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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

I have learned more about love, selflessness and human understanding in this great adventure in the world of AIDS than I ever did in the cut-throat, competitive world in which I spent my life.

- Perkins, Anthony

The agent never receipts his bill, puts his hat on and bows himself out. He stays around forever, not only for as long as you can write anything that anyone will buy, but as long as anyone will buy any portion of any right to anything that you ever did write. He just takes ten per cent of your life.

- Chandler, Raymond

Never accept a drink from a Urologist.

- Bombeck, Erma

I never drink water. I'm afraid it will become habit-forming.

- Fields, W. C.

I never drink water; that is the stuff that rusts pipes.

- Fields, W. C.

You can't trust water: Even a straight stick turns crooked in it.

- Fields, W. C.

The cost of living has gone up another dollar a quart.

- Fields, W. C.

Somebody left the cork out of my lunch.

- Fields, W. C.

Even though a number of people have tried, no one has ever found a way to drink for a living.

- Kerr, Jean

A few years back I was more a candidate for skid row bum than an Emmy. If I hadn't stopped [drinking], I'd be playing handball with John Belushi right now.

- Larroquette, John

I always wake up at the crack of ice.

- Lewis, Joe E.

I don't drink any more than the man next to me, and the man next to me is Dean Martin.

- Lewis, Joe E.

A man is never drunk if he can lay on the floor without holding on.

- Lewis, Joe E.

I drink to forget I drink.

- Lewis, Joe E.

If you drink, don't drive. Don't even putt.

- Martin, Dean

A prohibitionist is the sort of man one couldn't care to drink with, even if he drank.

- Mencken, H. L.

I do not live in the world of sobriety.

- Reed, Oliver

It takes that je ne sais quoi which we call sophistication for a woman to be magnificent in a drawing-room when her faculties have departed but she herself has not yet gone home.

- Thurber, James

Sometimes too much drink is barely enough.

- Twain, Mark

The piano has been drinking, not me.

- Waits, Tom

Ambition is a poor excuse for not having sense enough to be lazy.

- McCarthy, Charlie

Don't be afraid to give up the good to go for the great.

- Rogers, Kenny

Ambition is the last refuge of failure.

- Wilde, Oscar

I tend to play mostly villains and twisted people. Unsavory guys. I think it's my face, the way I look.

- Walken, Christopher

I don't consider myself bald, I'm just taller than my hair.

- Sharp, Tom

The essence of all art is to have pleasure in giving pleasure

- Baryshnikov, Mikhail

The reward of art is not fame or success but intoxication: that is why so many bad artists are unable to give it up.

- Connolly, Cyril

An artist is a creature driven by demons. He doesn't know why they choose him and he's usually too busy to wonder why.

- Faulkner, William

I don't want life to imitate art. I want life to be art.

- Fisher, Carrie

A work of art is above all an adventure of the mind.

- Ionesco, Eugene

I'm still an artist. I'm never gonna do a shit movie, because I've got my modeling to support me.

- Jovovich, Milla

Irresponsibility is part of the pleasure of all art; it is the part the schools cannot recognize.

- Kael, Pauline

To speak of morals in art is to speak of legislature in sex. Art is the sex of the imagination.

- Nathan, George Jean

Art is the signature of civilizations.

- Sills, Beverly

Art -- the one achievement of Man which has made the long trip up from all fours seem well advised.

- Thurber, James

Art is parasitic on life, just as criticism is parasitic on art.

- Tynan, Kenneth

An artist is somebody who produces things that people don't need to have.

- Warhol, Andy

Bad art is a great deal worse than no art at all.

- Wilde, Oscar

I'm an atheist and I thank God for it.

- Shaw, George Bernard

Every crowd has a silver lining.

- Barnum, P.T.

I never let them cough. They wouldn't dare.

- Barrymore, Ethel

I'm not here for your amusement. You're here for mine.

- Rotten, John Lydon

Never treat your audience as customers, always as partners.

- Stewart, Jimmy

An audience is never wrong. An individual member of it may be an imbecile, but a thousand imbeciles together in the dark -- that is critical genius.

- Wilder, Billy

I'm not ugly, but my beauty is a total creation.

- Banks, Tyra

Contraceptives should be used on all conceivable occasions.

- Milligan, Spike

I'm the end of the line; absurd and appalling as it may seem, serious New York theater has died in my lifetime.

- Miller, Arthur

You can cage the singer but not the song.

- Belafonte, Harry

Instead of asking -- How much damage will the work in question bring about? why not ask -- How much good? How much joy?

- Miller, Henry

Censorship ends in logical completeness when nobody is allowed to read any books except the books nobody reads.

- Shaw, George Bernard

Right now I think censorship is necessary; the things they're doing and saying in films right now just shouldn't be allowed. There's no dignity anymore and I think that's very important.

- West, Mae

The making of a picture ought surely to be a rather fascinating adventure. It is not; it is an endless contention of tawdry egos, some of them powerful, almost all of them vociferous,

and almost none of them capable of anything much more creative than credit-stealing and self-promotion.

- Chandler, Raymond

The motion picture is like a picture of a lady in a half-piece bathing suit. If she wore a few more clothes, you might be intrigued. If she wore no clothes at all, you might be shocked. But the way it is, you are occupied with noticing that her knees are too bony and that her toenails are too large. The modern film tries too hard to be real. Its techniques of illusion are so perfect that it requires no contribution from the audience but a mouthful of popcorn.

- Chandler, Raymond

All you need for a movie is a gun and a girl.

- Godard, Jean-Luc

As far as the filmmaking process is concerned, stars are essentially worthless -- and absolutely essential.

- Goldman, William

Pictures are for entertainment, messages should be delivered by Western Union.

- Goldwyn, Samuel

I discovered early in my movie work that a movie is never any better than the stupidest man connected with it. There are times when this distinction may be given to the writer or director. Most often it belongs to the producer.

- Hecht, Ben

Dialogue should simply be a sound among other sounds, just something that comes out of the mouths of people whose eyes tell the story in visual terms.

- Hitchcock, Alfred

For me, the cinema is not a slice of life, but a piece of cake.

- Hitchcock, Alfred

The words Kiss Kiss Bang Bang, which I saw on an Italian movie poster, are perhaps the briefest statement imaginable of the basic appeal of movies. This appeal is what attracts us, and ultimately what makes us despair when we begin to understand how seldom movies are more than this.

- Kael, Pauline

The movies today are too rich to have any room for genuine artists. They produce a few passable craftsmen, but no artists. Can you imagine a Beethoven making $100, 000 a year?

- Mencken, H. L.

One of the joys of going to the movies was that it was trashy, and we should never lose that.

- Stone, Oliver

All film directors, whether famous or obscure, regard themselves as misunderstood or underrated. Because of that, they all lie. They're obliged to overstate their own importance.

- Truffaut, Francois

People sometimes say that the way things happen in the movies is unreal, but actually it's the way things happen to you in life that's unreal. The movies make emotions look so strong and real, whereas when things really do happen to you, it's like watching television -- you don't feel anything.

- Warhol, Andy

The director is simply the audience. So the terrible burden of the director is to take the place of that yawning vacuum, to be the audience and to select from what happens during the day which movement shall be a disaster and which a gala night. His job is to preside over accidents.

- Welles, Orson

We are living in the machine age. For the first time in history the comedian has been compelled to supply himself with jokes and comedy material to compete with the machine. Whether he knows it or not, the comedian is on a treadmill to oblivion.

- Allen, Fred A.

I think being funny is not anyone's first choice.

- Allen, Woody

All I need to make a comedy is a park, a policeman and a pretty girl.

- Chaplin, Charlie

Charlie Chaplin's genius was in comedy. He has no sense of humor, particularly about himself.

- Chaplin, Lita Grey

The test of a real comedian is whether you laugh at him before he opens his mouth.

- Nathan, George Jean

I always loved comedy, but I never knew it was something you could learn to do. I always thought that some people are born comedians ... just like some people are born dentists.

- Reiser, Paul

My routines come out of total unhappiness. My audiences are my group therapy.

- Rivers, Joan

The only rules comedy can tolerate are those of taste, and the only limitations those of libel.

- Thurber, James

A hunch is creativity trying to tell you something.

- Capra, Frank

The creative urge is the demon that will not accept anything second rate.

- Mille, Agnes De

Creation is a drug I can't do without.

- Mille, Cecil B. De

I do my best work when I am in pain and turmoil.

- Sting

Just because nobody complains doesn't mean all parachutes are perfect.

- Hill, Benny

A good writer is not necessarily a good book critic. No more so than a good drunk is automatically a good bartender.

- Bishop, Jim

It is wrong to be harsh with the New York critics, unless one admits in the same breath that it is a condition of their existence that they should write entertainingly about something which is rarely worth writing about at all.

- Chandler, Raymond

Most critical writing is drivel and half of it is dishonest. It is a short cut to oblivion, anyway. Thinking in terms of ideas destroys the power to think in terms of emotions and sensations.

- Chandler, Raymond

Unlike other people, our reviewers are powerful because they believe in nothing.

- Clurman, Harold

Critics are usually kinder to cheaper movies than to those they perceive to be big Hollywood releases. They cut you a lot more slack if you spend less money, which makes no sense.

- Coen, Ethan

I review novels to make money, because it is easier for a sluggard to write an article a fortnight than a book a year, because the writer is soothed by the opiate of action, the crank by posing as a good journalist, and having an air hole. I dislike it. I do it and I am always resolving to give it up.

- Connolly, Cyril

Writing about music is like dancing about architecture; it's a really stupid thing to want to do.

- Costello, Elvis

People want you to be a crazy, out-of-control teen brat. They want you miserable, just like them. They don't want heroes; what they want is to see you fall.

- DiCaprio, Leonardo

The artist doesn't have time to listen to the critics. The ones who want to be writers read the reviews, the ones who want to write don't have the time to read reviews.

- Faulkner, William

Remember if people talk behind your back, it only means you're two steps ahead!

- Flagg, Fannie

A good review from the critics is just another stay of execution.

- Hoffman, Dustin

As a work of art it has the same status as a long conversation between two not very bright drunks.

- James, Clive

In the arts, the critic is the only independent source of information. The rest is advertising.

- Kael, Pauline

It is impossible to think of a man of any actual force and originality, universally recognized

as having those qualities, who spent his whole life appraising and describing the work of other men.

- Mencken, H. L.

Criticism is prejudice made plausible.

- Mencken, H. L.

Honest criticism means nothing: what one wants is unrestrained passion, fire for fire.

- Miller, Henry

A drama critic is a person who surprises the playwright by informing him what he meant.

- Mizner, Wilson

No matter how well you perform there's always somebody of intelligent opinion who thinks it's lousy.

- Olivier, Sir Lawrence

If I make a move, like raise my eyebrows, some critic says I'm doing Nicholson. What am I supposed to do, cut off my eyebrows?

- Slater, Christian

A critic is a man who knows the way, but can't drive the car.

- Tynan, Kenneth

A good drama critic is one who perceives what is happening in the theatre of his time. A great drama critic also perceives what is not happening.

- Tynan, Kenneth

The critic has to educate the public; the artist has to educate the critic.

- Wilde, Oscar

Remember that nobody will ever get ahead of you as long as he is kicking you in the seat of the pants.

- Winchell, Walter

There has never been a statue erected to honor a critic.

- Ziglar, Zig

I am not the first straight dancer or the last.

- Baryshnikov, Mikhail

The real American type can never be a ballet dancer. The legs are too long, the body too supple and the spirit too free for this school of affected grace and toe walking.

- Duncan, Isadora

And we love to dance -- especially that new one called the Civil War Twist. The Northern

part of you stands still while the Southern part tries to secede.

- Gregory, Dick

Dancing is a wonderful training for girls, it's the first way you learn to guess what a man is going to do before he does it.

- Morley, Christopher

What's nice about my dating life is that I don't have to leave my house. All I have to do is read the paper: I'm marrying Richard Gere, dating Daniel Day-Lewis, parading around with John F. Kennedy, Jr., and even Robert De Niro was in there for a day.

- Roberts, Julia

Death is a distant rumor to the young.

- Rooney, Andy

You just can't complain about being alive. It's self-indulgent to be unhappy. [When asked how she has coped since husband's death.]

- Rowland, Gena

Dying is a troublesome business: there is pain to be suffered, and it wrings one's heart; but death is a splendid thing --a warfare accomplished, a beginning all over again, a triumph. You can always see that in their faces.

- Shaw, George Bernard

I want to be all used up when I die.

- Shaw, George Bernard

But what is all this fear of and opposition to Oblivion? What is the matter with the soft Darkness, the Dreamless Sleep?

- Thurber, James

Early to rise and early to bed makes a male healthy and wealthy and dead.

- Thurber, James

Why is it that we rejoice at birth and grieve at a funeral? It is because we are not the person involved.

- Twain, Mark

Dying is the most embarrassing thing that can ever happen to you, because someone's got to take care of all your details.

- Warhol, Andy

Death is nature's way of saying, Your table's ready.

- Williams, Robin

On the plus side, death is one of the few things that can be done just as easily as lying

down.

- Allen, Woody

I really wanted to die at certain periods in my life. Death was like love, a romantic escape. I took pills because I didn't want to throw myself off my balcony and know people would photograph me lying dead below.

- Bardot, Brigitte

The best place a person can die, is where they die for others.

- Barrie, Sir James M.

To die will be an awfully big adventure.

- Barrie, Sir James M.

Die? I should say not, dear fellow. No Barrymore would allow such a conventional thing to happen to him.

- Barrymore, John

Personally I have no bone to pick with graveyards, I take the air there willingly, perhaps more willingly than elsewhere, when take the air I must.

- Beckett, Samuel

I'd rather die while I'm living then live while I'm dead.

- Buffett, Jimmy

When I die I want to decompose in a barrel of porter and have it served in all the pubs in Dublin.

- Donleavy, J. P.

A dead atheist is someone who is all dressed up with no place to go.

- Duffecy, James

The death of what's dead is the birth of what's living.

- Guthrie, Arlo

Our repugnance to death increases in proportion to our consciousness of having lived in vain.

- Hazlitt, William

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

- Hendrix, Jimi

Only the young die good.

- Herford, Oliver

Death is a very dull, dreary affair, and my advice to you is to have nothing whatever to do with it.

- Maugham, W. Somerset

Whenever we confront an unbridled desire we are surely in the presence of a tragedy-in-the-making.

- Crisp, Quentin

I can do whatever I want -- I'm rich, I'm famous, and I'm bigger than you.

- Johnson, Don

The desire for success lubricates secret prostitution's in the soul.

- Mailer, Norman

Action is the antidote to despair.

- Baez, Joan

She wore far too much rouge last night and not quite enough clothes. That is always a sign of despair in a woman.

- Wilde, Oscar

Divorce is the one human tragedy that reduces everything to cash.

- Brown, Rita Mae

Getting divorced just because you don't love a man is almost as silly as getting married just because you do.

- Gabor, Zsa Zsa

You never really know a man until you have divorced him.

- Gabor, Zsa Zsa

Conrad Hilton was very generous to me in the divorce settlement. He gave me 5, 000 Gideon Bibles.

- Gabor, Zsa Zsa

Divorce is a game played by lawyers.

- Grant, Cary

A lot of people have asked me how short I am. Since my last divorce, I think I'm about $100, 000 short.

- Rooney, Mickey

Like I said, I've got too much respect for women to marry them, but that doesn't mean you can't support them emotionally and financially.

- Stallone, Sylvester

From the cradle to the coffin underwear comes first.

- Brecht, Bertolt

Where women are concerned, the rule is never to go out with anyone better dressed than you.

- Malkovich, John

Where's the man could ease a heart, like a satin gown?

- Parker, Dorothy

You can say what you like about long dresses, but they cover a multitude of shins.

- West, Mae

I don't respond well to mellow, you know what I mean, I have a tendency to... if I get too mellow, I ripen and then rot.

- Allen, Woody

Nobody stopped thinking about those psychedelic experiences. Once you've been to some of those places, you think, How can I get back there again but make it a little easier on myself?

- Garcia, Jerry

If you think dope is for kicks and for thrills, you're out of your mind. There are more kicks

to be had in a good case of paralytic polio or by living in an iron lung. If you think you need stuff to play music or sing, you're crazy. It can fix you so you can't play nothing or sing nothing.

- Holiday, Billie

Of course drugs were fun.

- Huston, Anjelica

The basic thing nobody asks is why do people take drugs of any sort? Why do we have these accessories to normal living to live? I mean, is there something wrong with society that's making us so pressurized, that we cannot live without guarding ourselves against it?

- Lennon, John

The worst drugs are as bad as anybody's told you. It's just a dumb trip, which I can't condemn people if they get into it, because one gets into it for one's own personal, social, emotional reasons. It's something to be avoided if one can help it.

- Lennon, John

Marijuana is self-punishing. It makes you acutely sensitive, and in this world, what worse punishment could there be?

- O'Rourke, P. J.

Let us not forget who we are. Drug abuse is a repudiation of everything America is.

- Reagan, Ronald

I tried to give up drugs by drinking.

- Reed, Lou

Cocaine is God's way of saying you're making too much money.

- Williams, Robin

A drug is neither moral nor immoral -- it's a chemical compound. The compound itself is not a menace to society until a human being treats it as if consumption bestowed a temporary license to act like an asshole.

- Zappa, Frank

If being an egomaniac means I believe in what I do and in my art or my music, then in that respect you can call me that I believe in what I do, and I'll say it.

- Lennon, John

When Jerry Lewis and I were big, we used to go to parties, and everybody thought I was big-headed and stuck up, and I wasn't. It was because I didn't know how to speak good English, so I used to keep my mouth shut.

- Martin, Dean

Don't talk about yourself; it will be done when you leave.

- Mizner, Wilson

The advantage of the emotions is that they lead us astray.

- Wilde, Oscar

The embarrassing thing is that the salad dressing is out-grossing my films.

- Newman, Paul

The reason I'm in this business, I assume all performers are -- it's Look at me, Ma! It's acceptance, you know -- Look at me, Ma, look at me, Ma, look at me, Ma. And if your mother watches, you'll show off till you're exhausted; but if your mother goes, Ptshew!

- Bruce, Lenny

I believe entertainment can aspire to be art, and can become art, but if you set out to make art you're an idiot.

- Martin, Steve

The essential is to excite the spectators. If that means playing Hamlet on a flying trapeze or in an aquarium, you do it.

- Welles, Orson

Green leaves on a dead tree is our epitaph -- green leaves, dear reader, on a dead tree.

- Connolly, Cyril

When I die, my epitaph should read: She Paid the Bills. That's the story of my private life.

- Swanson, Gloria

I think your whole life shows in your face and you should be proud of that.

- Bacall, Lauren

People remain what they are even if their faces fall apart.

- Brecht, Bertolt

A man's face is his autobiography. A woman's face is her work of fiction.

- Wilde, Oscar

It's too bad I'm not as wonderful a person as people say I am, because the world could use a few people like that.

- Alda, Alan

Fame is only good for one thing-they will cash your check in a small town.

- Capote, Truman

We movie stars all end up by ourselves. Who knows? Maybe we want to.

- Davis, Bette

A legend is an old man with a cane known for what he used to do. I'm still doing it.

- Davis, Miles

If I'm such a legend, then why am I so lonely? Let me tell you, legends are all very well if you've got somebody around who loves you.

- Garland, Judy

Once you become famous, there is nothing left to become but infamous.

- Johnson, Don

I won't be happy till I'm as famous as God.

- Madonna

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

A celebrity is one who is known to many persons he is glad he doesn't know.

- Mencken, H. L.

Fame will go by and, so long, I've had you, fame. If it goes by, I've always known it was fickle. So at least it's something I experienced, but that's not where I live.

- Monroe, Marilyn

A sex symbol becomes a thing. I hate being a thing.

- Monroe, Marilyn

Being famous was extremely disappointing for me. When I became famous it was a complete drag and it is still a complete drag.

- Morrison, Van

A star on a movie set is like a time bomb. That bomb has got to be defused so people can approach it without fear.

- Nicholson, Jack

I want to be famous everywhere.

- Pavarotti, Luciano

Heartthrobs are a dime a dozen.

- Pitt, Brad

Being a sex symbol was rather like being a convict.

- Welch, Raquel

Sometimes I wish I weren't famous.

- Wynette, Tammy

Friends applaud, the comedy is over.

- Beethoven, Ludwig Van

Lord, let me live until I die.

- Rogers, Will

Go away...I'm alright.

- Wells, H.G.

Gossip is what no one claims to like, but everybody enjoys.

- Conrad, Joseph

Nobody's interested in sweetness and light.

- Hopper, Hedda

A gossip is one who talks to you about others; a bore is one who talks to you about himself; and a brilliant conversationalist is one who talks to you about yourself.

- Kirk, Lisa

The objection of the scandalmonger is not that she tells of racy doings, but that she pretends to be indignant about them.

- Mencken, H. L.

So live that you wouldn't be ashamed to sell the family parrot to the town gossip.

- Rogers, Will

The only time people dislike gossip is when you gossip about them.

- Rogers, Will

Conversation is three women stand on the corner talking. Gossip is when one of them leaves.

- Shriner, Herb

Show me someone who never gossips, and I will show you someone who is not interested in people.

- Walters, Barbara

Gossip is when you hear something you like about someone, you don't.

- Wilson, Earl

Gossip is the art of saying nothing in a way that leaves practically nothing unsaid.

- Winchell, Walter

In Beverly Hills... they don't throw their garbage away. They make it into television shows.

- Allen, Woody

If New York is the Big Apple, tonight Hollywood is the Big Nipple.

- Bertolucci, Bernardo

The only reason I'm in Hollywood is that I don't have the moral courage to refuse the money.

- Brando, Marlon

To survive there, you need the ambition of a Latin-American revolutionary, the ego of a grand opera tenor, and the physical stamina of a cow pony.

- Burke, Billie

If it's a good script I'll do it. And if it's a bad script, and they pay me enough, I'll do it.

- Burns, George

Hollywood's a very weird place. I think there's less of everything except for attitude.

- Cain, Dean

Its idea of production value is spending a million dollars dressing up a story that any good writer would throw away. Its vision of the rewarding movie is a vehicle for some glamour-puss with two expressions and eighteen changes of costume, or for some male idol of the muddled millions with a permanent hangover, six worn-out acting tricks, the build of a lifeguard, and the mentality of a chicken-strangler.

- Chandler, Raymond

Some are able and humane men and some are low-grade individuals with the morals of a goat, the artistic integrity of a slot machine, and the manners of a floorwalker with delusions of grandeur.

- Chandler, Raymond

That's one thing I like about Hollywood. The writer is there revealed in his ultimate corruption. He asks no praise, because his praise comes to him in the form of a salary check. In Hollywood the average writer is not young, not honest, not brave, and a bit overdressed. But he is darn good company, which book writers as a rule are not. He is better than what he writes. Most book writers are not as good.

- Chandler, Raymond

They don't want you until you have made a name, and by the time you have made a name, you have developed some kind of talent they can't use. All they will do is spoil it, if you let them.

- Chandler, Raymond

The motion picture made in Hollywood, if it is to create art at all, must do so within such strangling limitations of subject and treatment that it is a blind wonder it ever achieves any distinction beyond the purely mechanical slickness of a glass and chromium bathroom.

- Chandler, Raymond

Studio executives are intelligent, brutally overworked men and women who share one

thing in common with baseball managers: they wake up every morning of the world with the knowledge that sooner or later they're going to get fired.

- Goldman, William

Hollywood held this double lure for me, tremendous sums of money for work that required no more effort than a game of pinochle.

- Hecht, Ben

You write a book like that you're fond of over the years, then you see that happen to it, it's like pissing in your father's beer.

- Hemingway, Ernest

The average Hollywood film star's ambition is to be admired by an American, courted by an Italian, married to an Englishman and have a French boyfriend.

- Hepburn, Katharine

Hollywood gives a young girl the aura of one giant, self-contained orgy farm, its inhabitants dedicated to crawling into every pair of pants they can find.

- Lake, Veronica

We Americans have always considered Hollywood, at best, a sinkhole of depraved venality. And, of course, it is. It is not a Protective Monastery of Aesthetic Truth. It is a place where everything is incredibly expensive.

- Mamet, David

Hollywood has gone from Pola to Polaroid.

- Negri, Pola

I can't talk about Hollywood. It was a horror to me when I was there and it's a horror to look back on. I can't imagine how I did it. When I got away from it I couldn't even refer to the place by name. Out there, I called it.

- Parker, Dorothy

Hollywood is a place that attracts people with massive holes in their souls.

- Phillips, Julia

In Hollywood if you don't have happiness you send out for it.

- Reed, Rex

Hollywood's like Egypt, full of crumbled pyramids. It'll never come back. It'll just keep on crumbling until finally the wind blows the last studio prop across the sands.

- Selznick, David O.

You don't resign from these jobs, you escape from them.

- Steel, Dawn

Bankers, nepotists, contracts and talkies: on four fingers one may count the leeches

which have sucked a young and vigorous industry into paresis.

- Trumbo, Dalton

My attitude about Hollywood is that I wouldn't walk across the street to pull one of those executives out of the snow if he was bleeding to death. Not unless I was paid for it. None of them ever did me any favors.

- Woods, James

Humor is something that thrives between man's aspirations and his limitations. There is more logic in humor than in anything else. Because, you see, humor is truth.

- Borge, Victor

Humor is just another defense against the universe.

- Brooks, Mel

All my humor is based upon destruction and despair. If the whole world were tranquil, without disease and violence, I'd be standing on the breadline right in back of J. Edgar Hoover.

- Bruce, Lenny

Comedy is a tragedy plus time.

- Burnett, Carol

Humor is always based on a modicum of truth. Have you ever heard a joke about a father-in-law.

- Clark, Dick

Comedy is simply a funny way of being serious.

- Ustinov, Peter

It's hard to be funny when you have to be clean.

- West, Mae

If you can make a woman laugh you can do anything with her.

- Williamson, Nicol

Get well cards have become so humorous that if you don't get sick you're missing half the fun.

- Wilson, Flip

Humor is emotional chaos remembered in tranquility.

- Thurber, James

The secret source of humor itself is not joy but sorrow. There is no humor in heaven.

- Twain, Mark

A person who knows how to laugh at himself will never ceased to be amused.

- Maclaine, Shirley

Chaos in the midst of chaos isn't funny, but chaos in the midst of order is.

- Martin, Steve

Burt Reynolds once asked me out. I was in his room.

- Diller, Phyllis

No man worth his salt, no man of spirit and spine, no man for whom I could have any respect, could rejoice in the identification of Tallulah's husband. It's tough enough to be bogged down in a legend. It would be even tougher to marry one.

- Bankhead, Tallulah

I've never yet met a man who could look after me. I don't need a husband. What I need is a wife.

- Collins, Joan

Husbands are like fires. They go out when unattended.

- Gabor, Zsa Zsa

Strike an average between what a woman thinks of her husband a month before she marries him and what she thinks of him a year afterward, and you will have the truth about

him.

- Mencken, H. L.

Husbands never become good; they merely become proficient.

- Mencken, H. L.

From the moment I liberated Brigitte, the moment I showed her how to be truly herself, our marriage was all downhill.

- Vadim, Roger

The husbands of very beautiful women belong to the criminal classes.

- Wilde, Oscar

For them that think death's honesty won't fall upon them naturally life sometimes must get lonely.

- Dylan, Bob

People think that they just want movies like Pretty Woman, when really they -- at least the ones that I know personally -- have been waiting for something that doesn't completely insult them.

- Ryder, Winona

I'm notorious for giving a bad interview. I'm an actor and I can't help but feel I'm boring

when I'm on as myself.

- Hudson, Rock

There's more bad music in jazz than any other form. Maybe that's because the audience doesn't really know what's happening.

- Metheny, Pat

I've never been jealous. Not even when my dad finished the fifth grade a year before I did.

- Foxworthy, Jeff

My life has been one great big joke, a dance that's walked a song that's spoke, I laugh so hard I almost choke when I think about myself.

- Angelou, Maya

Being a funny person does an awful lot of things to you. You feel that you mustn't get serious with people. They don't expect it from you, and they don't want to see it. You're not entitled to be serious, you're a clown, and they only want you to make them laugh.

- Brice, Fanny

If you've heard this story before, don't stop me, because I'd like to hear it again.

- Marx, Groucho

A kiss is a lovely trick designed by nature to stop speech when words become

superfluous.

- Bergman, Ingrid

The kiss. There are all sorts of kisses, lad, from the sticky confection to the kiss of death. Of them all, the kiss of an actress is the most unnerving. How can we tell if she means it or if she's just practicing?

- Gordon, Ruth

When women kiss it always reminds one of prize-fighters shaking hands.

- Mencken, H. L.

You grow up on the day you have your first real laugh at, yourself.

- Barrymore, Ethel

Laughter is the shortest distance between two people.

- Borge, Victor

If we couldn't laugh, we would all go insane.

- Buffett, Jimmy

Laughter kills fear, and without fear there can be no faith. For without fear of the devil there is no need for God.

- Connery, Sean

There comes a time when suddenly you realize that laughter is something you remember and that you were the one laughing.

- Dietrich, Marlene

Man is the only animal that laughs and weeps; for he is the only animal that is struck with the difference between what things are and what they might of been.

- Hazlitt, William

Laugh at yourself first, before anyone else can.

- Maxwell, Elsa

One horse-laugh is worth ten thousand syllogisms. It is not only more effective; it is also vastly more intelligent.

- Mencken, H. L.

I can usually judge a fellow by what he laughs at.

- Mizner, Wilson

The laughter of man is more terrible than his tears, and takes more forms -- hollow, heartless, mirthless, maniacal.

- Thurber, James

Against the assault of laughter nothing can stand.

- Twain, Mark

Scratch a lover, and find a foe.

- Parker, Dorothy

There's no business like show business.

- Berlin, Irving

Marriage is the death of hope.

- Allen, Woody

I am thinking of taking a fifth wife. Why not? Solomon had a thousand wives and he is a synonym for wisdom.

- Barrymore, John

Marriage is not just spiritual communion, it is also remembering to take out the trash.

- Brothers, Dr. Joyce

If variety is the spice of life, marriage is the big can of leftover Spam.

- Carson, Johnny

For an artist to marry his model is as fatal as for a gourmet to marry his cook: the one gets

no sittings, and the other gets no dinners.

- Wilde, Oscar

If my films make one more person miserable, I'll feel I have done my job.

- Allen, Woody

No form of art goes beyond ordinary consciousness as film does, straight to our emotions, deep into the twilight of the soul.

- Bergman, Ingrid

Nobody in TV makes as much money as Robert Redford, who likes to make movies for several million dollars only on the condition that they contain some sort of social message. I cannot take very seriously a social message delivered by an actor who is paid nine million dollars to deliver it, and who charges you five dollars to see it.

- Brinkley, David

Movies are a fad. Audiences really want to see live actors on a stage.

- Chaplin, Charlie

A film is a petrified fountain of thought.

- Cocteau, Jean

The only way to get rid of my fears is to make films about them.

- Hitchcock, Alfred

I'm gonna do four or five of these movies, and it's going to become my career. I'll have to keep expanding the bat suit, because I get fatter every year. I'll be bankrupt. I'll be out opening shopping malls, going from appearance to appearance in a cheesy van. [On playing Batman]

- Keaton, Michael

A film is -- or should be -- more like music than like fiction. It should be a progression of moods and feelings. The theme, what's behind the emotion, the meaning, all that comes later.

- Kubrick, Stanley

I've tried like hell to make bad movies good, and I can't. Maybe Marlon Brando has been able to do that at times. But even he has a hard time making The Appaloosa a good movie.

- McDermott, Dylan

My movies were the kind they show in prisons and airplanes, because nobody can leave.

- Reynolds, Burt

In Hollywood the woods are full of people that learned to write, but evidently can't read. If they could read their stuff, they'd stop writing.

- Rogers, Will

It doesn't work if the bad guys kill his mother's uncle's friend's neighbor's pet dog. You've got to make the stakes high. [Explaining why the hero's woman must get shot]

- Seagal, Steven

In the beginning, all I wanted to do was to be a singer and a dancer. That was my real groove, my real interest. When it came to doing films, my biggest goal was to do a commercial.

- Snipes, Wesley

It's hard to make a cultural phenomenon every time.

- Travolta, John

A film is never really any good unless the camera is an eye in the head of a poet.

- Welles, Orson

What happens to the hole when the cheese is gone?

- Brecht, Bertolt

Drama is life with the dull parts cut out of it.

- Hitchcock, Alfred

I wouldn't do nudity in films. To act with my clothes on is a performance. To act with my

clothes off is a documentary.

- Roberts, Julia

I never expected to see the day when girls would get sunburned in the places they do today.

- Rogers, Will

My advice to those who think they have to take off their clothes to be a star is, once you're boned, what's left to create the illusion? Let em wonder. I never believed in giving them too much of me.

- West, Mae

When you get the personality, you don't need the nudity.

- West, Mae

Opera in English, is about as sensible as baseball in Italian.

- Mencken, H. L.

ORIGINALITY is unexplored territory. You get there by carrying a canoe -- you can't take a taxi.

- Alda, Alan

I think one of the reasons I'm popular again is because I'm wearing a tie. You have to be

different.

- Bennett, Tony

It's been very important throughout my career that I've met all the guys I've copied, because at each stage they've said, Don't play like me, play like you.

- Clapton, Eric

When a work appears to be ahead of its time, it is only the time that is behind the work.

- Cocteau, Jean

Create your own method. Don't depend slavishly on mine. Make up something that will work for you! But keep breaking traditions, I beg you.

- Stanislavisky, Konstantin

Moral passion without entertainment is propaganda, and entertainment without moral passion is television.

- Brown, Rita Mae

I'd rather be a failure at something I love than a success at something I hate.

- Burns, George

My passions were all gathered together like fingers that made a fist. Drive is considered aggression today; I knew it then as purpose.

- Davis, Bette

There is no end. There is no beginning. There is only the infinite passion of life.

- Fellini, Frederico

What is originality? Undetected plagiarism.

- Inge, Dean William R.

Pleasure that isn't paid for is as insipid as everything else that's free.

- Loos, Anita

It's true Heaven forbids some pleasures, but a compromise can usually be found.

- Moliere

The most prolific period of pessimism comes at twenty-one or thereabouts, when the first attempt is made to translate dreams into reality.

- Broun, Heywood

I don't believe in pessimism. If something doesn't come up the way you want, forge ahead. If you think it's going to rain, it will.

- Eastwood, Clint

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 one who builds dungeons in the air.

- Winchell, Walter

No matter how calmly you try to referee, parenting will eventually produce bizarre behavior, and I'm not talking about the kids. Their behavior is always normal.

- Cosby, Bill

There is no such thing as bad publicity except your own obituary.

- Behan, Brendan F.

The monster of advertisement... is a sort of octopus with innumerable tentacles. It throws out to right and left, in front and behind, its clammy arms, and gathers in, through its thousand little suckers, all the gossip and slander and praise afloat, to spit out again at the public.

- Bernhardt, Sarah

I wasn't always black... There was this freckle, and it got bigger and bigger.

- Cosby, Bill

To become a popular religion, it is only necessary for a superstition to enslave a

philosophy.

- Inge, Dean William R.

A lot of pop music is about stealing pocket money from children.

- Anderson, Ian

There are two kinds of artists left: those who endorse Pepsi and those who simply won t.

- Lennox, Annie

The reason kids like rock 'n roll is their parents don't.

- Miller, Mitch

Rock and Roll: Music for the neck downwards.

- Richards, Keith

The most brutal, ugly, desperate, vicious form of expression it has been my misfortune to hear.

- Sinatra, Frank

No change in musical style will survive unless it is accompanied by a change in clothing style. Rock is to dress up to.

- Zappa, Frank

The concept of romantic love affords a means of emotional manipulation which the male is free to exploit, since love is the only circumstance in which the female is (ideologically) pardoned for sexual activity.

- Millet, Kate

The surest way to make a monkey of a man is to quote him.

- Benchley, Robert

I improve on misquotation.

- Grant, Cary

The ability to quote is a serviceable substitute for wit.

- Maugham, W. Somerset

I often quote myself. It adds spice to my conversation.

- Shaw, George Bernard

It is better to be quotable than to be honest.

- Stoppard, Tom

Most people are other people. Their thoughts are someone else's opinions, their lives a mimicry, their passions a quotation.

- Wilde, Oscar

My one regret in life is that I'm not someone else.

- Allen, Woody

I regret the passing of the studio system. I was very appreciative of it because I had no talent.

- Ball, Lucille

I have no regrets, I wouldn't have lived my life the way I did if I was going to worry about what people were going to say.

- Bergman, Ingrid

People seldom do what they believe in. They do what is convenient, then repent.

- Dylan, Bob

I have many regrets, and I'm sure everyone does. The stupid things you do, you regret if you have any sense, and if you don't regret them, maybe you're stupid.

- Hepburn, Katharine

It's not what your are, it's what you don't become that hurts.

- Levant, Oscar

Maybe all one can do is hope to end up with the right regrets.

- Miller, Arthur

Hindsight is always twenty-twenty.

- Wilder, Billy

Only in your imagination can you revise.

- Wray, Fay

If your going to do something tonight that you'll be sorry for in the morning, sleep late.

- Youngman, Henny

There's no reason to bring religion into it. I think we ought to have as great a regard for religion as we can, so as to keep it out of as many things as possible.

- O'Casey, Sean

Oh, great reviews are the worst. They mislead you more than the bad ones, because they only fuel your ego. Then you only want another one, like potato chips or something, and the best thing you get is fat and bloated. I'd rather just refuse, thanks.

- Palminteri, Chazz

Remorse is regret that one waited so long to do it.

- Mencken, H. L.

One man's remorse is another man's reminiscence.

- Nash, Ogden

Remorse is a violent dyspepsia of the mind.

- Nash, Ogden

Some people would rather get even instead of get ahead.

- Brown, Les

The best revenge is massive success.

- Sinatra, Frank

Success is the sweetest revenge.

- Williams, Vanessa

When some people retire, it's going to be mighty hard to be able to tell the difference.

- Graham, Virginia

Vice is its own reward. It is virtue which, if it is to be marketed with consumer appeal, must carry Green Shield stamps.

- Crisp, Quentin

Riches do not delight us so much with their possession, as torment us with their loss.

- Gregory, Dick

Think and grow rich.

- Hill, Napoleon

I don't mind their having a lot of money, and I don't care how they employ it, but I do think that they damn well ought to admit they enjoy it.

- Nash, Ogden

The more I see of the moneyed classes, the more I understand the guillotine.

- Shaw, George Bernard

To love oneself is the beginning of a life long romance.

- Wilde, Oscar

Romance should never begin with sentiment. It should begin with science and end with a settlement.

- Wilde, Oscar

Nothing spoils a romance so much as a sense of humor in the woman.

- Wilde, Oscar

If you obey all the rules, you miss all the fun.

- Hepburn, Katharine

Satire is tragedy plus time. You give it enough time, the public, the reviewers will allow you to satirize it. Which is rather ridiculous, when you think about it.

- Bruce, Lenny

Satirists gain the applause of others through fear, not through love.

- Hazlitt, William

Laughing at someone else is an excellent way of learning how to laugh at oneself; and questioning what seem to be the absurd beliefs of another group is a good way of recognizing the potential absurdity of many of one's own cherished beliefs.

- Vidal, Gore

It is the public scandal that offends; to sin in secret is no sin at all.

- Moliere

There are no good girls gone wrong, just bad girls found out.

- West, Mae

Scandal: gossip made tedious by morality.

- Wilde, Oscar

One should never make one's debut with a scandal. One should reserve that to give an interest to one's old age.

- Wilde, Oscar

Gossip is charming! History is merely gossip. But scandal is gossip made tedious by morality.

- Wilde, Oscar

I usually get my stuff from people who promised somebody else that they would keep it a secret.

- Winchell, Walter

Love yourself unconditionally, just as you love those closest to you despite their faults.

- Brown, Les

The more you like yourself, the less you are like anyone else, which makes you unique.

- Disney, Walt

Sex is the most fun you can have without laughing.

- Allen, Woody

A Bay Area Bisexual told me I didn't quite coincide with either of her desires.

- Allen, Woody

For once you must try not to shirk the facts: mankind is kept alive by bestial acts.

- Brecht, Bertolt

Sex is the last refuge of the miserable.

- Crisp, Quentin

The act of sex, gratifying as it may be, is God's joke on humanity. It is man's last desperate stand at superintendency.

- Davis, Bette

There was a lot of tabloid journalism about my supposed sex addiction. Bullshit. It's all bullshit. I mean, come on, I never pretended to be a saint. But give me a break.

- Douglas, Michael

Sex is two plus two making five, rather than four. Sex is the X ingredient that you can't define, and it's that X ingredient between two people that make both a man and a woman good in bed. It's all relative. There are no rules.

- Feldman, Marty

Vibrators. I think they are great. They keep you out of stupid sex. I'd pitch them to anybody.

- Heche, Anne

That our popular art forms have become so obsessed with sex has turned the U.S.A into a nation of hobbledehoys; as if grown people don't have more vital concerns, such as taxes, inflation, dirty politics, earning a living, getting an education, or keeping out of jail.

- Loos, Anita

There is nothing safe about sex. There never will be.

- Mailer, Norman

Coitus can scarcely be said to take place in a vacuum; although of itself it appears a biological and physical activity, it is set so deeply within the larger context of human affairs that it serves as a charged microcosm of the variety of attitudes and values to which culture subscribes. Among other things, it may serve as a model of sexual politics on an individual or personal plane.

- Millet, Kate

However muted its present appearance may be, sexual dominion obtains nevertheless as perhaps the most pervasive ideology of our culture and provides its most fundamental concept of power.

- Millet, Kate

It's very liberating to be naked in front of a hundred people, but there's nothing sexual about lovemaking on a movie set.

- Paxton, Bill

Making love? It's a communion with a woman. The bed is the holy table. There I find passion -- and purification.

- Sharif, Omar

What does good in bed mean to me? When I'm sick and I stay home from school propped up with lots of pillows watching TV and my mom brings me soup -- that's good in bed.

- Shields, Brooke

My favorite thing in the world is a box of fine European chocolates which is, for sure, better than sex.

- Silverstone, Alicia

Sex is a conversation carried out by other means. If you get on well out of bed, half the problems of bed are solved.

- Ustinov, Peter

Sex is. There is nothing more to be done about it. Sex builds no roads, writes no novels and sex certainly gives no meaning to anything in life but itself.

- Vidal, Gore

I never miss a chance to have sex or appear on television.

- Vidal, Gore

Sex is more exciting on the screen and between the pages than between the sheets.

- Warhol, Andy

Everyone probably thinks that I'm a raving nymphomaniac, that I have an insatiable sexual appetite, when the truth is I'd rather read a book.

- Madonna

I know there are nights when I have power, when I could put on something and walk in somewhere, and if there is a man who doesn't look at me, it's because he's gay.

- Turner, Kathleen

I believe that it's better to be looked over than it is to be overlooked.

- West, Mae

I am not a lesbian and I am not a slut, and somehow I am going to make people believe me.

- Williams, Vanessa

Show business is the best possible therapy for remorse.

- Loos, Anita

Show business is really 90 per cent luck and 10 per cent being able to handle it when it

gets offered to you.

- Steele, Tommy

Really to sin you have to be serious about it.

- Ibsen, Henrik

Everything that used to be a sin, is now a disease.

- Maher, Bill

Most of us know perfectly well what we ought to do; our trouble is that we do not want to do it.

- Marshall, Peter

The only people who should really sin are the people who can sin and grin.

- Nash, Ogden

Sins cannot be undone, only forgiven.

- Stravinsky, Igor

The only difference between the saint and the sinner is that every saint has a past, and every sinner has a future.

- Wilde, Oscar

There is no sin except stupidity.

- Wilde, Oscar

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

- Browne, Jackson

If you are afraid of loneliness, don't marry.

- Chekhov, Anton

It seems to me that those songs that have been any good, I have nothing much to do with the writing of them. The words have just crawled down my sleeve and come out on the page.

- Baez, Joan

The songs are inspired by my experiences. Sometimes they are more than my real-life and, conversely, my life is more than just my songs.

- Etheridge, Melissa

I can't stand to sing the same song the same way two nights in succession, let alone two years or ten years. If you can, then it ain't music, it's close-order drill or exercise or yodeling or something, not music.

- Holiday, Billie

I'd rather be dead than singing Satisfaction when I'm forty-five.

- Jagger, Mick

God makes stars. I just produce them.

- Goldwyn, Samuel

Much more frequent in Hollywood than the emergence of Cinderella is her sudden vanishing. At our party, even in those glowing days, the clock was always striking twelve for someone at the height of greatness; and there was never a prince to fetch her back to the happy scene.

- Hecht, Ben

One thing about being successful is that I stopped being afraid of dying. Once you're a star you're dead already. You're embalmed.

- Hoffman, Dustin

You have to know exactly what you want out of your career. If you want to be a star, you don't bother with other things.

- Horne, Marilyn

Being at the center of a film is a burden one takes on with innocence -- the first time. Thereafter, you take it on with trepidation.

- Lewis, Daniel Day

It's nice to be a part of history but people should get it right. I may not be perfect, but I'm bloody close.

- Rotten, John Lydon

I am big. It's the pictures that got small.

- Swanson, Gloria

Do we really want to know how Michael Jackson makes his music? No. We want to understand why he needs the bones of the Elephant Man -- and, until he tells us, it doesn't make too much difference whether or not he really is bad.

- Zappa, Frank

The way I see things, the way I see life, I see it as a struggle. And there's a great deal of reward I have gained coming to that understanding -- that existence is a struggle.

- Keitel, Harvey

I don't want anything I don't deserve, [but] if they offer me more money, I'm not stupid.

- Banderas, Antonio

The two most common elements in the universe are hydrogen and stupidity.

- Ellison, Harlan

Eighty percent of success is showing up.

- Allen, Woody

The toughest thing about being a success is that you've got to keep on being a success.

- Berlin, Irving

Don't confuse fame with success. Madonna is one; Helen Keller is the other.

- Bombeck, Erma

It takes twenty years to become an overnight success.

- Cantor, Eddie

I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody.

- Cosby, Bill

Real success is not on the stage, but off the stage as a human being, and how you get along with your fellow man.

- Davis Jr., Sammy

Be awfully nice to them going up, because you're gonna meet them all coming down.

- Durante, Jimmy

A person is a success if they get up in the morning and gets to bed at night and in between does what he wants to do.

- Dylan, Bob

I have got tow reasons for success and I'm standing on both of them.

- Grable, Betty

I'm always making a comeback but nobody ever tells me where I've been.

- Holiday, Billie

The gent who wakes up and finds himself a success hasn't been asleep.

- Mizner, Wilson

If you achieve success, you will get applause, and if you get applause, you will hear it. My advice to you concerning applause is this; enjoy it but never quite believe it.

- Montgomery, Robert

If at first you don't succeed, lie, lie again.

- Peter, Laurence J.

Success covers a multitude of blunders.

- Shaw, George Bernard

Success is transient, evanescent. The real passion lies in the poignant acquisition of knowledge about all the shading and subtleties of the creative secrets.

- Stanislavisky, Konstantin

Sometimes I worry about being a success in a mediocre world.

- Tomlin, Lily

All you need in this life is ignorance and confidence, and then Success is sure.

- Twain, Mark

Let us be thankful for the fools. But for them the rest of us could not succeed.

- Twain, Mark

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

Success and failure are equally disastrous.

- Williams, Tennessee

Success is simply a matter of luck. Ask any failure.

- Wilson, Earl

I couldn't wait for success, so I went ahead without it.

- Winters, Jonathan

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

- Flack, Roberta

How little it takes to make life unbearable: a pebble in the shoe, a cockroach in the spaghetti, a woman's laugh.

- Mencken, H. L.

Don't look forward to the day you stop suffering, because when it comes you'll know you're dead.

- Williams, Tennessee

Talent is only the starting point.

- Berlin, Irving

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

If I have any talent at all it's from God, and my mom, who was on Capitol Records also.

- Brooks, Garth

Whom the gods wish to destroy they first call promising.

- Connolly, Cyril

If you have this enormous talent, it's got you by the balls, it's a demon. You can't be a family man and a husband and a caring person and be that animal. Dickens wasn't that nice a guy.

- Hoffman, Dustin

I thought my talent would transcend my outspokenness. I was wrong.

- Rourke, Mickey

Good taste is the first refuge of the non creative. It is the last ditch stand of the artist.

- Mcluhan, Marshall

Good taste is the worst vice ever invented.

- Sitwell, Dame Edith

TV is a fickle business. I'm only good for the length of my contract.

- Brokaw, Tom

So by all means let's have a television show quick and long, even if the commercial has to

be delivered by a man in a white coat with a stethoscope hanging around his neck, selling ergot pills. After all the public is entitled to what it wants, isn't it? The Romans knew that and even they lasted four hundred years after they started to putrefy.

- Chandler, Raymond

Television's perfect. You turn a few knobs, a few of those mechanical adjustments at which the higher apes are so proficient, and lean back and drain your mind of all thought. And there you are watching the bubbles in the primeval ooze. You don't have to concentrate. You don't have to react. You don't have to remember. You don't miss your brain because you don't need it. Your heart and liver and lungs continue to function normally. Apart from that, all is peace and quiet. You are in the man's nirvana. And if some poor nasty minded person comes along and says you look like a fly on a can of garbage, pay him no mind. He probably hasn't got the price of a television set.

- Chandler, Raymond

It is a medium of entertainment which permits millions of people to listen to the same joke at the same time, and yet remain lonesome.

- Eliot, T. S.

I got sick of turning on the TV and seeing my face.

- Fox, Michael J.

Television is an invention that permits you to be entertained in your Living room by people you wouldn't have in your house.

- Frost, David

Television has brought back murder into the home -- where it belongs.

- Hitchcock, Alfred

Television -- a medium. So called because it is neither rare nor well done.

- Kovacs

The difference between writing a book and being on television is the difference between conceiving a child and having a baby made in a test tube.

- Mailer, Norman

I made a pact with myself a long time ago: Never watch anything stupider than you. It's helped me a lot. I made a pact with myself a long time ago: Never watch anything stupider than you. It's helped me a lot.

- Midler, Bette

Performing doesn't turn me on. It's an egomaniac business, filled with prima donnas -- including this one.

- Rather, Dan

It's one of the tragic ironies of the theatre that only one man in it can count on steady work -- the night watchman.

- Bankhead, Tallulah

The stage is life, music, beautiful girls, legs, breasts, not talk or intellectualism or dried-up academics.

- Clurman, Harold

I had learned to have a perfect nausea for the theatre: the continual repetition of the same words and the same gestures, night after night, and the caprices, the way of looking at life, and the entire rigmarole disgusted me.

- Duncan, Isadora

To save the theatre, the theatre must be destroyed, the actors and actresses must all die of the plague. They poison the air, they make art impossible. It is not drama that they play, but pieces for the theatre. We should return to the Greeks, play in the open air; the drama dies of stalls and boxes and evening dress, and people who come to digest their dinner.

- Duse, Eleanor

Theater people are always pining and agonizing because they're afraid that they'll be forgotten. And in America they're quite right. They will be.

- Mille, Agnes De

My playground was the theatre. I'd sit and watch my mother pretend for a living. As a young girl, that's pretty seductive.

- Paltrow, Gwyneth

The theater needs continual reminders that there is nothing more debasing than the work of those who do well what is not worth doing at all.

- Vidal, Gore

Every now and then, when you're on stage, you hear the best sound a player can hear. It's a sound you can't get in movies or in television. It is the sound of a wonderful, deep silence that means you've hit them where they live.

- Winters, Shelley

The first time I sang in the church choir; two hundred people changed their religion.

- Allen, Fred A.

I don't want to own anything that won't fit into my coffin.

- Allen, Fred A.

We find many things to which the prohibition of them constitutes the only temptation.

- Hazlitt, William

I like to do all the talking myself. It saves time, and prevents arguments.

- Wilde, Oscar

I'm an old-fashioned guy... I want to be an old man with a beer belly sitting on a porch,

looking at a lake or something.

- Depp, Johnny

I've come to realize that life is not a musical comedy, it's a Greek tragedy.

- Joel, Billy

It was no great tragedy being Judy Garland's daughter. I had tremendously interesting childhood years -- except they had little to do with being a child.

- Minnelli, Liza

The bad end unhappily, the good unluckily. That is what tragedy means.

- Stoppard, Tom

Looking at yourself in a mirror isn't exactly a study of life.

- Bacall, Lauren

A narcissist is someone better looking than you are.

- Vidal, Gore

I have never fallen in love with my own voice, but I've always had an attraction for it.

- Snyder, Tom

Vulgarity is the garlic in the salad of taste.

- Connolly, Cyril

Vulgarity is, in reality, nothing but a modern, chic, pert descendant of the goddess Dullness.

- Sitwell, Dame Edith

The weak are the most treacherous of us all. They come to the strong and drain them. They are bottomless. They are insatiable. They are always parched and always bitter. They are everyone's concern and like vampires they suck our life's blood.

- Davis, Bette

The weak are more likely to make the strong weak than the strong are likely to make the weak strong.

- Dietrich, Marlene

It's a na?ve domestic Burgundy without any breeding, but I think you'll be amused by its presumption.

- Thurber, James

Wit ought to be a glorious treat like caviar; never spread it about like marmalade.

- Coward, Noel

Wit is the salt of conversation, not the food.

- Hazlitt, William

As a housewife, I feel that if the kids are still alive when my husband gets home from work, then hey, I've done my job.

- Barr, Roseanne

If you want to know about a man you can find out an awful lot by looking at who he married.

- Douglas, Kirk

The trouble with some women is they get all excited about nothing, and then they marry him.

- Cher

When a woman behaves like a man why doesn't she behave like a nice man?

- Evans, Dame Edith

Women are natural guerrillas. Scheming, we nestle into the enemy's bed, avoiding open warfare, watching the options, playing the odds.

- Kempton, Sally

I'm anal retentive. I'm a workaholic. I have insomnia. And I'm a control freak. That's why I'm not married. Who could stand me?

- Madonna

I buy women shoes and they use them to walk away from me.

- Rooney, Mickey

There is a growing strength in women, but it's in the forehead, not in the forearm.

- Sills, Beverly

If there hadn't been women we'd still be squatting in a cave eating raw meat, because we made civilization in order to impress our girl friends. And they tolerated it and let us go ahead and play with our toys.

- Welles, Orson

A synonym is a word you use when you can't spell the word you first thought of.

- Bacharach, Burt

Words today are like the shells and rope of seaweed which a child brings home glistening from the beach and which in an hour have lost their luster.

- Connolly, Cyril

Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will make me go in a corner and cry by myself for hours.

- Idle, Eric

The two most beautiful words in the English language are: Check Enclosed.

- Parker, Dorothy

If a word in the dictionary were misspelled, how would we know?

- Wright, Steven

Don't worry about the world coming to an end today. It's already tomorrow in Australia.

- Schulz, Charles M.

The biggest obstacle to professional writing is the necessity for changing a typewriter ribbon.

- Benchley, Robert

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

I believe more in the scissors than I do in the pencil.

- Capote, Truman

When writers meet they are truculent, indifferent, or over-polite. Then comes the

inevitable moment. A shows B that he has read something of B s. Will B show A? If not, then A hates B, if yes, then all is well. The only other way for writers to meet is to share a quick pee over a common lamp-post.

- Connolly, Cyril

If you describe things as better than they are, you are considered to be a romantic; if you describe things as worse than they are, you will be called a realist; and if you describe things exactly as they are, you will be thought of as a satirist.

- Crisp, Quentin

Writing is turning one's worst moments into money.

- Donleavy, J. P.

The first essential in writing about anything is that the writer should have no experience of the matter.

- Duncan, Isadora

Some editors are failed writers, but so are most writers.

- Eliot, T. S.

The best way to become a successful writer is to read good writing, remember it, and then forget where you remember it from.

- Fowler, Gene

They're fancy talkers about themselves, writers. If I had to give young writers advice, I would say don't listen to writers talking about writing or themselves.

- Hellman, Lillian

If I had to give young writers advice, I would say don't listen to writers talking about writing or themselves.

- Hellman, Lillian

The most essential gift for a good writer is a built-in, shock-proof, shit detector. This is the writer's radar and all great writers have had it.

- Hemingway, Ernest

People want to know why I do this, why I write such gross stuff. I like to tell them that I have the heart of a small boy -- and I keep it in a jar on my desk.

- King, Stephen

It's hard enough to write a good drama, it's much harder to write a good comedy, and it's hardest of all to write a drama with comedy. Which is what life is.

- Lemmon, Jack

It's very hard to be a gentleman and a writer.

- Maugham, W. Somerset

The trouble with young writers is that they are all in their sixties.

- Maugham, W. Somerset

I write in order to attain that feeling of tension relieved and function achieved which a cow enjoys on giving milk.

- Mencken, H. L.

I always write a good first line, but I have trouble in writing the others.

- Moliere

Good authors, too, who once knew better words now only use four-letter words writing prose... anything goes.

- Porter, Cole

Each writer is born with a repertory company in his head. Shakespeare has perhaps 20 players, and Tennessee Williams has about 5, and Samuel Beckett one -- and maybe a clone of that one. I have 10 or so, and that's a lot. As you get older, you become more skillful at casting them.

- Vidal, Gore

I love being a writer, what I can't stand is the paperwork.

- Vries, Peter De

Except for an occasional heart attack I feel as young as I ever did.

- Benchley, Robert

The young always have the same problem -- how to rebel and conform at the same time. They have now solved this by defying their parents and copying one another.

- Crisp, Quentin

You are only young once, and if you work it right, once is enough.

- Lewis, Joe E.

In grade school, I was a complete geek. You know, there's always the kid who's too short, the kid who wears glasses, the kid who's not athletic. Well, I was all three.

- Moore, Julianne

Sex alleviates tension. Love causes it.

- Allen, Woody

Our Congress is the finest body of men money can buy.

- Amsterdam, Maury

Perseverance is failing 19 times and succeeding the 20th.

- Andrews, Julie

Absence does not make the heart grow fonder, but it sure heats up the blood.

- Ashley, Elizabeth

The hardest job kids face today is learning good manners without seeing any.

- Astaire, Fred

The virtue of the camera is not the power it has to transform the photographer into an artist, but the impulse it gives him to keep on looking.

- Atkinson, Brooks

I have no objections to churches so long as they do not interfere with God's work.

- Atkinson, Brooks

I wish Frank Sinatra would just shut up and sing.

- Bacall, Lauren

You don't get to choose how you're going to die, or when. You can decide how you're going to live now.

- Baez, Joan

Nonviolence is a flop. The only bigger flop is violence.

- Baez, Joan

The easiest kind of relationship is with ten thousand people, the hardest is with one.

- Baez, Joan

What the world really needs is more love and less paper work.

- Bailey, Pearl

Let's not quibble! I'm the foe of moderation, the champion of excess. If I may lift a line from a die-hard whose identity is lost in the shuffle, I'd rather be strongly wrong than weakly right.

- Bankhead, Tallulah

I have three phobias which, could I mute them, would make my life as slick as a sonnet, but as dull as ditch water: I hate to go to bed, I hate to get up, and I hate to be alone.

- Bankhead, Tallulah

Nobody can be exactly like me. Sometimes even I have trouble doing it.

- Bankhead, Tallulah

I leave before being left. I decide.

- Bardot, Brigitte

It is sad to grow old but nice to ripen.

- Bardot, Brigitte

People tend to remember my performances, not me.

- Barkin, Ellen

Money is a terrible master but an excellent servant.

- Barnum, P.T.

More persons, on the whole, are humbugged by believing in nothing than by believing in too much.

- Barnum, P.T.

Men's second childhood begins when a woman gets a hold of him.

- Barrie, Sir James M.

Every man who is high up loves to think that he has done it all himself; and the wife smiles, and lets it go at that.

- Barrie, Sir James M.

The best time to make friends is before you need them.

- Barrymore, Ethel

A man is not old until regrets take the place of dreams.

- Barrymore, John

I would like to find a stew that will give me heartburn immediately, instead of at three o clock in the morning.

- Barrymore, John

The trouble with life is that there are so many beautiful women and so little time.

- Barrymore, John

Why is there so much month left at the end of the money?

- Barrymore, John

My wife is the kind of girl who will not go anywhere without her mother, and her mother will go anywhere.

- Barrymore, John

I don't have time to be classified as difficult, and I don't have time to care.

- Basinger, Kim

I work in a strange business, and trust is a word that's not even in the vocabulary.

- Basinger, Kim

It's best to have failure happen early in life. It wakes up the Phoenix bird in you so you rise

from the ashes.

- Baxter, Anne

For me, the highest level of sexual excitement is in a monogamous relationship.

- Beatty, Warren

Only the pure in heart can make a good soup.

- Beethoven, Ludwig Van

Beethoven can write music, thank God, but he can do nothing else on earth.

- Beethoven, Ludwig Van

I don't want to tell you how much insurance I carry with the Prudential, but all I can say is: when I go, they go too.

- Benny, Jack

Happiness is good health and a bad memory.

- Bergman, Ingrid

If you close your eyes, you could just as well imagine me to be vintage Ali MacGraw, circa 1968.

- Bernhard, Sandra

Character contributes to beauty. It fortifies a woman as her youth fades.

- Bisset, Jacqueline

I stopped believing in Santa Claus when I was six. Mother took me to see him in a department store and he asked for my autograph.

- Black, Shirley Temple

If I'd known I was gonna live this long. I'd have taken better care of myself. [Eubie Blake At Age 100]

- Blake, Eubie

The camera can photograph thought. It's better than a paragraph of sweet polemic.

- Bogarde, Dirk

The only reason I would take up jogging is so that I could hear heavy breathing again.

- Bombeck, Erma

I take a very practical view of raising children. I put a sign in each of their rooms: Checkout Time is 18 years.

- Bombeck, Erma

The more I see of men, the more I like dogs.

- Bow, Clara

I don't mind that I'm fat. You still get the same money.

- Brando, Marlon

Don't be afraid of death so much as an inadequate life.

- Brecht, Bertolt

Your audience gives you everything you need. They tell you. There is no director who can direct you like an audience.

- Brice, Fanny

The one function that TV news performs very well is that when there is no news we give it to you with the same emphasis as if there were.

- Brinkley, David

I slip from workaholic to bum real easy.

- Broderick, Matthew

It's easy to make a buck. It's a lot tougher to make a difference.

- Brokaw, Tom

A liberal is a man who leaves a room when the fight begins.

- Broun, Heywood

Nobody talks so constantly about God as those who insist that there is no God.

- Broun, Heywood

Sweat is the cologne of accomplishment.

- Broun, Heywood

If this were a logical world, men would ride side saddle.

- Brown, Rita Mae

The liberals can understand everything but people who don't understand them.

- Bruce, Lenny

Never did I think that I became family entertainment.

- Buffett, Jimmy

It has been said that a pretty face is a passport. But it's not, it's a visa, and it runs out fast.

- Burchill, Julie

The freedom that women were supposed to have found in the Sixties largely boiled down to easy contraception and abortion; things to make life easier for men, in fact.

- Burchill, Julie

A good part -- and definitely the most fun part -- of being a feminist is about frightening men.

- Burchill, Julie

Show me a frigid women and, nine times out of ten, I'll show you a little man.

- Burchill, Julie

Fame is no sanctuary from the passing of youth... suicide is much easier and more acceptable in Hollywood than growing old gracefully.

- Burchill, Julie

A woman past forty should make up her mind to be young; not her face.

- Burke, Billie

Happiness is having a large, loving, caring, close-knit family in another city.

- Burns, George

Retirement at sixty-five is ridiculous. When I was sixty-five I still had pimples.

- Burns, George

In between goals is a thing called life, that has to be lived and enjoyed.

- Caesar, Sid

If someone says can't, that shows you what to do.

- Cage, John

It is better to make a piece of music than to perform one, better to perform one than to listen to one, better to listen to one than to misuse it as a means of distraction, entertainment, or acquisition of culture.

- Cage, John

We carry our homes within us which enables us to fly.

- Cage, John

First of all, I choose the great [roles], and if none of these come, I choose the mediocre ones, and if they don't come, I choose the ones that pay the rent.

- Caine, Michael

The basic rule of human nature is that powerful people speak slowly and subservient people quickly --because if they don't speak fast nobody will listen to them.

- Caine, Michael

All literature is gossip.

- Capote, Truman

Young people should be helped, sheltered, ignored, and clubbed of necessary.

- Capp, Al

In order to have great happiness, you have to have great pain and unhappiness-otherwise how would you know when you're happy?

- Caron, Leslie

Until Ace Ventura, no actor had considered talking through his ass.

- Carrey, Jim

If I'm not back in five minutes... just wait longer!

- Carrey, Jim

If life was fair, Elvis would be alive and all the impersonators would be dead.

- Carson, Johnny

My success just evolved from working hard at the business at hand each day.

- Carson, Johnny

New York is an exciting town where something is happening all the time, most unsolved.

- Carson, Johnny

How well I have learned that there is no fence to sit on between heaven and hell. There is

a deep, wide gulf, a chasm, and in that chasm is no place for any man.

- Cash, Johnny

To label me an intellectual is a misunderstanding of what that is.

- Cavett, Dick

It is a rare person who wants to hear want he doesn't want to hear.

- Cavett, Dick

My skull, my eyes, my nose three times, my jaw, my shoulder, my chest, two fingers, a knee, everything from the top of my head to the bottom of my feet. [Listing what body parts he has broken]

- Chan, Jackie

It is pretty obvious that the debasement of the human mind caused by a constant flow of fraudulent advertising is no trivial thing. There is more than one way to conquer a country.

- Chandler, Raymond

However toplofty and idealistic a man may be, he can always rationalize his right to earn money.

- Chandler, Raymond

A really good detective never gets married.

- Chandler, Raymond

She gave me a smile I could feel in my hip pocket.

- Chandler, Raymond

Such is the brutalization of commercial ethics in this country that no one can feel anything more delicate than the velvet touch of a soft buck.

- Chandler, Raymond

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

What did it matter where you lay once you were dead? In a dirty sump or in a marble tower on top of a high hill? You were dead, you were sleeping the big sleep, you were not bothered by things like that. Oil and water were the same as wind and air to you.

- Chandler, Raymond

Woe, woe, woe... in a little while we shall all be dead. Therefore let us behave as though we were dead already.

- Chandler, Raymond

Failure is unimportant. It takes courage to make a fool of yourself.

- Chaplin, Charlie

In the end, everything is a gag.

- Chaplin, Charlie

Laughter is the tonic, the relief, the surcease for pain.

- Chaplin, Charlie

The basic essential of a great actor is that he loves himself in acting.

- Chaplin, Charlie

The saddest thing I can imagine is to get used to luxury.

- Chaplin, Charlie

I don't believe that the public knows what it wants; this is the conclusion that I have drawn from my career.

- Chaplin, Charlie

I'm a hopeful cynic.

- Chapman, Tracy

I never wanted to be famous. I only wanted to be great.

- Charles, Ray

I'm not into the money thing. You can only sleep in one bed at a time. You can only eat one meal at a time, or be in one car at a time. So I don't have to have millions of dollars to be happy. All I need are clothes on my back, a decent meal, and a little loving when I feel like it. That's the bottom line.

- Charles, Ray

There's nothing written in the Bible, Old or New testament, that says, If you believe in Me, you ain't going to have no troubles.

- Charles, Ray

Actors search for rejection. If they don't get it they reject themselves.

- Chase, Chevy

I'm insecure about everything, because... I'm never going to look in the mirror and see this blond, blue-eyed girl. That is my idea of what I'd like to look like.

- Cher

Men aren't necessities. They're luxuries.

- Cher

Every difficulty slurred over will be a ghost to disturb your repose later on.

- Chopin, Frederic

I don't set trends. I just find out what they are and exploit them.

- Clark, Dick

Life is a horizontal fall.

- Cocteau, Jean

The joy of youth is to disobey; but the trouble is that there are no longer any orders.

- Cocteau, Jean

Poetry is indispensable --if I only knew what for.

- Cocteau, Jean

One must be a living man and a posthumous artist.

- Cocteau, Jean

Tact is knowing how far to go too far.

- Cocteau, Jean

The extreme limit of wisdom --that's what the public calls madness.

- Cocteau, Jean

It is not I who become addicted, it is my body.

- Cocteau, Jean

What the public criticizes in you, cultivate. It is you.

- Cocteau, Jean

I have a piece of great and sad news to tell you: I am dead.

- Cocteau, Jean

Since the day of my birth, my death began its walk. It is walking toward me, without hurrying.

- Cocteau, Jean

There is a crack in everything, that's how the light gets in.

- Cohen, Leonard

Children show scars like medals. Lovers use them as secrets to reveal. A scar is what happens when the word is made flesh.

- Cohen, Leonard

I am an old scholar, better-looking now than when I was young. That's what sitting on your ass does to your face.

- Cohen, Leonard

A woman watches her body uneasily, as though it were an unreliable ally in the battle for love.

- Cohen, Leonard

My weakness is wearing too much leopard print.

- Collins, Jackie

The biggest critics of my books are people who never read them.

- Collins, Jackie

According to my sister, the expert novelist Jackie Collins, most men stray. And sex doesn't mean anything to most men. But I wouldn't date a man who slept around. Absolutely not. I've divorced people for that.

- Collins, Joan

I have always hated that damn James Bond. I'd like to kill him.

- Connery, Sean

We love but once, for once only are we perfectly equipped for loving.

- Connolly, Cyril

The dread of loneliness is greater than the fear of bondage, so we get married.

- Connolly, Cyril

In the sex war, thoughtlessness is the weapon of the male, vindictiveness of the female.

- Connolly, Cyril

Imprisoned in every fat man, a thin one is wildly signaling to be let out.

- Connolly, Cyril

There are many who dare not kill themselves for fear of what the neighbors will say.

- Connolly, Cyril

Too often the opportunity knocks, but by the time you push back the chain, push back the bolt, unhook the locks and shut off the burglar alarm, it's too late.

- Coolidge, Rita

I bring to my life a certain amount of mess.

- Coppola, Francis Ford

Marriage is like a bank account. You put it in, you take it out, you lose interest.

- Cory, Irwin

That married couples can live together day after day is a miracle the Vatican has overlooked.

- Cosby, Bill

Nothing separates the generations more than music. By the time a child is eight or nine, he has developed a passion for his own music that is even stronger than his passions for procrastination and weird clothes.

- Cosby, Bill

My ultimate vocation in life is to be an irritant.

- Costello, Elvis

I'd like to put on buckskins and a ponytail and go underwater with a reed, hiding from the Indians... To me, that's sexy!

- Costner, Kevin

My importance to the world is relatively small. On the other hand, my importance to myself is tremendous. I am all I have to work with, to play with, to suffer and to enjoy. It is not the eyes of others that I am wary of, but of my own. I do not intend to let myself down more than I can possibly help, and I find that the fewer illusions I have about myself or the world around me, the better company I am for myself.

- Coward, Noel

I've sometimes thought of marrying, and then I've thought again.

- Coward, Noel

Extraordinary how potent cheap music is.

- Coward, Noel

I have always paid income tax. I object only when it reaches a stage when I am threatened with having nothing left for my old age -- which is due to start next Tuesday or Wednesday.

- Coward, Noel

Work is more fun than fun.

- Coward, Noel

Love is a fire. But whether it is going to warm your hearth or burn down your house, you can never tell.

- Crawford, Joan

If Mr. Vincent Price were to be co-starred with Miss Bette Davis in a story by Mr. Edgar Allan Poe directed by Mr. Roger Corman, it could not fully express the pent-up violence and depravity of a single day in the life of the average family.

- Crisp, Quentin

To know all is not to forgive all. It is to despise everybody.

- Crisp, Quentin

Life was a funny thing that happened to me on the way to the grave.

- Crisp, Quentin

When I told the people of Northern Ireland that I was an atheist, a woman in the audience stood up and said, yes, but is it the God of the Catholics or the God of the Protestants in whom you don't believe?

- Crisp, Quentin

The poverty from which I have suffered could be diagnosed as Soho poverty. It comes from having the airs and graces of a genius and no talent.

- Crisp, Quentin

I am having so much fun performing, I feel almost guilty. I think, my God, I hope no one comes and busts me for this.

- Crosby, David

That is the point of quotations. One can use another's words to be insulting.

- Cross, Amanda

I like villains because there's something so attractive about a committed person -- they have a plan, an ideology, no matter how twisted. They're motivated.

- Crowe, Russell

Nothing ends nicely, that's why it ends.

- Cruise, Tom

Talk is over-rated as a means of settling disputes.

- Cruise, Tom

I'm comfortable being old... being black... being Jewish.

- Crystal, Billy

Celebrity is death --- celebrity -- that's the worst thing that can happen to an actor.

- Cusack, John

Somebody told me I should put a pebble in my mouth to cure my stuttering. Well, I tried it, and during a scene I swallowed the pebble. That was the end of that.

- Davies, Marion

The real actor has a direct line to the collective heart.

- Davis, Bette

If you have never been hated by your child, you have never been a parent.

- Davis, Bette

Do not fear mistakes -- there are none.

- Davis, Miles

Don't play what's there, play what's not there.

- Davis, Miles

If it's true that men are such beasts, this must account for the fact that most women are animal lovers.

- Day, Doris

Dream as if you'll live forever. Live as if you'll die tomorrow.

- Dean, James

I dress for women and I undress for men.

- Dickenson, Angie

Once a woman has forgiven her man, she must not reheat his sins for breakfast.

- Dietrich, Marlene

Gentleman. A man who buys two of the same morning paper from the doorman of his favorite nightclub when he leaves with his girl.

- Dietrich, Marlene

Courage and grace is a formidable mixture. The only place to see it is the bullring.

- Dietrich, Marlene

There is a gigantic difference between earning a great deal of money and being rich.

- Dietrich, Marlene

Whatever you may look like, marry a man your own age -- as your beauty fades, so will his eyesight.

- Diller, Phyllis

Thirty was so strange for me. I've really had to come to terms with the fact that I am now a walking and talking adult. [Reflecting on his former status as a teen idol]

- Dillon, Matt

A lot of my peer group think I'm an eccentric bisexual, like I may even have an ammonia-filled tentacle somewhere on my body. That's okay.

- Downey Jr., Robert

I find myself fascinating.

- Dreyfus, Richard

My worst fear is that I'll end up living in some run-down duplex on Wilshire wearing pants

hiked up to my nipples and muttering under my breath.

- Dreyfuss, Richard

I'd prefer not to be the pretty thing in a film. It's such a bloody responsibility to look cute, because people know when you don't and they're like, They're trying to pass her off as the cute girl and she's looking like a bedraggled sack of potatoes.

- Driver, Minnie

Sometimes when I'm swimming, I think that maybe someday I'll put my red Speedo up for auction. Or maybe I'll donate it to the Smithsonian. They can stuff it with two plums and a gherkin and put it on display.

- Duchovny, David

It seems to me monstrous that anyone should believe that the jazz rhythm expresses America. Jazz rhythm expresses the primitive savage.

- Duncan, Isadora

So that ends my first experience of matrimony, which I always thought a highly over-rated performance.

- Duncan, Isadora

All this talk about equality. The only thing people really have in common is that they are all going to die.

- Dylan, Bob

Just because you like my stuff doesn't mean I owe you anything.

- Dylan, Bob

But even the President of the United States sometimes must have to stand naked.

- Dylan, Bob

I tried being reasonable, I didn't like it.

- Eastwood, Clint

The years between fifty and seventy are the hardest. You are always being asked to do things, and yet you are not decrepit enough to turn them down.

- Eliot, T. S.

I don't believe one grows older. I think that what happens early on in life is that at a certain age one stands still and stagnates.

- Eliot, T. S.

Only by acceptance of the past, can you alter it.

- Eliot, T. S.

A play should give you something to think about. When I see a play and understand it the first time, then I know it can't be much good.

- Eliot, T. S.

Success is relative. It is what we can make of the mess we have made of things.

- Eliot, T. S.

I don't wake up for less than $10,000 a day.

- Evangelista, Linda

A lot of fellows nowadays have a B. A., M. D., or Ph. D. Unfortunately, they don't have a J. O. B.

- Fats Domino

Comedy, like sodomy, is an unnatural act.

- Feldman, Marty

I am more important than my problems.

- Ferrer, Jose

You talk too much, you laugh too loud, that's the price of love.

- Ferry, Brian

It took me a long time not to judge myself through someone else's eyes.

- Field, Sally

I've been on a diet for two weeks and all I've lost is two weeks.

- Fields, Totie

I never vote for anyone. I always vote against.

- Fields, W. C.

Remember, a dead fish can float downstream, but it takes a live one to swim upstream.

- Fields, W. C.

Show me a great actor and I'll show you a lousy husband. Show me a great actress, and you've seen the devil.

- Fields, W. C.

Start off everyday with a simple smile and get it over with.

- Fields, W. C.

I was street smart, but unfortunately the street was Rodeo Drive.

- Fisher, Carrie

The best actors do not let the wheels show.

- Fonda, Henry

I'm an assistant storyteller. It's like being a waiter or a gas-station attendant, but I'm waiting on six million people a week, if I'm lucky. [On being an actor]

- Ford, Harrison

Normal is not something to aspire to, it's something to get away from.

- Foster, Jodie

I don't need to be Tom Cruise. I just need to work forever.

- Foster, Jodie

I am glad that I paid so little attention to good advice; had I abided by it I might have been saved from some of my most valuable mistakes.

- Fowler, Gene

Men are not against you; they are merely for themselves.

- Fowler, Gene

I'm going to marry a Jewish woman because I like the idea of getting up Sunday morning and going to the deli.

- Fox, Michael J.

Only men who are not interested in women are interested in women's clothes. Men who

like women never notice what they wear.

- France, Anatole

I've always felt rock and roll was very, very wholesome music.

- Franklin, Aretha

For lack of a better term, they've labeled me a sex symbol. It's flattering and it should happen to every bald, overweight guy.

- Franz, Dennis

I am a marvelous housekeeper. Every time I leave a man I keep his house.

- Gabor, Zsa Zsa

A man in love is incomplete until he has married -- then he's finished.

- Gabor, Zsa Zsa

They say a lot of women would like to see me naked, but there's not a lens long enough for that.

- Garcia, Andy

Constantly choosing the lesser of two evils is still choosing evil.

- Garcia, Jerry

Some people say Liz and I are whores, but we are saints. We do not hide our loves hypocritically, and when in love, we are loyal and faithful to our men. [On the subject of her multiple marriages]

- Gardner, Ava

Deep down, I'm pretty superficial.

- Gardner, Ava

Irish Americans are no more Irish than Black Americans are Africans.

- Geldof, Bob

I cry every chance I get.

- Gere, Richard

It's all happening too fast. I've got to put the brakes on or I'll smack into something.

- Gibson, Mel

I've always been a sucker for attention.

- Gooding Jr., Cuba

Hell hath no fury like a liberal scorned.

- Gregory, Dick

Acting is happy agony.

- Guiness, Sir Alec

It really costs me a lot emotionally to watch myself on-screen. I think of myself, and feel like I'm quite young, and then I look at this old man with the baggy chins and the tired eyes and the receding hairline and all that.

- Hackman, Gene

More than in any other performing arts the lack of respect for acting seems to spring from the fact that every layman considers himself a valid critic.

- Hagen, Uta

May you live as long as you want and not want as long as you live.

- Hanks, Tom

A movie camera is like having someone you have a crush on watching you from afar -- you pretend it's not there.

- Hannah, Daryl

Violence was almost an aphrodisiac for me.

- Harrelson, Woody

Exhilaration is that feeling you get just after a great idea hits you, and just before you

realize what's wrong with it.

- Harrison, Rex

Tomorrow is a thief of pleasure.

- Harrison, Rex

If you stand still long enough, you'll get stuck

- Hasselhoff, David

If you rest, you rust.

- Hayes, Helen

Those who make their dress a principal part of themselves will, in general, become of no more value than their dress.

- Hazlitt, William

Grace in women has more effect than beauty.

- Hazlitt, William

Man is a make-believe animal -- he is never so truly himself as when he is acting a part.

- Hazlitt, William

Prejudice is the child of ignorance.

- Hazlitt, William

If you were happy every day of your life you wouldn't be a human being, you'd be a game show host.

- Heatter, Gabriel

There is no top. There are always further heights to reach.

- Heifetz, Jascha

I probably hold the distinction of being one movie star who, by all laws of logic, should never have made it. At each stage of my career, I lacked the experience.

- Hepburn, Audrey

Enemies are so stimulating.

- Hepburn, Katharine

If you always do what interests you, at least one person is pleased.

- Hepburn, Katharine

Sometimes I wonder if men and women really suit each other. Perhaps they should live next door and just visit now and then.

- Hepburn, Katharine

Acting is the perfect idiot's profession.

- Hepburn, Katharine

The most minor gifts and not a very high class way to earn a living. After all, Shirley Temple could do it at the age of four.

- Hepburn, Katharine

It's a business you go into because you're an egocentric. It's a very embarrassing profession.

- Hepburn, Katharine

If you give an audience a chance they will do half your acting for you.

- Hepburn, Katharine

A woman's mind is cleaner than a man s: She changes it more often.

- Herford, Oliver

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

- Herford, Oliver

There is no terror in a bang, only in the anticipation of it.

- Hitchcock, Alfred

I'm not against the police; I'm just afraid of them.

- Hitchcock, Alfred

There is nothing to winning, really. That is, if you happen to be blessed with a keen eye, an agile mind, and no scruples whatsoever.

- Hitchcock, Alfred

I envy people who can just look at a sunset. I wonder how you can shoot it. There is nothing more grotesque to me than a vacation.

- Hoffman, Dustin

Without Elvis, none of us could have made it.

- Holly, Buddy

I like trying [to get pregnant]. I'm not so sure about childbirth.

- Holly, Lauren

You want to hear about insanity? I was found running naked through the jungles in Mexico. At the Mexico City airport, I decided I was in the middle of a movie and walked out on the wing on takeoff. My body... my liver... okay, my brain... went.

- Hopper, Dennis

Hollywood has always been a cage... a cage to catch our dreams.

- Huston, John

Being on tour sends me crazy, I drink too much and out comes the John Mcenroe in me.

- Hynde, Chrissie

The majority is always wrong; the minority is rarely right.

- Ibsen, Henrik

It is inexcusable for scientists to torture animals; let them make their experiments on journalists and politicians.

- Ibsen, Henrik

The Constitution is a figment of your imagination, held up to make people believe they have rights. I don't believe anybody in this country has rights.

- Ice-T

Actors often behave like children, and so we're taken for children. I want to be grown up.

- Irons, Jeremy

My money goes to my agent, then to my accountant and from him to the tax man.

- Jackson, Glenda

Acting provides the fulfillment of never being fulfilled. You're never as good as you'd like to

be. So there's always something to hope for.

- Jackson, Glenda

Acting is not about dressing up. Acting is about stripping bare. The whole essence of learning lines is to forget them so you can make them sound like you thought of them that instant.

- Jackson, Glenda

It's easy to be independent when you've got money. But to be independent when you haven't got a thing -- that's the Lord's test.

- Jackson, Mahalia

I was a veteran before I was a teenager.

- Jackson, Michael

What kills me is that everybody thinks I like jazz.

- Jackson, Samuel L.

A blond in a red dress can do without introductions -- but not without a bodyguard.

- Jaffe, Rona

It is all right letting yourself go, as long as you can get yourself back.

- Jagger, Mick

I may be crazy but it keeps me from going insane.

- Jennings, Waylon

Marriage is a mistake every man should make.

- Jessel, George

The human brain is a wonderful organ. It starts to work as soon as you are born and doesn't stop until you get up to deliver a speech.

- Jessel, George

A typical day in the life of a heavy metal musician consists of a round of golf and an AA meeting.

- Joel, Billy

I have a theory that the only original things we ever do are mistakes.

- Joel, Billy

I want to do a musical movie. Like Evita, but with good music.

- John, Elton

Damn right, it's fun. There's good company. It's creative. It's adventurous. Combines high adventure and art with intellection. It's more fun than polo. It's like going undefeated in

football. [When asked if making movies is fun]

- Jones, Tommy Lee

One of the surest signs of the Philistine is his reverence for the superior tastes of those who put him down.

- Kael, Pauline

Youth is the gift of nature, but age is a work of art.

- Kanin, Garson

Amateurs hope, professionals work.

- Kanin, Garson

When I was born I owed twelve dollars.

- Kaufman, George S.

I like terra firma; the more firma, the less terra.

- Kaufman, George S.

You've got to keep fighting; you've got to risk your life every six months to stay alive

- Kazan, Elia

The freedom of the press works in such a way that there is not much freedom from it.

- Kelly, Grace (Patricia)

I feel about airplanes the way I feel about diets. It seems to me that they are wonderful things for other people to go on.

- Kerr, Jean

Hope is the feeling you have that the feeling you have isn't permanent.

- Kerr, Jean

Man is the only animal that learns by being hypocritical. He pretends to be polite and then, eventually, he becomes polite.

- Kerr, Jean

The average, healthy, well-adjusted adult gets up at seven-thirty in the morning feeling just plain terrible.

- Kerr, Jean

You don't seem to realize that a poor person who is unhappy is in a better position than a rich person who is unhappy. Because the poor person has hope. He thinks money would help.

- Kerr, Jean

I'm so insane, I voted for Eisenhower. Oh yeah, well I'm so insane, I voted for Eisenhower

TWICE!

- Kesey, Ken

I'd rather be a lightning rod than a seismograph.

- Kesey, Ken

Doorman -- a genius who can open the door of your car with one hand, help you in with the other, and still have one left for the tip.

- Kilgallen, Dorothy

I don't think anybody steals anything; all of us borrow.

- King, B. B.

I'm the worst person to be stuck with in a traffic jam.

- King, Larry

Only enemies speak the truth. Friends and lovers lie endlessly, caught in the web of duty.

- King, Stephen

Fiction is the truth inside the lie.

- King, Stephen

I don't worry about terrorism. I was married for two years.

- Kinison, Sam

I think every American actor wants to be a movie star. But I never wanted to do stupid movies, I wanted to do films. I vowed I would never do a commercial, nor would I do a soap opera -- both of which I did as soon as I left the [Acting] Company and was starving.

- Kline, Kevin

Never walk away from failure. On the contrary, study it carefully and imaginatively for its hidden assets.

- Korda, Michael

To succeed it is necessary to accept the world as it is and rise above it.

- Korda, Michael

The greatest nations have all acted like gangsters and the smallest like prostitutes.

- Kubrick, Stanley

In a mad world, only the mad are sane.

- Kurosawa, Akiro

When you learn not to want things so badly, life comes to you.

- Lange, Jessica

I just stopped playing bitches on wheels and peoples' mothers. I have only a few more years to kick up my heels!

- Lansbury, Angela

I was sitting in the looping studio late one night, and I had this epiphany that they weren't paying me for my acting, for God's sake, but to own me. And from then on, it became clear and an awful lot easier to deal with.

- Lawless, Lucy

Life is made up of small pleasures. Happiness is made up of those tiny successes. The big ones come too infrequently. And if you don't collect all these tiny successes, the big ones don't really mean anything.

- Lear, Norman

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

Take no thought of who is right or wrong or who is better than. Be not for or against.

- Lee, Bruce

I'm not in this world to live up to your expectations and you're not in this world to live up to mine.

- Perls, Fritz Dr.

As you think, so shall you become.

- Lee, Bruce

It is really important that young people find something that they want to do and pursue it with passion. I'm very passionate about filmmaking. It's what I love to do.

- Lee, Spike

I wish people that have trouble communicating would just shut up!

- Lehrer, Tom

I'm not into working out. My philosophy: No pain, no pain.

- Leifer, Carol

I love being in therapy. It's just constantly fulfilling for me.

- Leigh, Jennifer Jason

I used to hang out by the food table at parties because you don't have to talk to anybody. If you do then you can talk about the food.

- Leigh, Jennifer Jason

If you think it's hard to meet new people, try picking up the wrong golf ball.

- Lemmon, Jack

Nobody deserves this much money -- certainly not an actor.

- Lemmon, Jack

You have to be a bastard to make it, and that's a fact. And the Beatles are the biggest bastards on earth.

- Lennon, John

God is a concept by which we measure our pain.

- Lennon, John

My defenses were so great. The cocky rock and roll hero who knows all the answers was actually a terrified guy who didn't know how to cry. Simple.

- Lennon, John

We're more popular than Jesus Christ now. I don't know which will go first; rock and roll or

Christianity.

- Lennon, John

Love is a promise, love is a souvenir, once given never forgotten, never let it disappear.

- Lennon, John

Our society is run by insane people for insane objectives. I think we're being run by maniacs for maniacal ends and I think I'm liable to be put away as insane for expressing that. That's what's insane about it.

- Lennon, John

The more I see the less I know for sure.

- Lennon, John

If God had wanted us to vote, he would have given us candidates.

- Leno, Jay

I try to leave out the parts that people skip.

- Leonard, Elmore

I don't do T & A very well because I haven't got much of either.

- Leoni, Tea

Number one: Don't frisk me. Don't hurt me physically. Don't get anywhere near my neck. And don't call me Regis. [Advice to his guests]

- Letterman, David

Once I make up my mind, I'm full of indecision.

- Levant, Oscar

Every time I look at you I get a fierce desire to be lonesome.

- Levant, Oscar

What the world needs is more geniuses with humility, there are so few of us left.

- Levant, Oscar

There are two sides to every question: my side and the wrong side.

- Levant, Oscar

Roses are red, violets are blue, I'm schizophrenic, and so am I.

- Levant, Oscar

I've given up reading books. I find it takes my mind off myself.

- Levant, Oscar

You don't merely give over your creativity to making a film -- you give over your life! In

theatre, by contrast, you live these two rather strange lives simultaneously; you have no option but to confront the mould on last night's washing-up.

- Lewis, Daniel Day

People hate me because I am a multifaceted, talented, wealthy, internationally famous genius.

- Lewis, Jerry

If I'm going to Hell, I'm going there playing the piano.

- Lewis, Jerry Lee

I told my doctor I get very tired when I go on a diet, so he gave me pep pills. Know what happened? I ate faster.

- Lewis, Joe E.

I've been on such a losing streak that if I had been around I would have taken General Custer and given points.

- Lewis, Joe E.

I distrust camels, and anyone else who can go a week without a drink.

- Lewis, Joe E.

I'm still chasing girls. I don't remember what for, but I'm still chasing them.

- Lewis, Joe E.

Adlai Stevenson has a genius for saying the right thing, at the right time, to the wrong people.

- Lewis, Joe E.

The way taxes are, you might as well marry for love.

- Lewis, Joe E.

People say I'm cocky, but am I supposed to sit here and be insecure and not know where my future's going or not realize that moviemaking is the greatest thing to happen to me?

- Lewis, Juliette

Sometimes I'm asked by kids why I condemn marijuana when I haven't tried it. The greatest obstetricians in the world have never been pregnant.

- Linkletter, Art

If you don't quit, and don't cheat, and don't run home when trouble arrives, you can only win.

- Long, Shelley

Fate keeps on happening.

- Loos, Anita

I really think that American gentlemen are the best after all, because kissing your hand may make you feel very good but a diamond and a sapphire bracelet lasts forever.

- Loos, Anita

A girl with brains ought to do something with them besides think.

- Loos, Anita

There is no greater glory than love, nor any greater punishment than jealousy

- Lope de Vega

There is a fountain of youth: it is your mind, your talents, the creativity you bring to your life and the lives of the people you love. When you learn to tap into this source, you will truly have defeated age.

- Loren, Sophia

Mistakes are part of the dues one pays for a full life.

- Loren, Sophia

The two big advantages I had at birth were to have been born wise and to have been born in poverty.

- Loren, Sophia

I don't know what it's like for a book writer or a doctor or a teacher as they work to get established in their jobs. But for a singer, you've got to continue to grow or else you're just like last night's cornbread -- stale and dry.

- Lynn, Loretta

A woman's two cents worth is worth two cents in the music business.

- Lynn, Loretta

It is useless to hold a person to anything he says while he is in love, drunk, or running for office.

- Maclaine, Shirley

Listen, everyone is entitled to my opinion.

- Madonna

I wouldn't have turned out the way I was if I didn't have all those old-fashioned values to rebel against.

- Madonna

Catholicism is not a soothing religion. It's a painful religion. We're all gluttons for punishment.

- Madonna

I only have two rules for my newly born daughter: she will dress well and never have sex.

- Malkovich, John

Always tell the truth -- it's the easiest thing to remember.

- Mamet, David

The difference between life and the movies is that a script has to make sense, and life doesn't.

- Mankiewicz, Joseph L.

Men are creatures with eight hands.

- Mansfield, Jane

I belong to Bridegrooms Anonymous. Whenever I feel like getting married, they send over a lady in a housecoat and hair curlers to burn my toast for me.

- Martin, Dick

There is no sweeter sound than the crumbling of ones fellow man.

- Marx, Groucho

Only one man in a thousand is a leader of men -- the other 999 follow women.

- Marx, Groucho

Politics doesn't make strange bedfellows, marriage does.

- Marx, Groucho

My mother loved children -- she would have given anything if I had been one.

- Marx, Groucho

Eighty percent of married men cheat in America. The rest cheat in Europe.

- Mason, Jackie

I have enough money to last me the rest of my life, unless I buy something.

- Mason, Jackie

Love is what happens to a man and woman who don't know each other.

- Maugham, W. Somerset

Perfection is what American women expect to find in their husbands... but English women only hope to find in their butlers.

- Maugham, W. Somerset

Be smart, but never show it.

- Mayer, Louis B

Somebody said to me, But the Beatles were anti-materialistic. That's a huge myth. John

and I literally used to sit down and say, Now, let's write a swimming pool.

- Mccartney, Paul

You know, it's cigarettes that killed (Jerry) Garcia. Everyone thinks it's heroin, but it wasn't. It was cigarettes.

- Mellencamp, John

The only cure for contempt is counter-contempt.

- Mencken, H. L.

I confess I enjoy democracy immensely. It is incomparably idiotic, and hence incomparably amusing.

- Mencken, H. L.

The lunatic fringe wags the underdog.

- Mencken, H. L.

It is hard for the ape to believe he descended from man.

- Mencken, H. L.

A gentlemen is one who never strikes a woman without provocation.

- Mencken, H. L.

On one issue at least, men and women agree; they both distrust women.

- Mencken, H. L.

Say what you will about the Ten Commandments, you must always come back to the pleasant fact that there are only ten of them.

- Mencken, H. L.

Love is an emotion that is based on an opinion of women that is impossible for those who have had any experience with them.

- Mencken, H. L.

Love is the triumph of imagination over intelligence.

- Mencken, H. L.

If I ever marry it will be on a sudden impulse, as a man shoots himself.

- Mencken, H. L.

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

- Mencken, H. L.

The opera is to music what a bawdy house is to a cathedral.

- Mencken, H. L.

Bachelors know more about women than married men; if they didn't, they'd be married too.

- Mencken, H. L.

A good politician is quite as unthinkable as an honest burglar.

- Mencken, H. L.

For every complex problem there is an answer that is clear, simple, and wrong.

- Mencken, H. L.

Temptation is a woman's weapon and man's excuse.

- Mencken, H. L.

Theology is the effort to explain the unknowable in terms of the not worth knowing.

- Mencken, H. L.

I wouldn't say I invented tacky, but I definitely brought it to its present high popularity.

- Midler, Bette

I love her too, but our neuroses just don't match.

- Miller, Arthur

After seven years of marriage, I'm sure of two things -- first, never wallpaper together, and second, you'll need two bathrooms.. both for her. The rest is a mystery, but a mystery I love to be involved in.

- Miller, Dennis

Life is a tough proposition and the first hundred years are the hardest.

- Mizner, Wilson

Unfortunately, I am involved in a freedom ride protesting the loss of the minority rights belonging to the few remaining earthbound stars. All we demanded was our right to twinkle.

- Monroe, Marilyn

I've been on a calendar, but I've never been on time.

- Monroe, Marilyn

The most loving parents and relatives commit murder with smiles on their faces. They force us to destroy the person we really are: a subtle kind of murder.

- Morrison, Jim

Music is spiritual. The music business is not.

- Morrison, Van

Having a family is like having a bowling alley installed in your brain.

- Mull, Martin

Good sense about trivialities is better than nonsense about things that matter.

- Beerbohm, Sir Max

People have this obsession. They want you to be like you were in 1969. They want you to, because otherwise their youth goes with you. It's very selfish, but it's understandable.

- Jagger, Mick

I don't like nostalgia unless it's mine.

- Reed, Lou

I don't weigh a pound over one hundred and eighty and, what's more, I never did.

- Arbuckle, Fatty

Thin people are beautiful, but fat people are adorable.

- Gleason, Jackie

My mother has always been unhappy with what I do. She would rather I do something nicer, like be a bricklayer.

- Jagger, Mick

If I weren't reasonably placid, I don't think I could cope with this sort of life. To be a diva, you've got to be absolutely like a horse.

- Sutherland, Joan

Nothing bad is going to happen to us. If we get fired, it's not failure; its a midlife vocational reassessment.

- O'Rourke, P. J.

The point of living, and of being an optimist, is to be foolish enough to believe the best is yet to come.

- Ustinov, Peter

People with insufficient personalities are fond of cats. These people adore being ignored.

- Morgan, Henry

Personality is the glitter that sends your little gleam across the footlights and the orchestra pit into that big black space where the audience is.

- West, Mae

The number of people that will not go to a show they don't want to see is unlimited.

- Hammerstein, Oscar

Playing Shakespeare is really tiring. You never get to sit down, unless you're the king.

- Hull, Josephine

In order to fully realize how bad a popular play can be, it is necessary to see it twice.

- Shaw, George Bernard

Popularity is exhausting. The life of the party almost always winds up in a corner with an overcoat over him.

- Mizner, Wilson

Everybody hates me because I'm so universally liked.

- Vries, Peter De

There's only one good test of pornography. Get twelve normal men to read the book, and then ask them, Did you get an erection? If the answer is Yes from a majority of the twelve, then the book is pornographic.

- Auden, W. H.

The difference between pornography and erotica is lighting.

- Leonard, Gloria

Privacy is not something that I'm merely entitled to, it's an absolute prerequisite.

- Brando, Marlon

Isn't privacy about keeping taboos in their place?

- Millet, Kate

I drink a lot of Diet Coke and belch. I've been known to use the f word.

- Carter, Helena Bonham

There is not a more mean, stupid, dastardly, pitiless, selfish, spiteful, envious, ungrateful animal than the Public. It is the greatest of cowards, for it is afraid of itself.

- Hazlitt, William

Now that I'm over sixty I'm veering toward respectability.

- Winters, Shelley

Every man thinks God is on his side. The rich and powerful know he is.

- Anouilh, Jean

The rich aren't like us; they pay less taxes.

- Vries, Peter De

Rock 'n Roll is a combination of good ideas dried up by fads, terrible junk, hideous failings in taste and judgment, gullibility and manipulation, moments of unbelievable clarity and invention, pleasure, fun, vulgarity, excess, novelty and utter enervation.

- Marcus, Greil

I can't stand a naked light bulb, any more than I can a rude remark or a vulgar action.

- Williams, Tennessee

Older women are best, because they always think they may be doing it for the last time.

- Fleming, Ian

Talent is nothing but a prolonged period of attention and a shortened period of mental assimilation.

- Stanislavisky, Konstantin

I write plays for people who wouldn't be seen dead in the theatre.

- Keeffe, Barrie

Unemployment insurance is a pre-paid vacation for freeloaders.

- Reagan, Ronald

I have not a particle of confidence in a man who has no redeeming vices.

- Twain, Mark

Never support two weaknesses at the same time. It's your combination sinners -- your lecherous liars and your miserly drunkards -- who dishonor the vices and bring them into

bad repute.

- Wilder, Thornton

In the old days villains had moustaches and kicked the dog. Audiences are smarter today. They don't want their villain to be thrown at them with green limelight on his face. They want an ordinary human being with failings.

- Hitchcock, Alfred

Cause a man with a briefcase can steal more money than any man with a gun

- Henley, Don

The true index of a man's character is the health of his wife.

- Connolly, Cyril

The free-lance writer is a man who is paid per piece or per word or perhaps.

- Benchley, Robert

Writing isn't hard. It isn't any harder than ditch-digging.

- Dennis, Patrick

Writers should be read but not seen. Rarely are they a winsome sight.

- Ferber, Edna

Youth is a period of missed opportunities.

- Connolly, Cyril

Youth has become a class.

- Vadim, Roger

I worry that no matter how cynical you become, it's never enough to keep up.

- Wagner, Jane

QuotationsBook