



### QUOTABLE QUOTES FROM DARK SOVEREIGN

“God, I love it. *Dark Sovereign* is full of marvellous lines.” Canadian actor Morris Good’s comment seems reason enough to share some of those “marvellous lines.”

ON MONEY: [DS Ind. 1.18]

Money makes an able sexton:  
A’s oft employ’d to bury the corpse of Conscience.

ON THE LAW: [DS 1.1.169]

The law’s a sword, an iron thing, and cold.  
She cuts no deeper than the might of him who would uphold her.

ON POWER: [DS 2.5.97]

Power, Percival! Power is a fickle mistress; vicious are her parts.  
Like to a pleasing strumpet, Power slaves who thinks to hold her.  
I can live without it.

ONE USE FOR A CLEAR CONSCIENCE: [DS 3.4.23]

If Conscience virtue has,  
'tis that she bindeth up the weak to aid the strong.

ON COMPASSION: [DS 3.4.132]

Compassion’s Nature’s fools’ cloth: *C. is the uniform worn by Nature’s fools*  
Never it shall be the stuff of Nature’s politics!

ON DECISION-MAKING: [DS 3.3.147]

Speaks Reason to my Will?  
or doth proud Will to Reason speak?

ON GRIEF: [DS 2.4.7]

When day droops into night, who then can light a brand  
so great 'twill show the hórizont? Nay, my lord.  
The face, the breath, the voice, the touch of hands,  
the quick, the very certain countenance of life  
rebuke our fond imagin'd vizard of eternity.  
Had heaven wept good measure of my grief  
the earth had wash'd away.

ON DESTRUCTIVE ANGER: [DS 3.7.20]

Heat but engenders ire, the which, consuming up,  
doth render good with ill, nobility of soul with base,  
and so an end.

ON FICKLE FRIENDS: [DS 3.6.160]

Never a friend so leaden sober  
but his voidance was not instant silvern;  
his brain as suddenly beblest of more excuses  
than his shirt have fleas.

ON SORROW: [DS 2.4.24]

Sorrow, like refiner's fire, yields best remembrance,  
true, and undefiled.

ON REPENTANCE: [DS 3.6.70]

True repentance is the hasty path from sin.

A DEATHBED APPEAL FOR LOVE: [DS 5.6.41]

Deny me not of love; an' if thou must, mask thy disdain.  
At least fast echoes from thy passion on me till we part.

A DESIRE FOR VENGEANCE: [DS 3.3.219]

Dearth reward the doing of it; death revenge the act;  
the Devil pick the scraps!

ONE DEFINITION OF OLD AGE: [DS 5.8.9]

Ah me, when youth seems yesterday,  
when yesterday's forgot, this then is age.

ON THE SLEEPLESS CARES OF KINGSHIP: [DS 1.2.33]

Endue our mind with that affair, which,  
ringing in our night-stopp'd ears,  
doth murder care-bestriving sleep.

ON THE SEDUCTIVE POWER OF WOMEN: [DS 1.3.62]

If chastity be sorcery  
there's many a woman's a witch  
for many's the man bewitched withal!

A VARLET'S LAMENT: [DS 2.1.62]

On my grave they'll 'grave the epitaph...

He fetch'd.  
And he fetch'd  
Until God did him fetch.  
Here lies Thomas, fetch'd up,  
His old life fetch'd again.

Robert Fripp will release a *Dark Sovereign* DVD in the next few months. The disc will contain two versions of the play text and additional documents:

- 1/. the full text, longer than *Hamlet*, with its complete glossary;
- 2/. a "Stage Edit" version, for theatrical performances, with glossary;
- 3/. Facsimiles of some of the 4,000 pages of handwritten manuscript and etymological research notes, developmental phases of the play;
- 4/. Essays on the task and method of writing *Dark Sovereign*.

Copyright Robert Fripp