault

Often beauty grows dull or common when speech breaks the mask.

~Mary Renault

A man is at his youngest when he thinks he is a man, not yet realizing that his actions must show it.

~Mary Renault

You can make an audience see nearly anything, if you yourself believe

in it.

~Mary Renault

Go with your fate, but not beyond. Beyond leads to dark places.

~Mary Renault

Miss Searle had always considered boredom an intellectual defeat.

~Mary Renault

Never destroy without thought your enemy's pretences; they are usually your best weapon against him.

~Mary Renault

In hatred as in love, we grow like the thing we brood upon. What we loathe, we graft into our very soul.

~Mary Renault

But courage without conduct is the virtue of a robber, or a tyrant.

~Mary Renault

There is only one kind of shock worse than the totally unexpected: the expected for which one has refused to prepare.

~Mary Renault

Clouds of black birds rose up wailing and screaming, like the thoughts of my heart.

~Mary Renault

One might have supposed that the true act of love was to lie together and talk.

~Mary Renault

Love is a boaster at heart, who cannot hide the stolen horse without giving a glimpse of the bridle.

~Mary Renault

In all men is evil sleeping; the good man is he who will not awaken it, in himself or in other men.

~Mary Renault

Longing performs all things

~Mary Renault

Half the world's troubles come from men not being trained to resent a fallacy as much as an insult.

~Mary Renault

There is nothing like despair to make one throw oneself upon the gods.

~Mary Renault

We Persians have a saying that one should deliberate serious matters first drunk, then sober.

~Mary Renault

It is something, I thought, when a king can put a courtesan to the blush.

~Mary Renault

death was the price of life.

~Mary Renault

When we serve the great, they are our destiny.

~Mary Renault

True friends share everything, except the past before they met.

~Mary Renault

There is madness in youth, but sometimes a god inspires it.

~Mary Renault

I was a king and a king's heir and now I am a slave.

~Mary Renault

An audience of twenty thousand, sitting on its hands, could not have produced such an echoing silence.

~Mary Renault

But it is not for the perfect vase or the polished gem to choose their owners.

~Mary Renault

It is better to learn war early from friends, than late from enemies.

~Mary Renault

Money buys many things... The best of which is freedom.

~Mary Renault

It gives me no joy to be praised at the expense of a better artist, by someone who does not know the difference or who thinks me too vain to be aware of it myself.

~Mary Renault

To hate excellence is to hate the gods.

~Mary Renault

I thought, There goes my lord, whom I was born to follow. I have found a King. And, I said to myself, looking after him as he walked away, I will have him, if I die for it.

~Mary Renault

What keeps the democracy alive at all but the hatred of excellence; the desire of the base to see no head higher than their own?

~Mary Renault

By her shining and her power he knew her.

~Mary Renault

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