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We are always too busy for our children; we never give them the time or interest they deserve. We lavish gifts upon them; but the most precious gift, our personal association, which means so much to them, we give grudgingly.

- Twain, Mark

I was young and foolish then; now I am old and foolisher.

- Twain, Mark

Grief can take care of itself; but to get the full value of a joy you must have somebody to divide it with.

- Twain, Mark

The holy passion of friendship is of so sweet and steady and loyal and enduring a nature that it will last through a whole lifetime, if not asked to lend money.

- Twain, Mark

Thousands of geniuses live and die undiscovered -- either by themselves or by others.

- Twain, Mark

I am admonished in many ways that time is pushing me inexorably along. I am

approaching the threshold of age; in 1977 I shall be 142. This is no time to be flitting about the earth. I must cease from the activities proper to youth and begin to take on the dignities and gravities and inertia proper to that season of honorable senility which is on its way.

- Twain, Mark

Methuselah lived to be 969 years old . You boys and girls will see more in the next fifty years than Methuselah saw in his whole lifetime.

- Twain, Mark

Keep away from small people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become great.

- Twain, Mark

It was wonderful to find America, but it would have been more wonderful to miss it.

- Twain, Mark

It could probably be shown by facts and figures that there is no distinctly native American criminal class except Congress.

- Twain, Mark

If you pick up a starving dog and make him prosperous, he will not bite you; that is the principal difference between a dog and a man.

- Twain, Mark

What is the most rigorous law of our being? Growth. No smallest atom of our moral, mental, or physical structure can stand still a year. It grows -- it must grow; nothing can prevent it.

- Twain, Mark

Happiness ain't a thing in itself --it's only a contrast with something that ain't pleasant. And so, as soon as the novelty is over and the force of the contrast dulled, it ain't happiness any longer, and you have to get something fresh.

- Twain, Mark

Heaven goes by favor; if it went by merit, you would stay out and your dog would go in.

- Twain, Mark

History is strewn thick with evidence that a truth is not hard to kill, but a lie, well told, is immortal.

- Twain, Mark

It is better to deserve honors and not have them than to have them and not deserve them.

- Twain, Mark

Man is a creature made at the end of the week's work when God was tired.

- Twain, Mark

When I was fourteen, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have him around. When I got to be twenty-one, I was astonished at how much he had learned in seven years.

- Twain, Mark

It isn't safe to sit in judgment upon another person's illusion when you are not on the inside. While you are thinking it is a dream, he may be knowing it is a planet.

- Twain, Mark

You cannot depend on your judgments when your imagination is out of focus.

- Twain, Mark

Apparently there is nothing that cannot happen today.

- Twain, Mark

The fact that man knows right from wrong proves his intellectual superiority to the other creatures; but the fact that he can do wrong proves his moral inferiority to any creatures that cannot.

- Twain, Mark

Accident is the name of the greatest of all inventors.

- Twain, Mark

True irreverence is disrespect for another man's god.

- Twain, Mark

The human race has but one really affective weapon, and that is laughter.

- Twain, Mark

Laughter is the greatest weapon we have and we, as humans, use it the least.

- Twain, Mark

Life does not consist mainly, or even largely, of facts and happenings. It consists mainly of the storm of thought that is forever flowing through one's head.

- Twain, Mark

Let us so live that when we come to die even the undertaker will be sorry.

- Twain, Mark

When angry, count four; when very angry, swear.

- Twain, Mark

It is nobler to be good, and it is nobler to teach others to be good -- and less trouble!

- Twain, Mark

Be good and you will be lonely.

- Twain, Mark

Nothing that grieves us can be called little: by the eternal laws of proportion a child's loss of a doll and a king's loss of a crown are events of the same size.

- Twain, Mark

Obscurity and competence: That is the life that is worth living.

- Twain, Mark

It is not best that we should all think alike; it is a difference of opinion that makes horse races.

- Twain, Mark

Public opinion is held in reverence. It settles everything. Some think it is the voice of God.

- Twain, Mark

The man who is a pessimist before 48 knows too much; if he is an optimist after it, he knows too little.

- Twain, Mark

What a good thing Adam had. When he said a good thing, he knew nobody had said it

before.

- Twain, Mark

To do something, say something, see something, before anybody else -- these are things that confer a pleasure compared with which other pleasures are tame and commonplace, other ecstasies cheap and trivial.

- Twain, Mark

The man who does not read books has no advantage over the man that can not read them.

- Twain, Mark

The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up.

- Twain, Mark

I know all those people. I have friendly, social, and criminal relations with the whole lot of them.

- Twain, Mark

The right word may be effective, but no word was ever as effective as a rightly timed pause.

- Twain, Mark

Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear -- not absence of fear.

- Twain, Mark

This is certain, that a man that studieth revenge keeps his wounds green, which otherwise would heal and do well.

- Bacon, Francis

Therefore if a man look sharply and attentively, he shall see Fortune; for though she be blind, yet she is not invisible.

- Bacon, Francis

Without friends the world is but a wilderness. There is no man that imparteth his joys to his friends, but he joyeth the more; and no man that imparteth his grieves to his friend, but he grieveth the less.

- Bacon, Francis

The worst solitude is to have no real friendships.

- Bacon, Francis

Imagination was given man to compensate for what he is not, and a sense of humor to console him for what he is.

- Bacon, Francis

Nakedness is uncomely, as well in mind as body, and it addeth no small reverence to men's manners and actions if they be not altogether open. Therefore set it down: That a habit of secrecy is both politic and moral.

- Bacon, Francis

Many a man's strength is in opposition, and when he faileth, he grows out of use.

- Bacon, Francis

Nothing destroys authority more than the unequal and untimely interchange of power stretched too far and relaxed too much.

- Bacon, Francis

It is a strange desire, to seek power, and to lose liberty; or to seek power over others, and to lose power over a man's self.

- Bacon, Francis

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

- Bacon, Francis

The mould of a man's fortune is in his own hands.

- Bacon, Francis

Science is but an image of the truth.

- Bacon, Francis

The best part of beauty is that which no picture can express.

- Bacon, Francis

Boldness is ever blind, for it sees not dangers and inconveniences whence it is bad in council though good in execution.

- Bacon, Francis

If we begin with certainties, we shall end in doubts; but if we begin with doubts, and are patient in them, we shall end in certainties.

- Bacon, Francis

If a man will begin with certainties, he shall end in doubts, but if he will be content to begin with doubts, he shall end in certainties.

- Bacon, Francis

In any moment of decision the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing.

- Roosevelt, Theodore

At sometime in our lives a devil dwells within us, causes heartbreaks, confusion and troubles, then dies.

- Roosevelt, Theodore

A man who has never gone to school may steal from a freight car; but if he has a university education, he may steal the whole railroad.

- Roosevelt, Theodore

To educate a man in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society.

- Roosevelt, Theodore

Freedom from effort in the present merely means that there has been effort stored up in the past.

- Roosevelt, Theodore

No man is above the law, and no man is below it.

- Roosevelt, Theodore

No man is justified in doing evil on the ground of expediency.

- Roosevelt, Theodore

The boy who is going to make a great man must not make up his mind merely to overcome a thousand obstacles, but to win in spite of a thousand repulses and defeats.

- Roosevelt, Theodore

It is hard to fail, but it is worse never to have tried to succeed. In this life we get nothing save by effort.

- Roosevelt, Theodore

The things that will destroy America are prosperity-at-any-price, peace-at-any-price, safety-first instead of duty-first, the love of soft living, and the get-rich-quick theory of life.

- Roosevelt, Theodore

It is only through labor and painful effort, by grim energy and resolute courage, that we move on to better things.

- Roosevelt, Theodore

People ask the difference between a leader and a boss. The leader works in the open, and the boss in covert. The leader leads, and the boss drives.

- Roosevelt, Theodore

It is better to be faithful than famous.

- Roosevelt, Theodore

The man who makes no mistakes does not usually make anything

- Roosevelt, Theodore

A man who is good enough to shed his blood for his country is good enough to be given a

square deal afterwards. More than that no man is entitled to, and less than that no man shall have.

- Roosevelt, Theodore

The pacifist is as surely a traitor to his country and to humanity as is the most brutal wrongdoer.

- Roosevelt, Theodore

I believe that anyone can conquer fear by doing the things he fears to do, provided he keeps doing them until he gets a record of successful experience behind him.

- Roosevelt, Eleanor

Friendship with oneself is all-important, because without it one cannot be friends with anyone else in the world.

- Roosevelt, Eleanor

Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people.

- Roosevelt, Eleanor

Nobody can make you feel inferior without your consent.

- Roosevelt, Eleanor

Perhaps in His wisdom the Almighty is trying to show us that a leader may chart the way,

may point out the road to lasting peace, but that many leaders and many peoples must do the building.

- Roosevelt, Eleanor

The purpose of life, after all, is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experiences.

- Roosevelt, Eleanor

If life were predictable it would cease to be life, and be without flavor.

- Roosevelt, Eleanor

I think, at a child's birth, if a mother could ask a fairy godmother to endow it with the most useful gift, that gift would be curiosity.

- Roosevelt, Eleanor

Imagination rules the world.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Impossible is a word only to be found in the dictionary of fools.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

A leader is a dealer in hope.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Let France have good mothers, and she will have good sons.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The people to fear are not those who disagree with you, but those who disagree with you and are too cowardly to let you know.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

If you want a thing done well, do it yourself.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

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