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Worry is a cycle of inefficient thoughts whirling around a center of fear.

- Boom, Corrie Ten

Marriage is our last, best chance to grow up.

- Barth, Joseph

The curse which lies upon marriage is that too often the individuals are joined in their weakness rather than in their strength --each asking from the other instead of finding pleasure in giving. It is even more deceptive to dream of gaining through the child a plenitude, a warmth, a value, which one is unable to create for oneself; the child brings joy only to the woman who is capable of disinterestedly desiring the happiness of another, to one who without being wrapped up in self seeks to transcend her own existence.

- Beauvoir, Simone De

Never marry a man who hates his mother, because he'll end up hating you.

- Bennett, Jill

Before marriage a man yearns for a woman. Afterward the y is silent.

- Clarke, W. A.

Grief walks upon the heels of pleasure; married in haste, we repent at leisure.

- Congreve, William

Marriage accustomed one to the good things, so one came to take them for granted, but magnified the bad things, so they came to feel as painful as a grain in one's eye. An open window, a forgotten quart of milk, a TV set left blaring, socks on the bathroom floor could become occasions for incredible rage. And something happened sexually in marriage --the swearing to forsake all others, despite its slight observance, had a profound effect. Some people felt trapped by it, impelled to assert what they called freedom. Some accepted it like a rein, and in the effort to avoid pain in the form of hopeless desire, cut off occasions of desire, avoided having long talks at parties with attractive members of the opposite sex. In time, all feeling for the opposite sex was cut off, and intercourse limited to the barest politesses. But something happened to you when you did that, a kind of death seeped up from the genitals to the rest of the body, till it showed in the eyes, the gestures, in a certain lifelessness.

- French, Marilyn

Every time a woman makes herself laugh at her husband's often-told jokes she betrays him. The man who looks at his woman and says What would I do without you? is already destroyed.

- Greer, Germaine

There is a rhythm to the ending of a marriage just like the rhythm of a courtship --only backward. You try to start again but get into blaming over and over. Finally you are both worn out, exhausted, hopeless. Then lawyers are called in to pick clean the corpses. The

death has occurred much earlier.

- Jong, Erica

Whenever a husband and wife begin to discuss their marriage they are giving evidence at a coroner's inquest.

- Mencken, H. L.

If there is such a thing as a good marriage, it is because it resembles friendship rather than love.

- Montaigne, Michel Eyquem De

Marriage is for women the commonest mode of livelihood, and the total amount of undesired sex endured by women is probably greater in marriage than in prostitution.

- Russell, Bertrand

It resembles a pair of shears, so joined that they cannot be separated, often moving in opposite directions, yet always punishing anyone who comes between them.

- Smith, Sydney

The value of marriage is not that adults produce children, but that children produce adults.

- Vries, Peter De

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