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The pain of love is the pain of being alive. It is a perpetual wound.

- Duffy, Maureen

There are no gains without pains.

- Franklin, Benjamin

The more unintelligent a man is, the less mysterious existence seems to him.

- Schopenhauer, Arthur

Almost all of our sorrows spring out of our relations with other people.

- Schopenhauer, Arthur

Books are like a mirror. If an ass looks in, you can't expect an angel to look out.

- Schopenhauer, Arthur

Suicide may also be regarded as an experiment -- a question which man puts to Nature, trying to force her to answer. The question is this: What change will death produce in a man's existence and in his insight into the nature of things? It is a clumsy experiment to make; for it involves the destruction of the very consciousness which puts the question and awaits the answer.

- Schopenhauer, Arthur

Will power is to the mind like a strong blind man who carries on his shoulders a lame man who can see.

- Schopenhauer, Arthur

A man can do what he wants, but not want what he wants.

- Schopenhauer, Arthur

Only by joy and sorrow does a person know anything about themselves and their destiny. They learn what to do and what to avoid.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

Do not give in too much to feelings. A overly sensitive heart is an unhappy possession on this shaky earth.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

Man... knows only when he is satisfied and when he suffers, and only his sufferings and his satisfactions instruct him concerning himself, teach him what to seek and what to avoid. For the rest, man is a confused creature; he knows not whence he comes or whither he goes, he knows little of the world, and above all, he knows little of himself.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

Nothing is more terrible than to see ignorance in action.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

The greater the knowledge, the greater the doubt.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

In the end we retain from our studies only that which we practically apply.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

A person hears only what they understand.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

If I love you, what business is it of yours?

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

Love is an ideal thing, marriage a real thing; a confusion of the real with the ideal never goes unpunished.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

The world is for thousands a freak show; the images flicker past and vanish; the impressions remain flat and unconnected in the soul. Thus they are easily led by the opinions of others, are content to let their impressions be shuffled and rearranged and evaluated differently.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

We do not have to visit a madhouse to find disordered minds; our planet is the mental institution of the universe.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

If you treat an individual... as if he were what he ought to be and could be, he will become what he ought to be and could be.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

By seeking and blundering we learn.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

People may live as much retired from the world as they like, but sooner or later they find themselves debtor or creditor to some one.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

Trust yourself, then you will know how to live.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

Self-love exaggerates our faults as well as our virtues.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

Thinking is easy, acting is difficult, and to put one's thoughts into action is the most difficult thing in the world.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

If you must tell me your opinions, tell me what you believe in. I have plenty of doubts of my own.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

Everybody wants to be somebody; nobody wants to grow.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

Thinking is more interesting than knowing, but less interesting than looking.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

All truly wise thoughts have been thoughts already thousands of times; but to make them truly ours, we must think them over again honestly, till they take root in our personal experience.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

No one should be rich except those who understand it.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

The people who are absent are the ideal; those who are present seem to be quite

commonplace.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

No one would talk much in society if they knew how often they misunderstood others.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

Where there is much light, the shadow is deep.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

If you do not the expect the unexpected you will not find it, for it is not to be reached by search or trail.

- Heraclitus

Immortal mortals, mortal immortals, one living the others death and dying the others life.

- Heraclitus

You cannot step twice into the same river, for other waters are continually flowing on.

- Heraclitus

There is no means of proving it is preferable to be than not to be.

- Cioran, E. M.

The fanatic is incorruptible: if he kills for an idea, he can just as well get himself killed for

one; in either case, tyrant or martyr, he is a monster.

- Cioran, E. M.

Only one endowed with restless vitality is susceptible to pessimism. You become a pessimist --a demonic, elemental, bestial pessimist --only when life has been defeated many times in its fight against depression.

- Cioran, E. M.

When you have understood that nothing is, that things do not even deserve the status of appearances, you no longer need to be saved, you are saved, and miserable forever.

- Cioran, E. M.

Speech and silence. We feel safer with a madman who talks than with one who cannot open his mouth.

- Cioran, E. M.

It is not worth the bother of killing yourself, since you always kill yourself too late.

- Cioran, E. M.

The obsession with suicide is characteristic of the man who can neither live nor die, and whose attention never swerves from this double impossibility.

- Cioran, E. M.

A sudden silence in the middle of a conversation suddenly brings us back to essentials: it reveals how dearly we must pay for the invention of speech.

- Cioran, E. M.

Criticism is a misconception: we must read not to understand others but to understand ourselves.

- Cioran, E. M.

There is but one truly serious philosophical problem and that is suicide. Judging whether life is or is not worth living amounts to answering the fundamental question of philosophy. All the rest -- whether or not the world has three dimensions, whether the mind has nine or twelve categories -- comes afterwards. These are games; one must first answer.

- Camus, Albert

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

He who does not accept and respect those who want to reject life does not truly accept and respect life itself.

- Szasz, Thomas

In addition to my other numerous acquaintances, I have one more intimate confidant. My depression is the most faithful mistress I have known -- no wonder, then, that I return the love.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

It belongs to the imperfection of everything human that man can only attain his desire by passing through its opposite.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

There is nothing with which every man is so afraid as getting to know how enormously much he is capable of doing and becoming.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

People demand freedom of speech to make up for the freedom of thought which they avoid.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

I feel as if I were a piece in a game of chess, when my opponent says of it: That piece cannot be moved.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

It is quite true what Philosophy says: that Life must be understood backwards. But that

makes one forget the other saying: that it must be lived --forwards. The more one ponders this, the more it comes to mean that life in the temporal existence never becomes quite intelligible, precisely because at no moment can I find complete quiet to take the backward-looking position.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Life has its own hidden forces which you can only discover by living.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Truth always rests with the minority, and the minority is always stronger than the majority, because the minority is generally formed by those who really have an opinion, while the strength of a majority is illusory, formed by the gangs who have no opinion -- and who, therefore, in the next instant (when it is evident that the minority is the stronger) assume its opinion... while truth again reverts to a new minority.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Prayer does not change God, but changes him who prays.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

The most terrible fight is not when there is one opinion against another, the most terrible is when two men say the same thing -- and fight about the interpretation, and this interpretation involves a difference of quality.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Face the facts of being what you are, for that is what changes what you are.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

It is so hard to believe because it is so hard to obey.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

I divide my time as follows: half the time I sleep, the other half I dream. I never dream when I sleep, for that would be a pity, for sleeping is the highest accomplishment of genius.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

How ironical that it is by means of speech that man can degrade himself below the level of dumb creation -- for a chatterbox is truly of a lower category than a dumb creature.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

People commonly travel the world over to see rivers and mountains, new stars, garish birds, freak fish, grotesque breeds of human; they fall into an animal stupor that gapes at existence and they think they have seen something.

- Kierkegaard, SÃ¸ren

Friendship is almost always the union of a part of one mind with the part of another; people are friends in spots.

- Santayana, George

History is always written wrong, and so always needs to be rewritten.

- Santayana, George

The lover knows much more about absolute good and universal beauty than any logician or theologian, unless the latter, too, be lovers in disguise.

- Santayana, George

Almost every wise saying has an opposite one, no less wise, to balance it.

- Santayana, George

Society is like the air, necessary to breathe but insufficient to live on.

- Santayana, George

The universe, as far as we can observe it, is a wonderful and immense engine.

- Santayana, George

To be happy we must not be too concerned with others.

- Camus, Albert

Instead of killing and dying in order to produce the being that we are not, we have to live and let live in order to create what we are.

- Camus, Albert

To live is to hurt others, and through others, to hurt oneself. Cruel earth! How can we manage not to touch anything? To find what ultimate exile?

- Camus, Albert

There's no need to hang about waiting for the last judgment. It takes place every day.

- Camus, Albert

The modern mind is in complete disarray. Knowledge has stretched itself to the point where neither the world nor our intelligence can find any foot-hold. It is a fact that we are suffering from nihilism.

- Camus, Albert

Those who lack the courage will always find a philosophy to justify it.

- Camus, Albert

In the depth of winter I finally learned that within me there lay an invincible summer.

- Camus, Albert

Human relationships always help us to carry on because they always presuppose further developments, a future --and also because we live as if our only task was precisely to have relationships with other people.

- Camus, Albert

Nothing is more despicable than respect based on fear.

- Camus, Albert

The struggle itself towards the heights is enough to fill a man's heart. One must imagine Sisyphus happy.

- Camus, Albert

Beauty is unbearable, drives us to despair, offering us for a minute the glimpse of an eternity that we should like to stretch out over the whole of time.

- Camus, Albert

The world in which we were called to exist was an absurd world, and there was no other in which we could take refuge.

- Camus, Albert

Men are convinced of your arguments, your sincerity, and the seriousness of your efforts only by your death.

- Camus, Albert

To talk without thinking is to shoot without aiming.

- Proverb, English

At the entrance of a second person, hypocrisy begins.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

With people of limited ability modesty is merely honesty. But with those who possess great talent it is hypocrisy.

- Schopenhauer, Arthur

If you are possessed by an idea, you find it expressed everywhere, you even smell it.

- Mann, Thomas

Mediocre people have an answer for everything and are astonished at nothing. They always want to have the air of knowing better than you what you are going to tell them; when, in their turn, they begin to speak, they repeat to you with the greatest confidence, as if dealing with their own property, the things that they have heard you say yourself at some other place. A capable and superior look is the natural accompaniment of this type of character.

- Delacroix, Eugene

Saying what we think gives a wider range of conversation than saying what we know.

- Hightower, Cullen

Conversation would be vastly improved by the constant use of four simple words: I do not know.

- Maurois, Andre

There is no such thing as conversation. It is an illusion. There are intersecting monologues, that is all.

- West, Rebecca

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

You live in a deranged age, more deranged that usual, because in spite of great scientific and technological advances, man has not the faintest idea of who he is or what he is doing.

- Percy, Walker

The fact that you are willing to say, I do not understand, and it is fine, is the greatest understanding you could exhibit.

- Dyer, Wayne

From a certain point onward there is no longer any turning back. That is the point that must be reached.

- Kafka, Franz

You can hold yourself back from the sufferings of the world, that is something you are free to do and it accords with your nature, but perhaps this very holding back is the one suffering you could avoid.

- Kafka, Franz

A writer who writes, I am alone... can be considered rather comical. It is comical for a man to recognize his solitude by addressing a reader and by using methods that prevent the individual from being alone. The word alone is just as general as the word bread. To pronounce it is to summon to oneself the presence of everything the word excludes.

- Blanchot, Maurice

No matter how close to yours another's steps have grown, in the end there is one dance you'll do alone.

- Browne, Jackson

Solitary trees, if they grow at all, grow strong.

- Churchill, Winston

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

Solitude is impractical and yet society is fatal.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

Violent passions are formed in solitude. In the busy world no object has time to make a deep impression.

- Home, Henry

Solitude gives birth to the original in us, to beauty unfamiliar and perilous- to poetry. But also, it gives birth to the opposite: to the perverse, the illicit, the absurd.

- Mann, Thomas

If you pray for rain, don't be surprised if you're struck by lightning.

- Cannon, Damien

I guess I just prefer to see the dark side of things. The glass is always half-empty. And cracked. And I just cut my lip on it. And chipped a tooth.

- Garofalo, Janeane

A pessimist is a person who has had to listen to too many optimists.

- Marquis, Don

In the long run, the pessimist may be proven right, but the optimist has a better time on the trip.

- Readon, Daniel

When it is dark enough, you can see the stars.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

We talk of choosing our friends, but friends are self-elected

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

A true friend is somebody who can make us do what we can.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

A friend is a person with whom I may be sincere. Before him, I may think aloud.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

Finish each day and be done with it. You have done what you could. Some blunders and absurdities no doubt crept in; forget them as soon as you can. Tomorrow is a new day; begin it well and serenely and with too high a spirit to be encumbered with your old nonsense.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

Heroism feels and never reasons, and therefore is always right.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

In failing circumstances no one can be relied on to keep their integrity.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

Our chief want in life is somebody who will make us do what we can.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

The power of love, as the basis of a State, has never been tried.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

Leave this hypocritical prating about the masses. Masses are rude, lame, unmade, pernicious in their demands and influence, and need not to be flattered, but to be schooled. I wish not to concede anything to them, but to tame, drill, divide, and break them up, and draw individuals out of them.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

We do what we must, and call it by the best names.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

Sooner or later that which is now life shall be poetry, and every fair and manly trait shall add a richer strain to the song.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

The big mistake that men make is that when they turn thirteen or fourteen and all of a sudden they've reached puberty, they believe that they like women. Actually, you're just horny. It doesn't mean you like women any more at twenty-one than you did at ten.

- Feiffer, Jules

When you are seventeen you aren't really serious.

- Rimbaud, Arthur

Friendship is Love without his wings!

- Byron, Lord

True friendship comes when silence between two people is comfortable.

- Gentry, David Tyson

Love is blind; friendship closes its eyes.

- Unknown, Source

When all is said and done, friendship is the only trustworthy fabric of the affections. So-called love is a delirious inhuman state of mind: when hot it substitutes indulgence for fair play; when cold it is cruel, but friendship is warmth in cold, firm ground in a bog.

- Franklin, Miles

Tis the privilege of friendship to talk nonsense, and have her nonsense respected.

- Lamb, Charles

Between friends differences in taste or opinion are irritating in direct proportion to their triviality.

- Auden, W. H.

It is well, when judging a friend, to remember that he is judging you with the same godlike and superior impartiality.

- Bennett, Arnold

False friends are like our shadow, keeping close to us while we walk in the sunshine, but leaving us the instant we cross into the shade.

- Bovee, Christian Nevell

Love is like the wild rose-briar; Friendship like the holly-tree. The holly is dark when the rose-briar blooms, but which will bloom most constantly?

- Bronte, Emily

Friendship is a pretty full-time occupation if you really are friendly with somebody. You can't have too many friends because then you're just not really friends.

- Capote, Truman

What is a friend? I will tell you it is someone with whom you dare to be yourself.

- Crane, Frank

Friendship is held to be the severest test of character. It is easy, we think, to be loyal to a family and clan, whose blood is in your own veins. Love between a man and a woman is founded on the mating instinct and is not free from desire and self-seeking. But to have a friend and to be true under any and all trials is the mark of a man!

- Eastman, Charles Alexander

An open foe may prove a curse, but a pretended friend is worse.

- Gay, John

The friend in my adversity I shall always cherish most. I can better trust those who helped to relieve the gloom of my dark hours than those who are so ready to enjoy with me the sunshine of my prosperity.

- Grant, Ulysses S.

Instead of loving your enemies -- treat your friends a little better.

- Howe, Edgar Watson

He is a fine friend. He stabs you in the front.

- Levinson, Leonard Louis

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.

Each friend represents a world in us, a world possibly not born until they arrive, and it is only by this meeting that a new world is born.

- Nin, Anais

The good fellow to everyone is a good friend to no one.

- Proverb, Jewish

We learn our virtues from our friends who love us; our faults from the enemy who hates us. We cannot easily discover our real character from a friend. He is a mirror, on which the warmth of our breath impedes the clearness of the reflection.

- Richter, Jean Paul

A friend is one that knows you as you are, understands where you have been, accepts what you have become, and still, gently allows you to grow.

- Shakespeare, William

True friendship can afford true knowledge. It does not depend on darkness and ignorance.

- Thoreau, Henry David

Friendship is love with understanding.

- Unknown, Source

May God defend me from my friends; I can defend myself from my enemies.

- Voltaire

No person is your friend who demands your silence, or denies your right to grow.

- Walker, Alice

All love that has not friendship for its base, is like a mansion built upon the sand.

- Wilcox, Ella Wheeler

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

The world is a dangerous place to live; not because of the people who are evil, but because of the people who don't do anything about it.

- Einstein, Albert

Once the game is over, the king and the pawn go back into the same box.

- Proverb, Italian

If you insist upon fighting to protect me, or our country, let it be understood soberly and rationally between us that you are fighting to gratify a sex instinct which I cannot share; to procure benefits which I have not shared and probably will not share.

- Woolf, Virginia

Young women... you are, in my opinion, disgracefully ignorant. You have never made a discovery of any sort of importance. You have never shaken an empire or led an army into battle. The plays by Shakespeare are not by you, and you have never introduced a barbarous race to the blessings of civilization. What is your excuse?

- Woolf, Virginia

When a subject is highly controversial... one cannot hope to tell the truth. One can only show how one came to hold whatever opinion one does hold. One can only give one's audience the chance of drawing their own conclusions as they observe the limitations, the prejudices, the idiosyncrasies of the speaker.

- Woolf, Virginia

There is love of course. And then there's life, its enemy.

- Anouilh, Jean

Oh, love is real enough; you will find it someday, but it has one archenemy -- and that is life.

- Ardele, Jean Anouilh

To fall in love is to create a religion that has a fallible god.

- Borges, Jorge Luis

If I place love above everything, it is because for me it is the most desperate, the most despairing state of affairs imaginable.

- Breton, Andre

Love comes when manipulation stops; when you think more about the other person than about his or her reactions to you. When you dare to reveal yourself fully. When you dare to be vulnerable.

- Brothers, Dr. Joyce

Love is not enough. It must be the foundation, the cornerstone -- but not the complete structure. It is much too pliable, too yielding.

- Davis, Bette

Love makes the wildest spirit tame, and the tamest spirit wild.

- Delp, Alexis

Love built on beauty, soon as beauty, dies.

- Donne, John

Love works a different way in different minds, the fool it enlightens and the wise it blinds.

- Dryden, John

Lovers are fools, but Nature makes them so.

- Hubbard, Elbert

Love is never lost. If not reciprocated, it will flow back and soften and purify the heart.

- Irving, Washington

Do you want me to tell you something really subversive? Love is everything it's cracked up to be. That's why people are so cynical about it. It really is worth fighting for, being brave for, risking everything for. And the trouble is, if you don't risk anything, you risk even more.

- Jong, Erica

Love in marriage should be the accomplishment of a beautiful dream, and not, as it too often is, the end.

- Karr, Alphonse

If we are to judge of love by its consequences, it more nearly resembles hatred than friendship.

- La Rochefoucauld, Francois De

What's terrible is to pretend that the second-rate is first-rate, that you don't need love when you do or that you like your work when you know quite well you're capable of better.

- Lessing, Doris

If you were going to die soon and had only one phone call you could make, who would you call and what would you say? And why are you waiting?

- Levine, Stephen

A man has only one escape from his old self: to see a different self in the mirror of some woman's eyes.

- Luce, Clare Boothe

People who are not in love fail to understand how an intelligent man can suffer because of a very ordinary woman. This is like being surprised that anyone should be stricken with cholera because of a creature so insignificant as the comma bacillus.

- Proust, Marcel

Let the lover be disgraceful, crazy, absent-minded. Someone sober will worry about events going badly. Let the lover be.

- Rumi, Jalal-Uddin

Loving can cost a lot but not loving always costs more, and those who fear to love often

find that want of love is an emptiness that robs the joy from life.

- Shan, Merle

Jealousy is indeed a poor medium to secure love, but it is a secure medium to destroy one's self-respect. For jealous people, like dope-fiends, stoop to the lowest level and in the end inspire only disgust and loathing.

- Goldman, Emma

Love, the strongest and deepest element in all life, the harbinger of hope, of joy, of ecstasy; love, the defier of all laws, of all conventions; love, the freest, the most powerful molder of human destiny; how can such an all-compelling force be synonymous with that poor little State and Church-begotten weed, marriage?

- Goldman, Emma

Neurosis has an absolute genius for malingering. There is no illness which it cannot counterfeit perfectly. If it is capable of deceiving the doctor, how should it fail to deceive the patient?

- Proust, Marcel

Fear cannot be without hope nor hope without fear.

- Spinoza, Baruch (Benedict de)

The coward threatens when he is safe.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

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