

# Meshell Ndegeocello

## Quotes

*Thinking, People, Trying, Song, Giving, Play, Musician, Children, Stars, Leader,  
I Love Him, Wonder, Needs, Records, Looks, World, Mind, Something New,  
Artist, Earthquakes*

Her beauty cannot be measured with standards of a colonized mind

~Meshell Ndegeocello

Any ideas of "other" are complicated, and otherness is relative to personal ideas of "normal."

~Meshell Ndegeocello

Once you encounter people who are really testing the limits of kindness, that's when you start to build up a shield and close yourself down.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

I'm becoming more and more apolitical - I think the most revolutionary thing you can do is just live your life and have a good time. Before they scoop you up on the street or you die.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

Your yes means nothing if you can't say no.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

Music is like a lover that I can't commit to, but I seem to always find myself in bed with.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

I am here no longer just a vision birthed into this body I accept my praise, my blame, my joy, my sorrow I realize we are, in truth, the truth we seek God, perfect this very moment.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

It's hard being bisexual, omnisexual, multisexual, whatever you want to call it, when people have their agenda and expect you to just represent their agenda.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

I stopped beating up on myself. I stopped asking myself why I didn't sell this number of records, why I don't have corporate sponsorship. I just don't buy into any of that anymore.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

My legacy is in my family, not in my work. For me. I don't know about for other people. I try to forget a lot.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

Children are born with their own optimism. They have a clarity and a simplicity that we can only wish for.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

I think leaders are incapable of the strength that passive resistance entails.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

I tried to be as positive as possible, because I have the same birthday as Michael Jackson. He is my cosmic brother. I love him.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

I'm always tryin' to do something new, tryin' to look like a beginner.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

It's interesting to do other people's music - that's how I learned to play, by learning other people's songs. It's nice to delve into how other people got to where they are.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

Sometimes people ask what it was like when I got to meet Mick Jagger, and I must admit that you just try and chill out and be your best self around anyone that you meet.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

Madonna is interesting. She changed music. She definitely did. She gave me an opportunity that no one else would give me, so I am very grateful to her.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

It's funny, I think after you are a star like Sting and you no longer think you need any guidance or aid - it would be great to see those stars work with other songwriters.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

God looks out for fools and babies.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

I think secretly I've realized after my time on the planet that I have no control over what people feel about me or need from me, so I just have a more laid-back approach in my apologies.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

Not to be a Bible-thumper, but there really is nothing new under the sun.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

I love children. I'd prefer to be around children much more than adults, actually. And I like animals, too. I'm just really into beings who are at ease with themselves.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

Music is my only guide. I don't care if people pigeonhole me. Miles Davis is my hero. He covered Cindy Lauper and Michael Jackson, and he didn't give a hoot about what the purists said.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

My favorite period is when we lived in the land of the three-minute song. The Motown thing - I thought they were genius in knowing that's

as much as a listener can take.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

I watch documentaries for information. I watch films to be entertained.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

There's no hierarchy in suffering. I think songs that are transcendent are the ones where everyone can feel something from it, you know?

~Meshell Ndegeocello

I feel that musicians are in a fellowship, and that fellowship is a responsibility.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

I just try to tell a story with a song, and be able to try to transmit the emotion to you. That's all I'm really trying to do.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

Definitely dub is in my body forever. I think I hear everything through a dub filter. Even when I play rock music, I play through a dub filter.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

I'm a true believer that unless you're Prince or Stevie Wonder - and even Prince is showing that he needs help - not everybody can produce themselves. I'm definitely not that person.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

I'm pushing ahead on my own - you no longer need a large record company to make you a star.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

Yes, violence begets more violence, but historically this has been the way of the world.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

If I would not be able to create music, I would create art or something else. Perhaps cooking.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

Allow the artist to finish the piece of work before you critique it.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

You make a choice to make music or be an actor, and people automatically think they can have access to your life.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

I joke that a person of color would never make a movie like *Midnight in Paris*. Nostalgia isn't so enticing.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

Our leaders and Osama Bin Laden all claim to do the right thing in the name of God. I question that. I wonder if that God is worth the life of another human-being.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

I'm really good at melodic and sonic things, but I don't really think I have anything to say. But I really enjoy the puzzle-making of taking words and adding a melody to them.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

I think all musicians should understand that you have chosen not to be a soldier but a musician.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

No one knows anything for sure.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

The blowing thing is something that you either have a predilection for or not. And I don't have that thing. It was just unsanitary. I couldn't do it. I

am a complete germaphobe.

~Meshell Ndegeocello

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