

"If there are no dogs in Heaven, then when I die I want to go where they went." – Unknown

"Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole." - Roger Caras

"A dog wags its tail with its heart" - Martin Buxbaum

"Dogs are our link to paradise. They don't know evil or jealousy or discontent. To sit with a dog on a hillside on a glorious afternoon is to be back in Eden, where doing nothing was not boring--it was peace." - Milan Kundera

"The average dog is a nicer person than the average person." - Andrew A Rooney

"A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than you love yourself." - Josh Billings

The dog is the god of frolic. - Henry Ward Beecher

"Every boy should have two things: a dog, and a mother willing to let him have one"  
- **Anonymous**

The dog represents all that is best in man."  
- **Etienne Charlet**

"Our perfect companions never have fewer than four feet."  
- **Colette**

"He is my other eyes that can see above the clouds; my other ears that hear above the winds. He is the part of me that can reach out into the sea. He has told me a thousand times over that I am his reason for being; by the way he rests against my leg; by the way he thumps his tail at my smallest smile; by the way he shows his hurt when I leave without taking him. (I think it makes him sick with worry when he is not along to care for me.) When I am wrong, he is delighted to forgive. When I am angry, he clowns to make me smile. When I am happy, he is joy unbounded. When I am a fool, he ignores it. When I succeed, he brags. Without him, I am only another man. With him, I am all-powerful. He is loyalty itself. He has taught me the meaning of devotion. With him, I know a secret comfort and a private peace. He has brought me understanding where before I was ignorant. His head on my knee can heal my human hurts. His presence by my side is protection against my fears of dark and unknown things. He has promised to wait for me... whenever... wherever - in case I need him. And I expect I will - as I always have. He is just my dog." - Gene Hill

"I think we are drawn to dogs because they are the uninhibited creatures we might be if we weren't certain we knew better." - George Bird Evans, "Troubles with Bird Dogs"

"The dog is a gentleman; I hope to go to his heaven, not man's." - Mark Twain, Letter to W D Howells, 4/2/1899

"The dog was created specially for children. He is the god of frolic." - Henry Ward Beecher

"I think dogs are the most amazing creatures; they give unconditional love. For me they are the role model for being alive." - Gilda Radner

"No matter how little money and how few possessions you own, having a dog makes you rich." - Louis Sabin

"Dogs have given us their absolute all. We are the center of their universe. We are the focus of their love and faith and trust. They serve us in return for scraps. It is without a doubt the best deal man has ever made." - Roger Caras

"No man can be condemned for owning a dog. As long as he has a dog, he has a friend; and the poorer he gets, the better friend he has." - Will Rogers

"Recollect that the Almighty, who gave the dog to be companion of our pleasures and our toils, hath invested him with a nature noble and incapable of deceit." - Sir Walter Scott 'The Talisman'

"My little dog---a heartbeat at my feet." - Edith Wharton

"Children and dogs are as necessary to the welfare of the country as Wall Street and the railroads." - Harry S Truman

"The world was conquered through the understanding of dogs; the world exists through the understanding of dogs." - Nietzsche

"All knowledge, the totality of all questions and all answers is contained in the dog." - Kafka

"The one absolutely unselfish friend that man can have in this selfish world, the one that never deserts him, the one that never proves ungrateful or treacherous, is his dog. . . .He will kiss the hand that has no food to offer; he will lick the wounds and sores that come in encounter with the roughness of the world. . . .When all other friends desert, he remains."  
- George G Vest

#### **Dear Master**

I explained to Saint Peter  
I 'd rather stay here  
Outside the pearly gates  
I won't be a nuisance,  
I won't even bark,  
I'll be very patient and wait.  
I'll be here, chewing on a celestial bone,  
No matter how long you may be  
I'd miss you so much  
If I went in alone  
It wouldn't be heaven for me.

**Unknown**

#### **My Boyhood Dog**

*Spike Milligan*

Boxer, my Boxer,  
where do you lie?  
Somewhere under  
a Poona sky.  
Ah! my canine,

total joy  
you were to me  
when as a boy  
we coursed the wind  
and ran the while,  
no end in sight,  
mile after mile.  
I was to you  
and you to me  
locked in a bond  
eternally.  
They never told me  
when you died  
to spare me pain  
in case I cried.  
So then to  
those adult fears  
denied you then,  
my childhood tears.

### **Man and Dog**

*Siegfried Sassoon*

Who's this—alone with stone and sky?  
It's only my old dog and I—  
It's only him; it's only me;  
Alone with stone and grass and tree.

What share we most—we two together?  
Smells, and awareness of the weather.  
What is it makes us more than dust?  
My trust in him; in me his trust.

Here's anyhow one decent thing  
That life to man and dog can bring;  
One decent thing, remultiplied  
Till earth's last dog and man have died.

### **A Newfound Prayer**

*Patti Smith*

Child with heart so raven wild  
I have known you well  
I have guarded you in sleep  
and with the morning bell  
we would tramp the blessed field  
ramble through the pine  
all my loyalty was yours  
all your joys were mine

We would camp upon the bank  
to watch the sails that sped  
I would offer you my back

to rest your dreaming head  
all of our adventures  
in existence but a sigh  
moccasins as silent  
as arrows in the sky

In nature is a song  
that from the spirit flows  
from the wild I came  
to the wild I will go  
and grant I meet you there  
when time will turn to air  
to shepherd you in heaven  
this is my newfound prayer."