

# Robert Ardrey

## Quotes

*Men, Animal, Angel, Stars, Dream, Apes, War, Years, Doe, Bird, May, Unique, Solutions, Fence, Competition, Believe, Problem, Dog, Home, Successful*

Do you care about freedom? Dreams may have inspired it, and wishes prompted it, but only war and weapons have made it yours.

~Robert Ardrey

We are born of risen apes, not fallen angels.

~Robert Ardrey

Aggressiveness is the principal guarantor of survival.

~Robert Ardrey

We were born of risen apes, not fallen angels, and the apes were armed killers besides. And so what shall we wonder at? Our murders and massacres and missiles, and our irreconcilable regiments?

~Robert Ardrey

Man is a fraction of the animal world. Our history is an afterthought, no more, tacked to an infinite calendar. We are not so unique as we should like to believe.

~Robert Ardrey

What could not be denied was that in vast segments of the animal world natural selection of the most qualified individuals took place not by competition for females but by competition for space.

~Robert Ardrey

The dog barking at you from behind his master's fence acts for a motive indistinguishable from that of his master when the fence was built.

~Robert Ardrey

Human war has been the most successful of our cultural traditions.

~Robert Ardrey

There is a virtue, I must presume, in shamelessness, since by placing on parade the things one does not know, one discovers that no one

else knows either.

~Robert Ardrey

The miracle of man is not how far he has sunk but how magnificently he has risen. We are known among the stars by our poems, not our corpses.

~Robert Ardrey

A bird does not fly because it has wings; it has wings because it flies.

~Robert Ardrey

While we pursue the unattainable, we make impossible the realizable.

~Robert Ardrey

If you watch lizards and lions copulating, then you will see that in 200 million years the male has not had a single new idea.

~Robert Ardrey

Men, unlike mockingbirds, have the capacity for systematic self-delusion. We echo each other with equal precision, equal eloquence, equal assurance.

~Robert Ardrey

Far from the truth lay the antique assumption that man had fathered the weapon. The weapon, instead, had fathered man.

~Robert Ardrey

What truly leads the evolutionary procession, in other words, is behavior.

~Robert Ardrey

There is nothing so moving - not even acts of love or hate - as the discovery that one is not alone.

~Robert Ardrey

Animal language is a contagious expression of mood effecting communication between social partners.

~Robert Ardrey

For the soundest of evolutionary reasons man appears at his best when times are worst.

~Robert Ardrey

A human being is a problem in search of a solution.

~Robert Ardrey

The hunter died when he achieved supremacy. Perhaps the death of the hunter will be the long monument to interglacial man. We denied a future to our successor beings.

~Robert Ardrey

Classic is our daring, classic our cowardice. Classic is our cruelty, classic our charity.

~Robert Ardrey

Sex is a sideshow in the world of the animal, for the dominant color of that world is fear.

~Robert Ardrey

Is it possible that the environmental severity of the 1930s induced-particularly in the most aware, alert, and compassionate of [British] men-a morality which makes no sense today?

~Robert Ardrey

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