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All human actions are equivalent... and all are on principle doomed to failure.

- Sartre, Jean-Paul

Any coward can fight a battle when he's sure of winning, but give me the man who has pluck to fight when he's sure of losing. That's my way, sir; and there are many victories worse than a defeat.

- Eliot, George

Give a beggar a dime and he'll bless you. Give him a dollar and he'll curse you for withholding the rest of your fortune. Poverty is a bag with a hole at the bottom.

- Yezierska, Anzia

Where there is no belief, there is no blasphemy.

- Rushdie, Salman

Most bosses know instinctively that their power depends more on employee's compliance than on threats or sanctions.

- Bartolme, Fernanda

It is your people who make the ultimate difference. You put the investment into training

the people and then, when you get invited to the party with the big boys, that is a unique selling point.

- Dixon, Phil

The person who knows HOW will always have a job. The person who knows WHY will always be his boss.

- Ravitch, Diane

There is also this benefit in brag, that the speaker is unconsciously expressing his own ideal. Humor him by all means, draw it all out, and hold him to it.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

There's a great power in words, if you don't hitch too many of them together.

- Billings, Josh

Brevity and conciseness are the parents of correction.

- Ballou, Hosea

Brevity is a great charm of eloquence.

- Cicero, Marcus T.

The more you say, the less people remember. The fewer the words, the greater the profit.

- FeNelon, Francois

Good things, when short, are twice as good.

- Gracian, Baltasar

The fewer the words, the better the prayer.

- Luther, Martin

Brevity is the soul of wit, and tediousness the limbs and outward flourishes.

- Shakespeare, William

If you would be pungent, be brief; for it is with words as with sunbeams -- the more they are condensed, the deeper they burn.

- Southey, Robert

Learn taciturnity and let that be your motto!

- Burns, Robert

Nature is garrulous to the point of confusion, let the artist be truly taciturn.

- Klee, Paul

Tact is the art of making guests feel at home when that's really where you wish they were.

- Bergman, George E.

Tact is knowing how far to go too far.

- Cocteau, Jean

Perseverance and tact are the two great qualities most valuable for all those who would climb, but especially for those who have to step out of the crowd.

- Disraeli, Benjamin

Without tact you can learn nothing. Tact teaches you when to be silent. Inquirers who are always questioning never learn anything.

- Disraeli, Benjamin

Tact is to lie about others as you would have them lie about you.

- Herford, Oliver

Tact is the ability to describe others as they see themselves.

- Lincoln, Abraham

Tact is the art of making a point without making an enemy.

- Newton, Howard W.

To have the reputation of possessing the most perfect social tact, talk to every woman as if you loved her, and to every man as if he bored you.

- Wilde, Oscar

Talent is something, but tact is everything. It is the interpreter of all riddles, the surmounter of all difficulties, the remover of all obstacles.

- Scargill, W. P.

Don't flatter yourself that friendship authorizes you to say disagreeable things to your intimates. The nearer you come into relation with a person, the more necessary do tact and courtesy become.

- Holmes, Oliver Wendell

Talk to every woman as if you loved her, and to every man as if he bored you, and at the end of your first season you will have the reputation of possessing the most perfect social tact.

- Wilde, Oscar

The habit of common and continuous speech is a symptom of mental deficiency. It proceeds from not knowing what is going on in other people's minds.

- Bagehot, Walter

No man ever listened himself out of a job.

- Coolidge, Calvin

What you do speaks so loud that I cannot hear what you say.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

To talk without thinking is to shoot without aiming.

- Proverb, English

The more you know the less you need to say.

- Rohn, Jim

The budget evolved from a management tool into an obstacle to management.

- Carlucci, Frank C.

Budgets are for cutting, that's why you set them.

- Buckman, Dr. Laurence

Some couples go over their budgets very carefully every month. Others just go over them.

- Poplin, Sally

Those who commit injustice bear the greatest burden.

- Ballou, Hosea

I do not pray for a lighter load, but for a stronger back.

- Brooks, Phillips

None knows the weight of another's burden.

- Herbert, George

It's easier traveling the road of life when I don't have so much to carry on my back.

- Mitchell, Silas Weir

God gave burdens, also shoulders.

- Proverb, Yiddish

The man who has nothing to do is always the busiest.

- Proverb, French

It is not enough to be busy. So are the ants. The question is: What are we busy about?

- Thoreau, Henry David

If you're too busy to help those around you succeed, you're too busy.

- Unknown, Source

Calamity is the perfect glass wherein we truly see and know ourselves.

- Davenant, William

Every calamity is a spur and valuable hint.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

Calamity is man's true touchstone.

- Fletcher, Beaumont and

Do not accustom yourself to consider debt only as an inconvenience. You will find it a calamity.

- Johnson, Samuel

It is only from the belief of the goodness and wisdom of a supreme being, that our calamities can be borne in the manner which becomes a man.

- Mackenzie, Henry

Calamity is the test of integrity.

- Richardson, Samuel

Calamity is virtue's opportunity.

- Seneca

He who foresees calamities, suffers them twice over.

- Porteous, Bishop

Frank and explicit -- that is the right line to take when you wish to conceal your own mind and to confuse the minds of others.

- Disraeli, Benjamin

Candor is the brightest gem of criticism.

- Disraeli, Benjamin

Always be ready to speak your mind, and a base man will avoid you.

- Blake, William

Candor is a proof of both a just frame of mind, and of a good tone of breeding. It is a quality that belongs equally to the honest man and to the gentleman.

- Cooper, James F.

There is no wisdom like frankness.

- Disraeli, Benjamin

Examine what is said, not him who speaks.

- Proverb, Arabian

Love must be as much a light, as it is a flame.

- Thoreau, Henry David

You're in a much better position to talk with people when they approach you than when you approach them.

- Pilgrim, Peace

Each of the professions means a prejudice. The necessity for a career forces every one to take sides. We live in the age of the overworked, and the under-educated; the age in which people are so industrious that they become absolutely stupid.

- Wilde, Oscar

The most successful career must show a waste of strength that might have removed mountains, and the most unsuccessful is not that of the man who is taken unprepared, but of him who has prepared and is never taken. On a tragedy of that kind our national morality is duly silent.

- Forster, Edward M.

Sometimes you wonder how you got on this mountain. But sometimes you wonder, How will I get off?

- Manley, Joan

The life-fate of the modern individual depends not only upon the family into which he was born or which he enters by marriage, but increasingly upon the corporation in which he spends the most alert hours of his best years.

- Mills, C. Wright

People don't choose their careers; they are engulfed by them.

- Passos, John Dos

If you think nobody cares if you're alive, try missing a couple of car payments.

- Wilson, Flip

Warm weather fosters growth: cold weather destroys it. Thus a man with an unsympathetic temperament has a scant joy: but a man with a warm and friendly heart overflowing blessings, and his beneficence will extend to posterity

- Hung Tzu-Cheng

Caring is a powerful business advantage.

- Johnson, Scott

I said something which gave you to think I hated cats. But gad, sir, I am one of the most fanatical cat lovers in the business. If you hate them, I may learn to hate you. If your allergies hate them, I will tolerate the situation to the best of my ability.

- Chandler, Raymond

The power of a movement lies in the fact that it can indeed change the habits of people. This change is not the result of force but of dedication, of moral persuasion.

- Biko, Steven

No cause is left but the most ancient of all, the one, in fact, that from the beginning of our history has determined the very existence of politics, the cause of freedom versus tyranny.

- Arendt, Hannah

In war, events of importance are the result of trivial causes.

- Caesar, Julius

Take away the cause, and the effect ceases.

- Cervantes, Miguel De

A good cause can become bad if we fight for it with means that are indiscriminately murderous. A bad cause can become good if enough people fight for it in a spirit of comradeship and self-sacrifice. In the end it is how you fight, as much as why you fight, that makes your cause good or bad.

- Dyson, Freeman

Truth never damages a cause that is just.

- Gandhi, Mahatma

It is only after an unknown number of unrecorded labors, after a host of noble hearts have succumbed in discouragement, convinced that ;their cause is lost; it is only then that cause triumphs.

- Guizot, Madame

The little trouble in the world that is not due to love is due to friendship.

- Howe, Edgar Watson

Respectable men and women content with good and easy living are missing some of the most important things in life. Unless you give ;yourself to some great cause you haven't even begun to live.

- Merrill, William P.

It isn't until you begin to fight in your own cause that you (a) become really committed to winning, and (b) become a genuine ally of other people struggling for their freedom.

- Morgan, Robin

Perhaps misguided moral passion is better than confused indifference.

- Murdoch, Iris

A man who has never lost himself in a cause bigger than himself has missed one of life's mountaintop experiences. Only in losing himself does he find himself. Only then does he discover all the latent strengths he never knew he had and which otherwise would have remained dormant.

- Nixon, Richard M.

No cause is helpless if it is just. Errors, no matter how popular, carry the seeds of their

own destruction.

- Scoville, John W.

The torment of precautions often exceeds the dangers to be avoided. It is sometimes better to abandon one's self to destiny.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Look twice before you leap.

- Bronte, Charlotte

To withdraw is not to run away, and to stay is no wise action, when there's more reason to fear than to hope.

- Cervantes, Miguel De

Be slow of tongue and quick of eye.

- Cervantes, Miguel De

Every human being has, like Socrates, an attendant spirit; and wise are they who obey its signals. If it does not always tell us what to do, it always cautions us what not to do.

- Child, Lydia M.

The chief danger in life is that you may take too many precautions.

- Adler, Alfred

Those who prepared for all the emergencies of life beforehand may equip themselves at the expense of joy.

- Forster, Edward M.

When a fox preaches, take care of your geese.

- Proverb

Always count the cost.

- Proverb, American

Don't dance on a volcano.

- Proverb, French

Of all the thirty-six alternatives, running away is best.

- Proverb, Chinese

Beware of one who has nothing to lose.

- Proverb, Italian

Beware of silent dogs and still waters.

- Proverb, Portuguese

Don't throw away the old bucket until you know whether the new one holds water.

- Proverb, Swedish

Of all forms of caution, caution in love is perhaps the most fatal to true happiness.

- Russell, Bertrand

It is a good thing to learn caution from the misfortunes of others.

- Syrus, Publilius

Beware of all enterprises that require a new set of clothes.

- Thoreau, Henry David

Caution is not cowardly. Carelessness is not courage

- Unknown, Source

A mousetrap always provides free cheese.

- Unknown, Source

Vigilance is the virtue of vice.

- Weber, C. J.

Beware of the man who works hard to learn something, learns it, and finds himself no wiser than before, Bokonon tells us. He is full of murderous resentment of people who are ignorant without having come by their ignorance the hard way.

- Vonnegut Jr., Kurt

Banality is a symptom of non-communication. Men hide behind their clich?s.

- Ionesco, Eugene

Banality is a terribly likely consequence of the underused of a good mind. That is why in particular it is a female affliction.

- Propper-Seton, Cynthia

When you jump for joy, beware that no one moves the ground from beneath your feet.

- Lec, Stanislaw J.

Never celebrate until you are really out of the woods. They might be behind the last tree.

- Unknown, Source

The more you praise and celebrate your life, the more there is in life to celebrate.

- Winfrey, Oprah

Whenever you make a mistake or get knocked down by life, don't look back at it too long. Mistakes are life's way of teaching you. Your capacity for occasional blunders is

inseparable from your capacity to reach your goals. No one wins them all, and your failures, when they happen, are just part of your growth. Shake off your blunders. How will you know your limits without an occasional failure? Never quit. Your turn will come.

- Mandino, Og

Minds are like parachutes, they only function when they are open.

- Dewar, Thomas Robert

The more you use your brain, the more brain you will have to use.

- Dorsey, George A.

Humility is the only true wisdom by which we prepare our minds for all the possible changes of life.

- Arliss, George

The trouble with most people is that they think with their hopes or fears or wishes, rather than their minds.

- Durant, William J.

Some virtues are only seen in affliction and others only in prosperity.

- Addison, Joseph

Love is but the discovery of ourselves in others, and the delight in the recognition.

- Smith, Alexander

Love is not a matter of counting the years -- it's making the years count.

- Smith, Wolfman Jack

Love... Force it and it disappears. You cannot will love, nor even control it. You can only guide its expression. It comes or it goes according to those qualities in life that invite it or deny its presence.

- Seabury, David

Love does not consist in gazing at each other, but in looking outward together in the same direction.

- Saint-Exupery, Antoine De

There is only one happiness in life -- to love and to be loved.

- Sand, George

Love is the emblem of eternity; it confounds all notion of time; effaces all memory of a beginning, all fear of an end.

- Stael, Germaine De

A heart is not judged by how much you love, but by how much you are loved, by others. (Wizard to the Tin Man)

- Movie, Wizard of Oz

Pure love is a willingness to give without a thought of receiving anything in return.

- Pilgrim, Peace

Only from the heart Can you touch the sky.

- Rumi, Jalal-Uddin

God doesn't give people talents that he doesn't want people to use.

- Eagle, Iron

Use what talents you possess; the woods would be very silent if no birds sang there except those that sang best.

- Dyke, Henry Van

Your talent is God's gift to you; what you do with it is your gift to God.

- Buscaglia, Leo

When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left and could say, I used everything you gave me..

- Bombeck, Erma

Talent is only the starting point.

- Berlin, Irving

There are two kinds of talent, man-made talent and God-given talent. With man-made talent you have to work very hard. With God-given talent, you just touch it up once in a while.

- Bailey, Pearl

At the touch of love, everyone becomes a poet.

- Plato

Love is much like a wild rose, beautiful and calm, but willing to draw blood in its defense.

- Overby, Mark

Love talked about is easily turned aside, but love demonstrated is irresistible.

- Mooneyham, Stan

I believe that every person is born with talent.

- Angelou, Maya

I hope our wisdom will grow with our power, and teach us, that the less we use our power the greater it will be.

- Jefferson, Thomas

You can't blame gravity for falling in love.

- Einstein, Albert

The secret to all power is to only do that which all would willingly do.

- Kinkel

The measure of a man is what he does with power.

- Pittacus

To achieve, you need thought. You have to know what you are doing and that's real power.

- Rand, Ayn

Gravitation can not be held responsible for people falling in love

- Einstein, Albert

Our power is not so much in us as through us.

- Fosdick, Harry Emerson

Power is not only what you have but what the enemy thinks you have.

- Alinsky, Saul

The purpose of getting power is to be able to give it away.

- Bevan, Aneurin

You can get more with a kind word and a gun than you can with a kind word alone.

- Capone, Al

The greatest power is often simple patience.

- Cossman, E. Joseph

All the power that we exercise over others depends on the power we exercise over ourselves.

- Cotvos

Problems can become opportunities when the right people come together.

- Redford, Robert

Problems are not stop signs, they are guidelines.

- Schuller, Robert H.

We have a problem. Congratulations. But it's a tough problem. Then double congratulations.

- Stone, W. Clement

Avoiding a problem doesn't solve it.

- Thornley, Bonnie Jean

Loss is nothing else but change, and change is Nature's delight.

- Aurelius, Marcus

The greatest problem you have is your greatest opportunity.

- Wickett, Michael

Do not worry about avoiding temptation. As you grow older it will avoid you.

- Adams, Joey

Temptations, unlike opportunities, will always give you many second chances.

- Battista, Orlando A.

There is a time in the life of every problem when it is big enough to see, yet small enough to solve.

- Leavitt, Mike

Problems are the price of progress. Don't bring me anything but trouble. Good news weakens me.

- Kettering, Charles F.

A problem clearly stated is a problem half solved.

- Brande, Dorothea

Problems cannot be solved at the same level of awareness that created them.

- Einstein, Albert

There are no big problems, there are just a lot of little problems.

- Ford, Henry

Most people spend more time and energy going around problems than in trying to solve them.

- Ford, Henry

We are all faced with a series of great opportunities brilliantly disguised as unsolvable problems.

- Gardner, John W.

We have no problems, only situations. Not all problems have solutions, but all situations have outcomes.

- Gray, John Edward

The best way out is always through.

- Keller, Helen

Temptations, when we first meet them, are like a lion that roared at Samson; but if we overcome them, the next time we see them we shall find a nest of honey within them.

- Bunyan, John

We gain the strength of the temptation we resist.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

To understand is to perceive patterns.

- Berlin, Sir Isaiah

Understanding brings control.

- Bonewitz

Work joyfully and peacefully, knowing that right thoughts and right efforts will inevitably bring about right results.

- Allen, James

Let the ideas clash but not the hearts.

- Mehta, C. C.

Successful people are simply people who learn to solve their problems... they are not people without problems.

- Unknown, Source

It is what we think we know already that often prevents us from learning.

- Bernard, Claude

I think knowing what you cannot do is more important than knowing what you can.

- Ball, Lucille

We usually know what we can do, but temptation shows us who we are.

- Kempis, Thomas

I find that a great part of the information I have, was acquired by looking up something and finding something else on the way.

- Adams, Franklin P.

Be curious always! For knowledge will not acquire you: you must acquire it.

- Back, Sudie

Help others achieve their dreams and you will achieve yours.

- Brown, Les

The harder you work, the harder it is to surrender.

- Lombardi, Vince

Love is composed of a single soul inhabiting two bodies.

- Aristotle

When you love someone all your saved-up wishes start coming out.

- Bowen, Elizabeth

Real love stories never have endings.

- Bach, Richard

What we do not understand, we cannot control.

- Reich, Charles

If you don't understand yourself you don't understand anybody else.

- Giovanni, Nikki

It is better to understand a little than to misunderstand a lot.

- France, Anatole

I started out with nothing. I still have most of it.

- Davis, Michael

Hope is a pleasant acquaintance, but an unsafe friend.

- Haliburton, Thomas C.

It is the business of thought to define things, to find the boundaries; thought, indeed, is a ceaseless process of definition. It is the business of Art to give things shape. Anyone who takes no delight in the firm outline of an object, or in its essential character, has no artistic sense. He cannot even be nourished by Art. Like Ephraim, he feeds upon the East wind, which has no boundaries.

- Palmer, Vance

In libertinage, nothing is frightful, because everything libertinage suggests is also a natural inspiration; the most extraordinary, the most bizarre acts, those which most arrantly seem to conflict with every law, every human institution... even those that are not frightful, and there is not one amongst them all that cannot be demonstrated within the boundaries of nature.

- Sade, Marquis De

Who questions much, shall learn much, and retain much.

- Bacon, Francis

A sudden bold and unexpected question doth many times surprise a man and lay him open.

- Bacon, Francis

A prudent question is one-half of wisdom.

- Bacon, Francis

Every clarification breeds new questions.

- Bloch, Arthur

... I believe the best test of a model is how well can the modeler answer the questions what do you know now that you did not know before? and how can you find out if it is true?

- Bower, Jim

For every why he had a wherefore.

- Butler, Samuel

Questions focus our thinking. Ask empowering questions like: What's good about this? What's not perfect about it yet? What am I going to do next time? How can I do this and have fun doing it?

- Connolly, Charles

Always the beautiful answer who asks a more beautiful question.

- Cummings, E.E. (Edward. E.)

It is not the answer that enlightens, but the question.

- Decouvertes

If you want a wise answer, ask a reasonable question.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

It is not enough for me to ask question; I want to know how to answer the one question that seems to encompass everything I face: What am I here for?

- Heschel, Abraham J.

If you do not ask the right questions, you do not get the right answers. A question asked in the right way often points to its own answer. Asking questions is the A-B-C of diagnosis. Only the inquiring mind solves problems.

- Hodnett, Edward

The uncreative mind can spot wrong answers, but it takes a very creative mind to spot wrong questions.

- Jay, Anthony

You can tell whether a man is clever by his answers. You can tell whether a man is wise by his questions.

- Mahfouz, Naguib

Question everything. Learn something. Answer nothing.

- Motto, Engineer's

Questions provide the key to unlocking our unlimited potential.

- Robbins, Anthony

Quality questions create a quality life. Successful people ask better questions, and as a result, they get better answers.

- Robbins, Anthony

By nature's kindly disposition most questions which it is beyond a man's power to answer do not occur to him at all.

- Santayana, George

No question is so difficult to answer as that which the answer is obvious.

- Shaw, George Bernard

The wise man questions the wisdom of others because he questions his own, the foolish man, because it is different from his own.

- Stein, Leo

No man really becomes a fool until he stops asking questions.

- Steinmetz, Charles

It's better to know some of the questions than all of the answers.

- Thurber, James

There are no foolish questions and no one becomes a fool until they have stopped asking questions.

- Unknown, Source

When someone says, That's a good question. You can be sure it's a lot better than the answer you're going to get.

- Unknown, Source

The word question is derived from the Latin quarrier (to seek) which is the same root as the word for quest. A creative life is a continued quest, and good questions can be very useful guides. Most useful are open-ended questions; they allow for fresh unanticipated answers to reveal themselves.

- Unknown, Source

An educated man is one who has finally discovered that there are some questions to which nobody has the answer.

- Unknown, Source

Beware of the man who knows the answer before he understands the question.

- Unknown, Source

He who knows all the answers has not yet been asked all the questions.

- Unknown, Source

Judge a person by their questions, rather than their answers.

- Voltaire

He must be very ignorant for he answers every question he is asked.

- Voltaire

To find the exact answer, one must first ask the exact question.

- Webster, S. Tobin

Man cannot be free if he does not know that he is subject to necessity, because his freedom is always won in his never wholly successful attempts to liberate himself from necessity.

- Arendt, Hannah

It is only to the happy that tears are a luxury.

- Moore, Thomas

The tears of the world are a constant quality. For each one who begins to weep, somewhere else another stops. The same is true of the laugh.

- Beckett, Samuel

I cry every chance I get.

- Gere, Richard

Whatever tears one may shed, in the end one always blows one's nose.

- Heine, Heinrich

Have a good cry, wash out your heart. If you keep it inside it'll tear you apart. Sometimes you lose, but you're gonna win if you just hang in.

- Hook, Dr.

What one generation sees as a luxury, the next sees as a necessity.

- Crosland, Anthony

Hate is such a luxurious emotion, it can only be spent on one we love.

- Udkoff, Bob

A point of view can be a dangerous luxury when substituted for insight and understanding.

- Mcluhan, Marshall

I cannot spare the luxury of believing that all things beautiful are what they seem.

- Halleck, Fitz-Greene

There are people who laugh to show their fine teeth; and there are those who cry to show their good hearts.

- Roux, Joseph

Crises bring out the best in the best of us, and the worst in the worst of us.

- Unknown, Source

A sentimentalist is simply one who desires to have the luxury of an emotion without paying for it.

- Wilde, Oscar

There is luxury in self-reproach. When we blame ourselves, we feel no one else has a right to blame us.

- Wilde, Oscar

Solitude is dangerous to reason, without being favorable to virtue. Remember that the solitary mortal is certainly luxurious, probably superstitious, and possibly mad.

- Johnson, Samuel

Sincerity is the luxury allowed, like diadems and authority, only to the highest rank. Every man alone is sincere. At the entrance of a second person, hypocrisy begins.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

We act as though comfort and luxury were the chief requirements of life, when all that we need to make us really happy is something to be enthusiastic about.

- Kingsley, Charles

Luxury is the wolf at the door and its fangs are the vanities and conceits germinated by success. When an artist learns this, he knows where the danger is.

- Williams, Tennessee

Under the rules of a society that cannot distinguish between profit and profiteering, between money defined as necessity and money defined as luxury, murder is occasionally obligatory and always permissible.

- Lapham, Lewis H.

The body sins once, and has done with its sin, for action is a mode of purification. Nothing remains then but the recollection of a pleasure, or the luxury of a regret.

- Wilde, Oscar

Men first feel necessity, then look for utility, next attend to comfort, still later amuse themselves with pleasure, thence grow dissolute in luxury, and finally go mad and waste their substance.

- Vico, Giambattista

All conservatives are such from personal defects. They have been effeminated by position or nature, born halt and blind, through luxury of their parents, and can only, like invalids, act on the defensive.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

Each class of society has its own requirements; but it may be said that every class teaches the one immediately below it; and if the highest class be ignorant, uneducated, loving display, luxuriousness, and idle, the same spirit will prevail in humbler life.

- Unknown, Source

In marriage there are no manners to keep up, and beneath the wildest accusations no real criticism. Each is familiar with that ancient child in the other who may erupt again. We are not ridiculous to ourselves. We are ageless. That is the luxury of the wedding ring.

- Bagnold, Enid

Money will buy a bed but not sleep; books but not brains; food but not appetite; finery but not beauty; a house but not a home; medicine but not health; luxuries but not culture; amusements but not happiness; religion but not salvation; a passport to everywhere but heaven.

- Unknown, Source

A metaphysician is one who, when you remark that twice two makes four, demands to know what you mean by twice, what by two, what by makes, and what by four. For asking such questions metaphysicians are supported in oriental luxury in the universities, and

respected as educated and intelligent men.

- Mencken, H. L.

Men are conservatives when they are least vigorous, or when they are most luxurious. They are conservatives after dinner, or before taking their rest; when they are sick or aged. In the morning, or when their intellect or their conscience has been aroused, when they hear music, or when they read poetry, they are radicals.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

As to the rout that is made about people who are ruined by extravagance, it is no matter to the nation that some individuals suffer. When so much general productive exertion is the consequence of luxury, the nation does not care though there are debtors; nay, they would not care though their creditors were there too.

- Johnson, Samuel

There is convincing evidence that the search for solitude is not a luxury but a biological need. Just as humans posses a herding instinct that keeps us close to others most of the time, we also have a conflicting drive to seek out solitude. If the distance between ourselves and others becomes too great, we experience isolation and alienation, yet if the proximity to others becomes too close, we feel smothered and trapped.

- Kottler, Jeffrey

Who could deny that privacy is a jewel? It has always been the mark of privilege, the distinguishing feature of a truly urbane culture. Out of the cave, the tribal teepee, the

pueblo, the community fortress, man emerged to build himself a house of his own with a shelter in it for himself and his diversions. Every age has seen it so. The poor might have to huddle together in cities for need's sake, and the frontiersman cling to his neighbors for the sake of protection. But in each civilization, as it advanced, those who could afford it chose the luxury of a withdrawing-place.

- Mcginley, Phyllis

Nothing prevents one from appearing natural as the desire to appear natural.

- La Rochefoucauld, Francois De

Though I can make my extravaganzas appear credible, I cannot make the truth appear so.

- Shaw, George Bernard

When virtue is lost, benevolence appears, when benevolence is lost right conduct appears, when right conduct is lost, expedience appears. Expediency is the mere shadow of right and truth; it is the beginning of disorder.

- Lao-Tzu

A liar begins with making falsehood appear like truth, and ends with making truth itself appear like falsehood.

- Shenstone, William

Money itself isn't lost or made, it's simply transferred from one perception to another. This

painting here. I bought it 10 years ago for 60 thousand dollars. I could sell it today for 600. The illusion has become real and the more real it becomes, the more desperately they want it.

- Stone, Oliver

To perceive means to immobilize... we seize, in the act of perception, something which outruns perception itself.

- Bergson, Henri L.

Do what you know and perception is converted into character.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

The reality of life is that your perceptions -- right or wrong -- influence everything else you do. When you get a proper perspective of your perceptions, you may be surprised how many other things fall into place.

- Birkman, Roger

Art the end result of perception, wisdom, intelligence, discipline, hard work, passion, luck, accident, and coincidence.

- Unknown, Source

The adjustment of reality to the masses and of the masses to reality is a process of unlimited scope, as much for thinking as for perception.

- Benjamin, Walter

Instinct is action taken in pursuance of a purpose, but without conscious perception of what the purpose is.

- Hartmann, Van

Good critical writing is measured by the perception and evaluation of the subject; bad critical writing by the necessity of maintaining the professional standing of the critic.

- Chandler, Raymond

Experience comprises illusions lost, rather than wisdom gained.

- Roux, Joseph

A pleasant illusion is better than a harsh reality.

- Bovee, Christian Nevell

Oh, how powerfully the magnet of illusion attracts.

- Gutzkow

Nothing is more sad than the death of an illusion.

- Koestler, Arthur

Reality is merely an illusion, albeit a very persistent one.

- Einstein, Albert

The most dangerous thing is illusion.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

Losing an illusion makes you wiser than finding a truth.

- Borne, Ludwig

Disability is a matter of perception. If you can do just one thing well, you're needed by someone.

- Navratilova, Martina

Only in quiet waters things mirror themselves undistorted. Only in a quiet mind is adequate perception of the world.

- Margolius, Hans

Why level downward to our dullest perception always, and praise that as common sense? The commonest sense is the sense of men asleep, which they express by snoring.

- Thoreau, Henry David

Disillusion is a natural stage that follows the holding of an illusion.

- Shaughnessy, Susan

Pleasure may come from illusion, but happiness can come only of reality.

- Chamfort, Sebastien-Roch Nicolas De

Pleasure can be supported by an illusion; but happiness rests upon truth.

- Chamfort, Sebastien-Roch Nicolas De

Much violence is based on the illusion that life is a property to be defended and not to be shared.

- Nouwen, Henri

We must select the Illusion which appeals to our temperament and embrace it with passion, if we want to be happy.

- Connolly, Cyril

For art to exist, for any sort of aesthetic activity or perception to exist, a certain physiological precondition is indispensable: intoxication.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

Censors tend to do what only psychotics do: they confuse reality with illusion.

- Cronenberg, David

Art has a double face, of expression and illusion, just like science has a double face: the reality of error and the phantom of truth.

- Daumal, Rene

The envied are like bureaucrats; the more impersonal they are, the greater the illusion (for themselves and for others) of their power.

- Berger, John

The greatest obstacle to discovery is not ignorance -- it is the illusion of knowledge.

- Boorstin, Daniel J.

The truly educated man is that rare individual who can separate reality from illusion.

- Unknown, Source

The one person who has more illusions than the dreamer is the man of action.

- Wilde, Oscar

Attachment is the great fabricator of illusions; reality can be attained only by someone who is detached.

- Weil, Simone

When our knowing exceeds our sensing, we will no longer be deceived by the illusions of our senses.

- Russell, Walter

There is no such thing as conversation. It is an illusion. There are intersecting

monologues, that is all.

- West, Rebecca

The distinction between the past, present and future is only a stubbornly persistent illusion.

- Einstein, Albert

A poor man with nothing in his belly needs hope, illusion, more than bread.

- Bernanos, Georges

Great feelings will often take the aspect of error, and great faith the aspect of illusion.

- Eliot, George

If you can talk brilliantly enough about a problem, it can create the consoling illusion that it has been mastered.

- Kubrick, Stanley

Prosperity or egalitarianism -- you have to choose. I favor freedom -- you never achieve real equality anyway: you simply sacrifice prosperity for an illusion.

- Llosa, Mario Vargas

There is no need to waste pity on young girls who are having their moments of disillusionment, for in another moment they will recover their illusion.

- Colette, Sidonie Gabrielle

You too must not count too much on your reality as you feel it today, since like yesterday, it may prove an illusion for you tomorrow.

- Pirandello, Luigi

No other human being, no woman, no poem or music, book or painting can replace alcohol in its power to give man the illusion of real creation.

- Duras, Marguerite

It is dangerous to let the public behind the scenes. They are easily disillusioned and then they are angry with you, for it was the illusion they loved.

- Maugham, W. Somerset

The thing about performance, even if it's only an illusion, is that it is a celebration of the fact that we do contain within ourselves infinite possibilities.

- Lewis, Daniel Day

We're born alone, we live alone, we die alone. Only through our love and friendship can we create the illusion for the moment that we're not alone.

- Welles, Orson

Life is a constant oscillation between the sharp horns of dilemmas.

- Mencken, H. L.

Work to survive, survive by consuming, survive to consume: the hellish cycle is complete.

- Vaneigem, Raoul

Believe me, there exists no such dilemma as that in which a gentleman is placed when he is forced to reply to a blackguard.

- Poe, Edgar Allan

Friendship is unnecessary, like philosophy, like art. It has no survival value; rather it is one of those things that give value to survival.

- Lewis, C. S.

We realize our dilemma goes deeper than shortage of time; it is basically a problem of priorities. We confess, We have left undone those things that ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.

- Hummel, Charles E.

We once worried that democracy could not survive if an undereducated populace knew too little. Now we worry if it can survive us knowing too much.

- Bianco, Robert

One may survive distress, but not disgrace.

- Proverb, Scottish

It is a miracle that curiosity survives formal education.

- Einstein, Albert

Learning is not compulsory but neither is survival.

- Deming, W. Edwards

It takes a very deep-rooted opinion to survive unexpressed.

- Rostand, Jean

Reason is a whore, surviving by simulation, versatility, and shamelessness.

- Cioran, E. M.

Surviving well is your finest revenge.

- Nito, Morgan

Self-confidence is the result of a successfully survived risk.

- Gibb, Jack

One important key to success is self-confidence. An important key to self-confidence is preparation.

- Ashe, Arthur

The history of the world is full of men who rose to leadership, by sheer force of self-confidence, bravery and tenacity.

- Gandhi, Mahatma

A competent and self-confident person is incapable of jealousy in anything. Jealousy is invariably a symptom of neurotic insecurity.

- Long, Lazarus

Calm self-confidence is as far from conceit as the desire to earn a decent living is remote from greed.

- Pollock, Channing

There's one blessing only, the source and cornerstone of beatitude -- confidence in self.

- Seneca

It is easy -- terribly easy -- to shake a man's faith in himself. To take advantage of that to break a man's spirit is devil's work.

- Shaw, George Bernard

Do not attempt to do a thing unless you are sure of yourself; but do not relinquish it simply because someone else is not sure of you.

- White, Stewart E.

Change is difficult but often essential to survival.

- Brown, Les

He who attacks must vanquish. He who defends must merely survive.

- Kahn, Master

Creative minds have always been known to survive any kind of bad training.

- Freud, Anna

Only the insane have strength enough to survive. Only the survivors determine what is sane.

- Unknown, Source

Life comes from physical survival; but the good life comes from what we care about.

- May, Rollo

To live is to suffer, to survive is to find some meaning in the suffering.

- Flack, Roberta

To survive it is often necessary to fight and to fight you have to dirty yourself.

- Orwell, George

Authority has every reason to fear the skeptic, for authority can rarely survive in the face of doubt.

- Lindner, Robert

Notice that the stiffest tree is most easily cracked, while the bamboo or willow survives by bending with the wind.

- Lee, Bruce

It is not the strongest of the species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change.

- Darrow, Clarence

No democracy can long survive which does not accept as fundamental to its very existence the recognition of the rights of minorities.

- Roosevelt, Franklin D.

As poverty has been reduced in terms of mere survival, it has become more profound in terms of our way of life.

- Vaneigem, Raoul

Anyone who has struggled with poverty knows how extremely expensive it is to be poor.

- Baldwin, James

Publicity is the life of this culture. Without publicity capitalism could not survive and at the same time publicity is its dream.

- Berger, John

You don't develop courage by being happy in your relationships everyday. You develop it by surviving difficult times and challenging adversity.

- Angelis, Barbara De

What allows us, as human beings, to psychologically survive life on earth, with all of its pain, drama, and challenges, is a sense of purpose and meaning

- Angelis, Barbara De

The more connections you and your lover make, not just between your bodies, but between your minds, your hearts, and your souls, the more you will strengthen the fabric of your relationship, and the more real moments you will experience together.

- Angelis, Barbara De

Love is a force more formidable than any other. It is invisible -- it cannot be seen or measured, yet it is powerful enough to transform you in a moment, and offer you more joy than any material possession could.

- Angelis, Barbara De

Love and kindness are never wasted. They always make a difference. They bless the one who receives them, and they bless you, the giver.

- Angelis, Barbara De

No matter what age you are, or what your circumstances might be, you are special, and you still have something unique to offer. Your life, because of who you are, has meaning.

- Angelis, Barbara De

Difficult times always create opportunities for you to experience more love in your life.

- Angelis, Barbara De

Men are just as sensitive, and in some ways more sensitive, than women are.

- Angelis, Barbara De

We need to find the courage to say NO to the things and people that are not serving us if we want to rediscover ourselves and live our lives with authenticity.

- Angelis, Barbara De

Nothing exists until or unless it is observed. An artist is making something exist by observing it. And his hope for other people is that they will also make it exist by observing it. I call it creative observation. Creative viewing.

- Burroughs, William S.

However, no two people see the external world in exactly the same way. To every separate person a thing is what he thinks it is --in other words, not a thing, but a think.

- Fitzgerald, Penelope

The difference between a mountain and a molehill is your perspective.

- Neuharth, Al

We must always tell what we see. Above all, and this is more difficult, we must always see what we see.

- Peguy, Charles

Man is the only animal for whom his own existence is a problem which he has to solve.

- Fromm, Erich

Existence is no more than the precarious attainment of relevance in an intensely mobile flux of past, present, and future.

- Sontag, Susan

Life's an awfully lonesome affair. You come into the world alone and you go out of the world alone yet it seems to me you are more alone while living than even going and coming.

- Carr, Emily

Not only does democracy make every man forget his ancestors, but also clouds their view of their descendants and isolates them from their contemporaries. Each man is for ever thrown back on himself alone, and there is danger that he may be shut up in the solitude of his own heart.

- Tocqueville, Alexis De

God's delays are not God's denials.

- Schuller, Robert H.

If thou canst walk on water, thou art no better than a straw. If thou canst fly in the air, thou art no better than a fly. Conquer thy heart that thou mayest become somebody.

- Ansari

Self mastery comes through denial of the little things.

- Unknown, Source

Security is when everything is settled. When nothing can happen to you. Security is the denial of life.

- Greer, Germaine

Never think that God's delays are God's denials. Hold on; Hold fast; Hold out. Patience is genius.

- Buffon, Georges-Louis Leclerc

Genius is nothing but a great capacity for patience.

- Buffon, Georges-Louis Leclerc

The human mind cannot create anything. It produces nothing until after having been fertilized by experience and meditation; its acquisitions are the gems of its production.

- Buffon, Georges-Louis Leclerc

Doubt, indulged and cherished, is in danger of becoming denial; but if honest, and bent on thorough investigation, it may soon lead to full establishment of the truth.

- Edwards, Tryon

A price has to be paid for success. Almost invariably those who have reached the summits worked harder and longer, studied and planned more assiduously, practiced more self-denial, overcame more difficulties than those of us who have not risen so far.

- Forbes, B. C.

Mental toughness is many things. It is humility because it behooves all of us to remember that simplicity is the sign of greatness and meekness is the sign of true strength. Mental toughness is spartanism with qualities of sacrifice, self-denial, dedication. It is fearlessness, and it is love.

- Lombardi, Vince

Self-acceptance comes from meeting life's challenges vigorously. Don't numb yourself to your trials and difficulties, nor build mental walls to exclude pain from your life. You will find peace not by trying to escape your problems, but by confronting them courageously. You will find peace not in denial, but in victory.

- Walters, J. Donald

People who have attained things worth having in this world have worked while others have idled, have persevered while others gave up in despair, and have practiced early in life the valuable habits of self-denial, industry, and singleness of purpose. As a result, they enjoy in later life the success often erroneously attributed to good luck.

- Kleiser, Grenville

Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow.

- Beattie, Melody

This socialism will develop in all its phases until it reaches its own extremes and absurdities. Then once again a cry of denial will break from the titanic chest of the revolutionary minority and again a mortal struggle will begin, in which socialism will play the role of contemporary conservatism and will be overwhelmed in the subsequent revolution, as yet unknown to us.

- Herzen, Alexander

Radical simply means grasping things at the root.

- Davis, Angela Y.

People who use their erudition to write for a learned minority... don't seem to me favored by fortune but rather to be pitied for their continuous self-torture. They add, change, remove, lay aside, take up, rephrase, show to their friends, keep for nine years and are never satisfied. And their futile reward, a word of praise from a handful of people, they win at such a cost -- so many late nights, such loss of sleep, sweetest of all things, and so much sweat and anguish... their health deteriorates, their looks are destroyed, they suffer partial or total blindness, poverty, ill-will, denial of pleasure, premature old age and early death.

- Erasmus, Desiderius

If you find a good solution and become attached to it, the solution may become your next problem.

- Anthony, Dr. Robert

Never let the other fellow set the agenda.

- Baker, James

Nature has placed mankind under the government of two sovereign masters, pain and pleasure... they govern us in all we do, in all we say, in all we think: every effort we can make to throw off our subjection, will serve but to demonstrate and confirm it.

- Bentham, John

Don't take the bull by the horns, take him by the tail; then you can let go when you want to.

- Billings, Josh

The strong man is the one who is able to intercept at will the communication between the senses and the mind.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

I have never been lost, but I will admit to being confused for several weeks.

- Boone, Daniel

Confusion of goals and perfection of means seems, in my opinion, to characterize our age.

- Einstein, Albert

I'm not confused, I'm just well mixed.

- Frost, Robert

If confusion is the first step to knowledge, I must be a genius.

- Leissner, Larry

Confusion is a word we have invented for an order which is not yet understood.

- Miller, Henry

When people are taken out of their depths they lose their heads, no matter how charming a bluff they may put up.

- Unknown, Source

It has to be displayed, this face, on a more or less horizontal plane. Imagine a man wearing a mask, and imagine that the elastic which holds the mask on has just broken, so that the man (rather than let the mask slip off) has to tilt his head back and balance the mask on his real face. This is the kind of tyranny which Lawson's face exerts over the rest of his body as he cruises along the corridors. He doesn't look down his nose at you, he looks along his nose.

- Fenton, James

The consuming desire of most human beings is deliberately to plant their whole life in the hands of some other person. I would describe this method of searching for happiness as immature. Development of character consists solely in moving toward self-sufficiency.

- Crisp, Quentin

Flow with whatever is happening and let your mind be free. Stay centered by accepting whatever you are doing. This is the ultimate.

- Chuang Tzu

However great a man's fear of life, suicide remains the courageous act, the clear-headed act of a mathematician. The suicide has judged by the laws of chance -- so many odds against one that to live will be more miserable than to die. His sense of mathematics is greater than his sense of survival. But think how a sense of survival must clamor to be heard at the last moment, what excuses it must present of a totally unscientific nature.

- Greene, Graham

The only justification for repressive institutions is material and cultural deficit. But such institutions, at certain stages of history, perpetuate and produce such a deficit, and even threaten human survival.

- Chomsky, Noam

We never stop investigating. We are never satisfied that we know enough to get by. Every question we answer leads on to another question. This has become the greatest survival trick of our species.

- Morris, Desmond

Both class and race survive education, and neither should. What is education then? If it doesn't help a human being to recognize that humanity is humanity, what is it for? So you can make a bigger salary than other people?

- Richards, Beah

The misery of the middle-aged woman is a gray and hopeless thing, born of having nothing to live for, of disappointment and resentment at having been gypped by consumer

society, and surviving merely to be the butt of its unthinking scorn.

- Greer, Germaine

Once one determines that he or she has a mission in life, that's it's not going to be accomplished without a great deal of pain, and that the rewards in the end may not outweigh the pain --if you recognize historically that always happens, then when it comes, you survive it.

- Nixon, Richard M.

One reason writers write is out of revenge. Life hurts; certain ideas and experiences hurt; one wants to clarify, to set out illuminations, to replay the old bad scenes and get the Treppenworte said -- the words one didn't have the strength or ripeness to say when those words were necessary for one's dignity or survival.

- Ozick, Cynthia

I understood that all the material of a literary work was in my past life, I understood that I had acquired it in the midst of frivolous amusements, in idleness, in tenderness and in pain, stored up by me without my divining its destination or even its survival, as the seed has in reserve all the ingredients which will nourish the plant.

- Proust, Marcel

The books one reads in childhood, and perhaps most of all the bad and good bad books, create in one's mind a sort of false map of the world, a series of fabulous countries into which one can retreat at odd moments throughout the rest of life, and which in some

cases can survive a visit to the real countries which they are supposed to represent.

- Orwell, George

The Trojans lost the war because they fell for a really dumb trick. hey, there's a gigantic wooden horse outside and all the Greeks have left. Let's bring it inside! Not a formula for long-term survival. Now if they had formed a task force to study the Trojan Horse and report back to a committee, everyone wouldn't have been massacred.. Who says middle management is useless?

- Engst, Adam C.

There is an urgent need -- in fact a national survival need -- for invigorating intellectual life, for upgrading the general regard for intellectual excellence. The United States must experience an intellectual renaissance or it will experience defeat. The time cannot be far off -- if indeed it is not already here -- when the strength of a nation, measured in terms of any kind of world competition, will depend less on the number of its bombs than on the number of its learned men.

- Roper, Elmo

Our children will not survive our habits of thinking, our failures of the spirit, our wreck of the universe into which we bring new life as blithely as we do. Mostly, our children will resemble our own misery and spite and anger, because we give them no choice about it. In the name of motherhood and fatherhood and education and good manners, we threaten and suffocate and bind and ensnare and bribe and trick children into wholesale emulation of our ways.

- Jordan, June

Just as the office worker dreams of murdering his hated boss and so is saved from really murdering him, so it is with the author; with his great dreams he helps his readers to survive, to avoid their worst intentions. And society, without realizing it respects and even exalts him, albeit with a kind of jealousy, fear and even repulsion, since few people want to discover the horrors that lurk in the depths of their souls. This is the highest mission of great literature, and there is no other.

- Sabato, Ernesto

It is all a question of sensitiveness. Brute force and overbearing may make a terrific effect. But in the end, that which lives by delicate sensitiveness. If it were a question of brute force, not a single human baby would survive for a fortnight. It is the grass of the field, most frail of all things, that supports all life all the time. But for the green grass, no empire would rise, no man would eat bread: for grain is grass; and Hercules or Napoleon or Henry Ford would alike be denied existence.

- Lawrence, D. H.

In terms of the game theory, we might say the universe is so constituted as to maximize play. The best games are not those in which all goes smoothly and steadily toward a certain conclusion, but those in which the outcome is always in doubt. Similarly, the geometry of life is designed to keep us at the point of maximum tension between certainty and uncertainty, order and chaos. Every important call is a close one. We survive and evolve by the skin of our teeth. We really wouldn't want it any other way.

- Leonard, George

Survival, with honor, that outmoded and all-important word, is as difficult as ever and as all-important to a writer. Those who do not last are always more beloved since no one has to see them in their long, dull, unrelenting, no-quarter-given-and-no-quarter-received, fights that they make to do something as they believe it should be done before they die. Those who die or quit early and easy and with every good reason are preferred because they are understandable and human. Failure and well-disguised cowardice are more human and more beloved.

- Hemingway, Ernest

It is impossible for capitalism to survive, primarily because the system of capitalism needs some blood to suck. Capitalism used to be like an eagle, but now it's more like a vulture. It used to be strong enough to go and suck anybody's blood whether they were strong or not. But now it has become more cowardly, like the vulture, and it can only suck the blood of the helpless. As the nations of the world free themselves, the capitalism has less victims, less to suck, and it becomes weaker and weaker. It's only a matter of time in my opinion before it will collapse completely.

- Malcolm X

America has run the world for at least the past 50 years, and when you're at the top that long, you forget what it's like in the valley. There are 5+ billion people out there now who are willing to study harder, work harder for less money and be more industrious than we are. And we're linked to them by technology. With telecommunications, you can have your bookkeeping done in Madra, India, for less than it costs here. Today technology can replace whole new industries, so you have to stay flexible. To survive today, you have to

be able to walk on quicksand and dance with electrons.

- Ogden, Frank

The price which society pays for the law of competition, like the price it pays for cheap comforts and luxuries, is great; but the advantages of this law are also greater still than its cost -- for it is to this law that we owe our wonderful material development, which brings improved conditions in its train. But, whether the law be benign or not, we must say of it: It is here; we cannot evade it; no substitutes for it have been found; and while the law may be sometimes hard for the individual, it is best for the race, because it ensures the survival of the fittest in every department.

- Carnegie, Andrew

Common-sense is part of the home-made ideology of those who have been deprived of fundamental learning, of those who have been kept ignorant. This ideology is compounded from different sources: items that have survived from religion, items of empirical knowledge, items of protective skepticism, items culled for comfort from the superficial learning that is supplied. But the point is that common-sense can never teach itself, can never advance beyond its own limits, for as soon as the lack of fundamental learning has been made good, all items become questionable and the whole function of common-sense is destroyed. Common-sense can only exist as a category insofar as it can be distinguished from the spirit of inquiry, from philosophy.

- Berger, John

In this society, the norm of masculinity is phallic aggression. Male sexuality is, by definition, intensely and rigidly phallic. A man's identity is located in his conception of

himself as the possessor of a phallus; a man's worth is located in his pride in phallic identity. The main characteristic of phallic identity is that worth is entirely contingent on the possession of a phallus. Since men have no other criteria for worth, no other notion of identity, those who do not have phalluses are not recognized as fully human.

- Dworkin, Andrea

Integrity simple means not violating one's own identity.

- Fromm, Erich

A faculty for idleness implies a catholic appetite and a strong sense of personal identity.

- Stevenson, Robert Louis

We cannot feel strongly toward the totally unlike because it is unimaginable, unrealizable; nor yet toward the wholly like because it is stale -- identity must always be dull company. The power of other natures over us lies in a stimulating difference which causes excitement and opens communication, in ideas similar to our own but not identical, in states of mind attainable but not actual.

- Cooley, Charles Horton

An identity would seem to be arrived at by the way in which the person faces and uses his experience.

- Baldwin, James

Every man must define his identity against his mother. If he does not, he just falls back

into her and is swallowed up.

- Paglia, Camille

From the equality of rights springs identity of our highest interests; you cannot subvert your neighbor's rights without striking a dangerous blow at your own.

- Schurz, Carl

Considered logically this concept is not identical with the totality of sense impressions referred to; but it is an arbitrary creation of the human (or animal) mind.

- Einstein, Albert

Every human being has hundreds of separate people living under his skin. The talent of a writer is his ability to give them their separate names, identities, personalities and have them relate to other characters living with him.

- Brooks, Mel

An identity is questioned only when it is menaced, as when the mighty begin to fall, or when the wretched begin to rise, or when the stranger enters the gates, never, thereafter, to be a stranger. Identity would seem to be the garment with which one covers the nakedness of the self: in which case, it is best that the garment be loose, a little like the robes of the desert, through which one's nakedness can always be felt, and, sometimes, discerned. This trust in one's nakedness is all that gives one the power to change one's robes.

- Baldwin, James

In the theory of gender I began from zero. There is no masculine power or privilege I did not covet. But slowly, step by step, decade by decade, I was forced to acknowledge that even a woman of abnormal will cannot escape her hormonal identity.

- Paglia, Camille

There is in every child a painstaking teacher, so skilful that he obtains identical results in all children in all parts of the world. The only language men ever speak perfectly is the one they learn in babyhood, when no one can teach them anything!

- Montessori, Maria

Labor is work that leaves no trace behind it when it is finished, or if it does, as in the case of the tilled field, this product of human activity requires still more labor, incessant, tireless labor, to maintain its identity as a work of man.

- Mccarthy, Mary

When committees gather, each member is necessarily an actor, uncontrollably acting out the part of himself, reading the lines that identify him, asserting his identity. We are designed, coded, it seems, to place the highest priority on being individuals, and we must do this first, at whatever cost, even if it means disability for the group.

- Thomas, Lewis

Identity is a bag and a gag. Yet it exists for me with all the force of a fatal disease. Obviously I am here, a mind and a body. To say there's no proof my body exists would be

arty and specious and if my mind is more ephemeral, less provable, the solution of being a writer with solid (touchable, tearable, burnable) books is as close as anyone has come to a perfect answer.

- Rossner, Judith

The acorn becomes an oak by means of automatic growth; no commitment is necessary. The kitten similarly becomes a cat on the basis of instinct. Nature and being are identical in creatures like them. But a man or woman becomes fully human only by his or her choices and his or her commitment to them. People attain worth and dignity by the multitude of decisions they make from day by day. These decisions require courage.

- May, Rollo

Romantic love, in pornography as in life, is the mythic celebration of female negation. For a woman, love is defined as her willingness to submit to her own annihilation. The proof of love is that she is willing to be destroyed by the one whom she loves, for his sake. For the woman, love is always self-sacrifice, the sacrifice of identity, will, and bodily integrity, in order to fulfill and redeem the masculinity of her lover.

- Dworkin, Andrea

How beautiful is youth! how bright it gleams with its illusions, aspirations, dreams! Book of Beginnings, Story without End, Each maid a heroine, and each man a friend!

- Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth

What is life? A frenzy. What is life? An illusion, a shadow, a fiction. And the greatest good

is trivial; for all life is a dream and all dreams are dreams.

- Calderon de la Barca, Pedro

We trained hard ... but it seemed that every time we were beginning to form up into teams we would be reorganized. I was to learn later in life that we tend to meet any new situation by reorganizing; and a wonderful method it can be for creating the illusion of progress while producing confusion, inefficiency, and demoralization

- Arbiter, Gauis Petronius

A wonderful realization will be the day you realize that you are unique in all the world. There is nothing that is an accident. You are a special combination for a purpose-and don't let them tell you otherwise, even if they tell you that purpose is an illusion. (Live an illusion if you have to). You are that combination so that you can do what is essential for you to do. Don't ever believe that you have nothing to contribute. The world is an incredible unfulfilled tapestry. And only you can fulfill that tiny space that is yours.

- Buscaglia, Leo

Hope is a bad thing. It means that you are not what you want to be. It means that part of you is dead, if not all of you. It means that you entertain illusions. It's a sort of spiritual clap, I should say.

- Miller, Henry

One of the illusions of life is that the present hour is not the critical, decisive hour. Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year. No man has learned anything

rightly, until he knows that every day is Doomsday.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

For what we call illusions are often, in truth, a wider vision of past and present realities --a willing movement of a man's soul with the larger sweep of the world's forces --a movement towards a more assured end than the chances of a single life.

- Eliot, George

People who have realized that this is a dream imagine that it is easy to wake up, and are angry with those who continue sleeping, not considering that the whole world that environs them does not permit them to wake. Life proceeds as a series of optical illusions, artificial needs and imaginary sensations.

- Herzen, Alexander

Who knows what true loneliness is -- not the conventional word, but the naked terror? To the lonely themselves it wears a mask. The most miserable outcast hugs some memory or some illusion. Now and then a fatal conjunction of events may lift the veil for an instant. For an instant only. No human being could bear a steady view of moral solitude without going mad.

- Conrad, Joseph

Both abundance and lack exist simultaneously in our lives, as parallel realities. It is always our conscious choice which secret garden we will tend... when we choose not to focus on what is missing from our lives but are grateful for the abundance that's present -- love,

health, family, friends, work, the joys of nature and personal pursuits that bring us pleasure -- the wasteland of illusion falls away and we experience Heaven on earth.

- Breathnach, Sarah Ban

Until the philosophy which holds one race superior and another inferior is finally and permanently discredited and abandoned, everywhere is war and until there are no longer first-class and second-class citizens of any nation, until the color of a man's skin is of no more significance than the color of his eyes. And until the basic human rights are equally guaranteed to all without regard to race, there is war. And until that day, the dream of lasting peace, world citizenship, rule of international morality, will remain but a fleeting illusion to be pursued, but never attained... now everywhere is war.

- Selassie, Haile

The non permanent appearance of happiness and distress, and their disappearance in due course, are like the appearance and disappearance of summer and winter seasons.

- Bhagavad Gita

In all professions each affects a look and an exterior to appear what he wishes the world to believe that he is. Thus we may say that the whole world is made up of appearances.

- La Rochefoucauld, Francois De

A good man often appears gauche simply because he does not take advantage of the myriad mean little chances of making himself look stylish. Preferring truth to form, he is not constantly at work upon the fa?ade of his appearance.

- Murdoch, Iris

Understand clearly that when a great need appears a great use appears also; when there is small need there is small use; it is obvious, then, that full use is made of all things at all times according to the necessity thereof.

- Zenji, Dogen

Necessity is not an established fact, but rather an interpretation.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

All meanings, we know, depend on the key of interpretation.

- Eliot, George

Reality, if rightly interpreted, is grander than fiction.

- Carlyle, Thomas

I have always thought the actions of men the best interpreters of their thoughts.

- Locke, John

In good films, there is always a directness that entirely frees us from the itch to interpret.

- Sontag, Susan

To grasp the full significance of life is the actor's duty, to interpret it is his problem, and to

express it his dedication.

- Brando, Marlon

No story is the same to us after a lapse of time; or rather we who read it are no longer the same interpreters.

- Eliot, George

To be prepared against surprise is to be trained. To be prepared for surprise is to be educated.

- Carse, James

When you're prepared, you're more confident. When you have a strategy, you're more comfortable.

- Couples, Fred

It's better to look ahead and prepare than to look back and regret.

- Kersee, Jackie Joyner

If you are prepared, you will be confident, and will do the job.

- Landry, Tom

I will prepare and some day my chance will come.

- Lincoln, Abraham

Unless you have prepared yourself to profit by your chance, the opportunity will only make you ridiculous. A great occasion is valuable to you just in proportion as you have educated yourself to make use of it.

- Marden, Orison Swett

You hit home runs not by chance but by preparation.

- Maris, Roger

In the field of observation, chance favors only the prepared minds.

- Pasteur, Louis

The will to win is important, but the will to prepare is vital.

- Paterno, Joe

Thorough preparation makes its own luck.

- Poyer, Joe

If you're prepared, then you're able to feel confident.

- Ringer, Robert J.

Preparing mentally takes more out of you than the physical aspect of it.

- Sanders, Summer

Trust in your preparation.

- Sheppard, Davie

The general who wins the battle makes many calculations in his temple before the battle is fought. The general who loses makes but few calculations beforehand.

- Sun Tzu

The success of your presentation will be judged not by the knowledge you send but by what the listener receives.

- Walters, Lily

Change means movement. Movement means friction. Only in the frictionless vacuum of a nonexistent abstract world can movement or change occur without that abrasive friction of conflict.

- Alinsky, Saul

Men always fall for frigid women because they put on the best show.

- Brice, Fanny

When I die, I want people to play my music, go wild and freak out and do anything they want to do.

- Hendrix, Jimi

When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace.

- Hendrix, Jimi

Thank You Friend I never came to you, my friend, and went away without some new enrichment of the heart; More faith and less of doubt, more courage in the days ahead. And often in great need coming to you, I went away comforted indeed. How can I find the shining word, the glowing phrase that tells all that your love has meant to me, all that your friendship spells? There is no word, no phrase for you on whom I so depend. All I can say to you is this, God bless you precious friend.

- Crowell, Grace Noll

Constant repetition carries conviction.

- Collier, Robert

You know that when I hate you, it is because I love you to a point of passion that unhinges my soul.

- Lespinasse, Julie De

History shows that the majority of people that have done anything great have passed their youth in seclusion.

- Carlyle, Thomas

A man's thinking goes on within his consciousness in a seclusion in comparison with which any physical seclusion is an exhibition to public view.

- Wittgenstein, Ludwig

Thought means life, since those who do not think so do not live in any high or real sense. Thinking makes the man.

- Alcott, Amos Bronson

There is a fellowship more quiet even than solitude, and which, rightly understood, is solitude made perfect.

- Stevenson, Robert Louis

Solitude, though it may be silent as light, is like light, the mightiest of agencies; for solitude is essential to man. All men come into this world alone and leave it alone.

- Quincey, Thomas De

It is easy in the world to live after the world's opinions; it is easy in solitude to live after your own; but the great man is he who in the midst of the crowd keeps with perfect sweetness the independence of solitude.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

The fool needs company, the wise solitude.

- Ruckett

The mark of solitude is silence, as speech is the mark of community. Silence and speech have the same inner correspondence and difference as do solitude and community. One does not exist without the other. Right speech comes out of silence, and right silence comes out of speech.

- Bonhoeffer, Dietrich

This great misfortune -- to be incapable of solitude.

- Bruyere, Jean De La

Conversation enriches the understanding; but solitude is the school of genius.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

One of the greatest necessities in America is to discover creative solitude.

- Sandburg, Carl

Great men are like eagles, and build their nest on some lofty solitude.

- Schopenhauer, Arthur

Whosoever is delighted in solitude is either a wild beast or a god.

- Bacon, Francis

It is the dim haze of mystery that adds enchantment to pursuit.

- Rivarol, Antoine

Ideas are a capital that bears interest only in the hands of talent.

- Rivarol, Antoine

Memory always obeys the commands of the heart.

- Rivarol, Antoine

To lose one's self in reverie, one must be either very happy, or very unhappy. Reverie is the child of extremes.

- Rivarol, Antoine

Speech is external thought, and thought internal speech.

- Rivarol, Antoine

In that sweet mood when pleasant thoughts bring sad thoughts to the mind.

- Wordsworth, William

Reverie is when ideas float in our mind without reflection or regard of the understanding.

- Locke, John

Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything.

- Shaw, George Bernard

Do not follow where the path may lead. Go, instead, where there is no path and leave a trail.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

A generation which ignores history has no past and no future.

- Heinlein, Robert

Immature love says: I love you because I need you. Mature love says: I need you because I love you.

- Fromm, Erich

Of all Gods creatures there is only one that cannot be made the slave of the lash. That one is the cat. If man could be crossed with the cat it would improve man, but it would deteriorate the cat.

- Twain, Mark

If you are planning on doing business with someone again, don't be too tough in the negotiations. If you're going to skin a cat, don't keep it as a house cat.

- Levin, Marvin S.

How people treat you is their karma; how you react is yours.

- Dyer, Wayne

Insanity is often the logic of an accurate mind overtasked.

- Holmes, Oliver Wendell

Insanity destroys reason, but not wit.

- Emmons, Nathaniel

I doubt if a single individual could be found from the whole of mankind free from some form of insanity. The only difference is one of degree. A man who sees a gourd and takes it for his wife is called insane because this happens to very few people.

- Erasmus, Desiderius

There's a fine line between genius and insanity. I have erased this line.

- Levant, Oscar

Dreaming permits each and everyone of us to be quietly and safely insane every night of our lives.

- Dement, William

Revolution, in order to be creative, cannot do without either a moral or metaphysical rule to balance the insanity of history.

- Camus, Albert

People generally treat me like I'm very intelligent and really, I'm much less intelligent than she is. Scully is insanely intelligent.

- Anderson, Gillian

Let us consider that we are all partially insane. It will explain us to each other; it will unriddle many riddles; it will make clear and simple many things which are involved in haunting and harassing difficulties and obscurities now.

- Twain, Mark

Well, love is insanity. The ancient Greeks knew that. It is the taking over of a rational and lucid mind by delusion and self-destruction. You lose yourself, you have no power over yourself, you can't even think straight.

- French, Marilyn

When two people are under the influence of the most violent, most insane, most delusive, and most transient of passions, they are required to swear that they will remain in that excited, abnormal, and exhausting condition continuously until death do them part.

- Shaw, George Bernard

When a man asks himself what is meant by action he proves that he isnt a man of action. Action is a lack of balance. In order to act you must be somewhat insane. A reasonably sensible man is satisfied with thinking.

- Clemenceau, Georges

The world we see that seems so insane is the result of a belief system that is not working. To perceive the world differently, we must be willing to change our belief system, let the past slip away, expand our sense of now, and dissolve the fear in our minds.

- Jampolsky, Gerald G.

Burning lies led to my silent cries Keeping it inside I've got everything to hide. lustful desire, a burning fire You are the flame, You are to blame. Beautiful light deliver me from fright dreams full of lust. Or is the dream dreaming us? PHYSICAL PAIN don't call me insane. I don't want to be dead but all beautiful colors bleed to red

- Unknown, Source

Excellence is to do a common thing in an uncommon way.

- Washington, Booker T.

The uncommon man is merely the common man thinking and dreaming of success in larger terms and in more fruitful areas.

- Powers, Melvin

When you can do the common things in life in a uncommon way, you will command the attention of the world.

- Carver, George Washington

Success consists of doing the common things of life uncommonly well.

- Unknown, Source

Common sense always speaks too late. Common sense is the guy who tells you ought to have had your brakes relined last week before you smashed a front end this week. Common sense is the Monday morning quarterback who could have won the ball game if he had been on the team. But he never is. He's high up in the stands with a flask on his hip. Common sense is the little man in a gray suit who never makes a mistake in addition. But it's always somebody else's money he's adding up.

- Chandler, Raymond

Achievement is not the most important thing -- Authenticity is

- Unknown, Source

To accomplish great things we must first dream, then visualize, then plan... believe... act!

- Montapert, Alfred A.

Be daring, be different, be impractical, be anything that will assert integrity of purpose and imaginative vision against the play-it-safers, the creatures of the commonplace, the slaves of the ordinary.

- Beaton, Sir Cecil

A work can become modern only if it is first postmodern. Postmodernism thus understood is not modernism at its end but in the nascent state, and this state is constant.

- Lyotard, Jean Francois

We have a Bill of rights. What we need is a Bill of responsibilities.

- Maher, Bill

Experience is a good teacher, but she sends in terrific bills.

- Antrim, Minna

My doctor gave me six months to live but when I couldn't pay the bill, he gave me six months more.

- Matthau, Walter

Without music to decorate it, time is just a bunch of boring production deadlines or dates by which bills must be paid.

- Zappa, Frank

Too many people confine their exercise to jumping to conclusions, running up bills, stretching the truth, bending over backward, lying down on the job, sidestepping responsibility and pushing their luck.

- Unknown, Source

Civil Rights: What black folks are given in the U.S. on the installment plan, as in civil-rights bills. Not to be confused with human rights, which are the dignity, stature, humanity,

respect, and freedom belonging to all people by right of their birth.

- Gregory, Dick

The women who take husbands not out of love but out of greed, to get their bills paid, to get a fine house and clothes and jewels; the women who marry to get out of a tiresome job, or to get away from disagreeable relatives, or to avoid being called an old maid -- these are whores in everything but name. The only difference between them and my girls is that my girls gave a man his money's worth.

- Adler, Polly

If this nation is to be wise as well as strong, if we are to achieve our destiny, then we need more new ideas for more wise men reading more good books in more public libraries. These libraries should be open to allexcept the censor. We must know all the facts and hear all the alternatives and listen to all the criticisms. Let us welcome controversial books and controversial authors. For the Bill of Rights is the guardian of our security as well as our liberty.

- Kennedy, John F.

Most people think life sucks, and then you die. Not me. I beg to differ. I think life sucks, then you get cancer, then your dog dies, your wife leaves you, the cancer goes into remission, you get a new dog, you get remarried, you owe ten million dollars in medical bills but you work hard for thirty-five years and you pay it back and then -- one day -- you have a massive stroke, your whole right side is paralyzed, you have to limp along the streets and speak out of the left side of your mouth and drool but you go into rehabilitation and regain the power to walk and the power to talk and then -- one day -- you step off a

curb at Sixty-seventh Street, and BANG you get hit by a city bus and then you die. Maybe.

- Leary, Denis

What it comes down to is this: the grocer, the butcher, the baker, the merchant, the landlord, the druggist, the liquor dealer, the policeman, the doctor, the city father and the politician -- these are the people who make money out of prostitution, these are the real reapers of the wages of sin.

- Adler, Polly

The whore is despised by the hypocritical world because she has made a realistic assessment of her assets and does not have to rely on fraud to make a living. In an area of human relations where fraud is regular practice between the sexes, her honesty is regarded with a mocking wonder.

- Carter, Angela

The prostitute is not, as feminists claim, the victim of men but rather their conqueror, an outlaw who controls the sexual channel between nature and culture.

- Paglia, Camille

So do not think of helpful whores as aberrational blots; I could not love you half so well without my practice shots.

- Simmons, James Stewart Alexander

As blushing will sometimes make a whore pass for a virtuous woman, so modesty may

make a fool seem a man of sense.

- Swift, Jonathan

The best weapon against an enemy is another enemy.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

Great intellects are skeptical.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

After coming into contact with a religious man I always feel I must wash my hands.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

Beggars should be entirely abolished! Truly, it is annoying to give to them and annoying not to give to them.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

People of genius whenever they are faced with misfortune find resources within themselves.

- Brouhours

But curb thou the high spirit in thy breast, for gentle ways are best, and keep aloof from sharp contentions.

- Homer

There are two things which cannot be attacked in front: ignorance and narrow-mindedness. They can only be shaken by the simple development of the contrary qualities. They will not bear discussion.

- Acton, Lord

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