

Say Hello to
your very own book of
Quotes



QuotationsBook

Quotes by Dahlberg, Edward

from QuotationsBook.com

Edward Dahlberg (July 22, 1900-February 27, 1977) was an American novelist and essayist.

There is hardly a man on earth who will take advice unless he is certain that it is positively bad.

- Dahlberg, Edward

Every decision you make is a mistake.

- Dahlberg, Edward

A strong foe is better than a weak friend.

- Dahlberg, Edward

Everything ultimately fails, for we die, and that is either the penultimate failure or our most enigmatical achievement.

- Dahlberg, Edward

Genius, like truth, has a shabby and neglected mien.

- Dahlberg, Edward

Ambition is a Dead Sea fruit, and the greatest peril to the soul is that one is likely to get precisely what he is seeking.

- Dahlberg, Edward

Though man is the only beast that can write, he has small reason to be proud of it. When he utters something that is wise it is nothing that the river horse does not know, and most of his creations are the result of accident.

- Dahlberg, Edward

Intellectual sodomy, which comes from the refusal to be simple about plain matters, is as gross and abundant today as sexual perversion and they are nowise different from one another.

- Dahlberg, Edward

One of the weaknesses in the cooperative is that it has never been sufficiently leavened by the imagination. This is a quick-silver faculty, and likely to be a cause of worry to any collective settlement.

- Dahlberg, Edward

What most men desire is a virgin who is a whore.

- Dahlberg, Edward

The machine has had a pernicious effect upon virtue, pity, and love, and young men used to machines which induce inertia, and fear, are near impotent.

- Dahlberg, Edward

Men are mad most of their lives; few live sane, fewer die so. The acts of people are baffling unless we realize that their wits are disordered. Man is driven to justice by his lunacy.

- Dahlberg, Edward

Man hoards himself when he has nothing to give away.

- Dahlberg, Edward

There is a strange and mighty race of people called the Americans who are rapidly becoming the coldest in the world because of this cruel, man-eating idol, lucre.

- Dahlberg, Edward

Always like to look on the optimistic side of life, but I am realistic enough to know that life is a complex matter. Walt Disney Every decision you make is a mistake.

- Dahlberg, Edward

Those who write for lucre or fame are grosser than the cartel robbers, for they steal the genius of the people, which is its will to resist evil.

- Dahlberg, Edward

We can only write well about our sins because it is too difficult to recall a virtuous act or

even whether it was the result of good or evil motives.

- Dahlberg, Edward

No people require maxims so much as the American. The reason is obvious: the country is so vast, the people always going somewhere, from Oregon apple valley to boreal New England, that we do not know whether to be temperate orchards or sterile climate.

- Dahlberg, Edward

The ruin of the human heart is self-interest, which the American merchant calls self-service. We have become a self-service populace, and all our specious comforts --the automatic elevator, the escalator, the cafeteria --are depriving us of volition and moral and physical energy.

- Dahlberg, Edward

We are a most solitary people, and we live, repelled by one another, in the gray, outcast cities of Cain.

- Dahlberg, Edward

We cannot live, suffer or die for somebody else, for suffering is too precious to be shared.

- Dahlberg, Edward

Utility is our national shibboleth: the savior of the American businessman is fact and his uterine half-brother, statistics.

- Dahlberg, Edward

One cat in a house is a sign of loneliness, two of barrenness, and three of sodomy.

- Dahlberg, Edward

We are always talking about being together, and yet whatever we invent destroys the family, and makes us wild, touchless beasts feeding on technicolor prairies and rivers.

- Dahlberg, Edward

When one realizes that his life is worthless he either commits suicide or travels.

- Dahlberg, Edward

So much of our lives is given over to the consideration of our imperfections that there is no time to improve our imaginary virtues. The truth is we only perfect our vices, and man is a worse creature when he dies than he was when he was born.

- Dahlberg, Edward

Nothing in our times has become so unattractive as virtue.

- Dahlberg, Edward

No country has suffered so much from the ruins of war while being at peace as the American.

- Dahlberg, Edward

The majority of persons choose their wives with as little prudence as they eat. They see a troll with nothing else to recommend her but a pair of thighs and choice hunkers, and so smart to void their seed that they marry her at once. They imagine they can live in marvelous contentment with handsome feet and ambrosial buttocks. Most men are accredited fools shortly after they leave the womb.

- Dahlberg, Edward

Herman Melville was as separated from a civilized literature as the lost Atlantis was said to have been from the great peoples of the earth.

- Dahlberg, Edward

To write is a humiliation.

- Dahlberg, Edward

What has a writer to be bombastic about? Whatever good a man may write is the consequence of accident, luck, or surprise, and nobody is more surprised than an honest writer when he makes a good phrase or says something truthful.

- Dahlberg, Edward

Writing is conscience, scruple, and the farming of our ancestors.

- Dahlberg, Edward

I would rather take hellebore than spend a conversation with a good, little man.

- Dahlberg, Edward

Hardly a book of human worth, be it heaven's own secret, is honestly placed before the reader; it is either shunned, given a Periclean funeral oration in a hundred and fifty words, or interred in the potter's field of the newspapers back pages.

- Dahlberg, Edward

It is very perplexing how an intrepid frontier people, who fought a wilderness, floods, tornadoes, and the Rockies, cower before criticism, which is regarded as a malignant tumor in the imagination.

- Dahlberg, Edward

Recognize the cunning man not by the corpses he pays homage to but by the living writers he conspires against with the most shameful weapon, Silence, or the briefest review.

- Dahlberg, Edward



QuotationsBook