

Marianne Moore (35)

M in a vicious world-to love virtue

A in a craven world-to have courage

R in a treacherous world-to prove loyal

I in a wavering world-to stand firm

A in a cruel world-to show mercy

N in a biased world-to act justly

N in a shameless world-to live nobly

E in a hateful world-to forgive

M in a venal world-to be honest

O in a heartless world-to be human

O in a killing world-to create

R in a sick world-to be whole

About the Author

Edward Estlin Cummings (October 14, 1894 – September 3, 1962) was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, to liberal, indulgent parents who from early on encouraged him to develop his creative gifts. While at Harvard, where his father had taught before becoming a Unitarian...

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