

I've been collecting what I consider great wisdom and witticisms for years. Here is my collection. Although I have been criticized for not doing so, I have not updated the classic, 'He who . . .' language. I believe most would choose different verbiage today, but it's not up to me to do so.

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When a thing has been said and well, have no scruple.  
Take it and copy it.  
Anatole France

The sad truth is that most evil is done by people who never make up  
their minds to be either good or evil.  
Hannah Arendt

He who has a why to live can bear with almost any how.  
Neitzsche

Do not grow old, no matter how long you live. Never cease to stand  
like curious children before the Great Mystery into which we were  
born.  
Albert Einstein

This is what you should do:  
Love the earth and sun and animals,  
despise riches, give alms to everyone that asks,  
stand up for the stupid and crazy,  
devote your income and labor to others, hate tyrants,  
argue not concerning God,  
have patience and indulgence toward the people...  
reexamine all you have been told in school or church or in any book,  
dismiss what insults your very soul,  
and your flesh shall become a great poem.  
Walt Whitman

If A = Success  
then A = X + Y + Z  
where X is work,  
Y is play,  
and Z is keep your mouth shut.  
Albert Einstein

"Before you can live your dreams you have to wake up."  
Mohammad Ali

Some of us, observing that ideals are rarely achieved, proceed to the error of considering them worthless. Such an error is greatly harmful. True North cannot be reached either, since it is an abstraction, but it is of enormous importance, as all the world's travelers can attest.

Steve Allen

Your vision will become clear only when you can look into your own heart . . . . Who looks outside, dreams; who looks inside, awakes.

Carl Jung

The world is full of people looking for spectacular happiness while they snub contentment.

Doug Larson

A rock pile ceases to be a rock pile the moment a single man contemplates it, bearing within him the image of a cathedral.

Antoine de Saint-Exupery

Almost anything you do will be insignificant, but it is very important that you do it.

Mohandas Gandhi

All things being equal, people will do business with a friend. Even if things aren't equal.

Harvey Mackay

We fear our highest possibility (as well as our lowest one). We are generally afraid to become that which we can glimpse in our most perfect moments.

Abraham Maslow

Vitality shows not only in the ability to persist but in the ability to start over.

F. Scott Fitzgerald

If you keep on saying things are going to be bad, you have a good chance of being a profit.

Isaac Bashevis Singer

Some people regard themselves as perfect, but only because they demand little of themselves.

Hermann Hesse

The lust for power is not rooted in strength but in weakness.  
Erich Fromm

The oldest man that ever lived, died.  
Carl Sandberg

Change and growth take place when a person has risked himself and  
dares to become involved with experimenting with his own life.  
Herbert Otto

We must embrace the absurd and go beyond everything we have ever  
known.  
Janie Gustafson

There is overwhelming evidence that the higher the level of self-  
esteem, the more likely one will treat others with respect, kindness,  
and generosity. People who do not experience self-love have little or  
no capacity to love others.  
Nathaniel Branden

A man's life is what his thoughts make it.  
Marcus Aurelius

Life is change . . .  
Growth is optional . . .  
Choose wisely . . .  
Karen Kaiser Clark

Self-love, my liege, is not so vile a sin as self-neglecting.  
William Shakespeare

Some days we wake up and see that we have totally underestimated  
our ability to be sadistic and destructive. And yet, it's all so terrific!  
That's why we care about it! That's why we feel it so deeply.  
Anna Quindlen

The only thing necessary for evil to flourish is for good people to do  
nothing.  
Anonymous  
(Attributed to Edmund Burke)

Life without idealism is empty indeed.  
We must have hope or starve to death.  
Pearl Buck

The last of the human freedoms is to choose one's attitudes.  
Victor Frankl

People who talk too much seem to have bad luck.  
Alan Greenberg

One of the main reasons wealth makes people unhappy is that it gives them too much control over what they experience. They try to translate their own fantasies into reality instead of tasting what reality itself has to offer.  
Philip Slater

We don't need to raise taxes, we need to raise expectations.  
Christopher Reeve

Self-knowledge and self-improvement are very difficult for most people. It usually needs great courage and long struggle.  
Abraham Maslow

The most important function of art and science is to awaken the cosmic religious feeling and keep it alive.  
Albert Einstein

Our greatest glory consists not in never failing, but in rising every time we fail.  
Ralph Waldo Emerson

While we're giving our kids piano lessons, Reeboks, computers and Nintendo games we have to also give them that thing they gain only by example: a social conscience.  
For if they grow up to be prosperous, educated and cold, we will have failed utterly as mothers and fathers and our families will be no more than pictures on a Christmas card.  
Anna Quindlen

There is nothing more certain than death and nothing more uncertain than the hour.  
Carl Sandberg

Some dreams seem impossible, then they seem improbable. But then, when we summon the will, they seem inevitable.  
Christopher Reeve

The fruit of silence is prayer.  
The fruit of prayer is faith.  
The fruit of faith is love.  
The fruit of love is service.  
The fruit of service is peace.  
Mother Teresa

The great enemy of the truth is very often not the lie - deliberate,  
contrived and dishonest - but the myth, persistent, persuasive and  
unrealistic.  
John F. Kennedy

Self-trust is the essence of heroism.  
Ralph Waldo Emerson

Try not to become a man of success. Rather become a man of value.  
Albert Einstein

We are always getting ready to live, but never living.  
Ralph Waldo Emerson

No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.  
Eleanor Roosevelt

To know and yet think we do not know is the highest attainment.  
Not to know and yet think we do know is a disease.  
Lao-tzu

If the children of plenty are blind to the children of want, both groups  
suffer. If each [of us] doesn't give something back it makes a mockery  
of all that we've been given.  
Anna Quindlen

Hope is a thing with feathers -  
that perches in the soul -  
And sings the tune without the words -  
And never stops - at all -  
Emily Dickinson

The greatest deception men suffer is from their own opinions.  
Leonardo da Vinci

When you hate a person, you hate something that is part of yourself.  
What isn't part of ourselves doesn't disturb us.

Hermann Hesse

Every man has the right to be valued at his best moment.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Every man takes the limits of his own field of vision for the limits of the world.

Arthur Schopenhauer

Successful people make a habit of doing what unsuccessful people don't like to do.

Herbert Grey

The quality of your choices equals the quality of your life.

Brian Tracy

Work as though you would live forever, but live as though you would die tomorrow.

St. Edmund of Canterbury

No great idea ever entered the mind through an open mouth.

James Kuisis

We see the world not as it is, but as we are.

Anais Nin

We become what we think about.

Earl Nightingale

People demand freedom of speech as a compensation for the freedom of thought which they seldom use.

Kierkegaard

Lord, please make me the person my dog thinks I am.

Unknown

Do not believe in anything simply because you have heard it. Do not believe in anything simply because it is spoken and rumored by many.

Do not believe in anything simply because it is found written in your religious books. Do not believe in anything merely on the authority of your teachers and elders. Do not believe in traditions because they have been handed down for many generations. But after observation and analysis, when you find that anything agrees with reason and is

conducive to the good and benefit of one and all, then accept it and  
live up to it.  
Buddah

You become what you constantly do.  
Aristotle

The money tree seldom grows where the grass grows green.  
Harvey Mackay

The need to know seems to be more important than whether what we  
know means anything.  
John Leonard

There are three ingredients in the good life: learning, earning and  
yearning.  
Christopher Morley

No one can possibly achieve any real and lasting success or get rich in  
business by being a conformist.  
J. Paul Getty

In God's economy, nothing is wasted. Through failure, we learn a  
lesson in humility which is probably needed- painful though it is.  
Bill Wilson

Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success.  
If you love what you are doing, you will be successful.  
Herman Cain

We are what we do because we don't know what else to be.  
Jeff Lundberg

Happiness comes from the capacity to feel deeply, to enjoy simply, to  
think freely, to risk life, to be needed.  
Storm Jameson

Use what talent you possess:  
the woods would be very silent if no birds sang except for those that  
sang best.  
Henry Van Dyke

A person's character is like a fence:  
it can't be strengthened by whitewash.

Unknown

The only sense that is common in the long run is the sense of change--  
and we all instinctively avoid it.

E. B. White

Popularity and leadership often do not coincide. Do what's right, and  
sooner or later the rest of the world will catch on and catch up.

Harvy Mackay

History doesn't repeat itself.

It rhymes.

Mark Twain

To live content with small means; to seek elegance rather than luxury,  
and refinement rather than fashion; to be worthy, respectable, and  
wealthy, not rich; to study hard, think quietly, talk gently, act  
frankly; to listen to stars and birds, to babes and sages, with open  
heart; to bear all cheerfully, do all bravely, await occasions, hurry  
never. In a word, to let the spiritual, unbidden and unconscious, grow  
up through the common. This is to be my symphony.

William Henry Channing

I don't know if we're having a spiritual awakening or if it's just yuppies  
getting nervous.

William Bennett

If you keep your eye on the scoreboard instead of the ball you're not  
going to win.

Ken Blanchard

None of these limitless possibilities will feed our spirits if we do not  
embrace all the little things of life that sometimes get left in the dust  
of our frenetic schedules. Without the sense of inner satisfaction that  
comes with them, our accomplishments will be nothing more than the  
stuff of resume.

And a resume is a cold comfort on a winter night or on a dark night of  
the soul, or when there's a spot on the mammogram, or when a child  
is out too late at night.

Anna Quindlen

We are living in the 'psychozoic' age.

Dr. Harold Shapely

The only time it's a failure is if it doesn't work and you don't learn anything from it. If we would always be successful, it would mean we weren't trying enough new things.

Astronaut, Jeff Hoffman

You don't win a silver, you loose a gold.

Unknown at 1996 Olypics

[In Lake Wobegon] it's bad luck to enjoy your good luck. The only way to enjoy your good luck is to constantly contemplate catastrophe.

Garrison Keillor

Sometimes I think we're alone in the universe. Sometimes I think we're not. In either case, the thought is staggering.

Buckminster Fuller

You probably wouldn't worry about what people think of you if you could know how seldom they do.

Olin Miller

Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards

Soren Kierkegaard

In everyone's life, at some time, our inner fire goes out. It is then burst into flame by an encounter with another human being. We should all be thankful for those people who rekindle the inner spirit.

Albert Schweitzer

Mistakes are the portals of discovery.

James Joyce

The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.

Martin Luther King

Some of the world's greatest feats were accomplished by people not smart enough to know they were impossible.

Doug Larson

We find comfort among those who agree with us--growth among those who don't.

Frank A Clark

All men dream: but not equally. Those who dream by night in the dusty recesses of their minds wake in the day to find that it was vanity: but the dreamers of the day are dangerous men, for they may act their dream with open eyes, to make it possible.

T. E. Lawrence

Whatever is worth doing at all, is worth doing well.

Phillip Stanhope

From what we get, we can make a living;  
what we give, however, makes a life.

Arthur Ashe

We grow great by dreams. All big men are dreamers. They see things in the soft haze of a spring day or in the red fire of a long winter's evening. Some of us let these great dreams die, but others nourish and protect them; nurse them through bad days till they bring them to the sunshine and light which comes always to those who sincerely hope that their dreams will come true.

Woodrow Wilson

There's only one corner of the universe you can be certain of improving, and that's your own self.

Aldous Huxley

When the going gets tough, the tough get going.

Joseph P Kennedy

Only those who dare to fail greatly can ever achieve greatly.

Robert F Kennedy

I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve.

Albert Schweitzer

Live as you will have wished to have lived when you are dying.

Christian Furchtegott Gellert

He who chooses the beginning of the road chooses the place it leads to. It is the means that determines the end.

Harry Emerson Fosdick

The only thing we have to fear is fear itself.  
Franklin Delano Roosevelt

The conventional view serves to protect us from the painful job of  
thinking.  
John Kenneth Galbraith

One of the symptoms of an approaching nervous breakdown is the  
belief that one's work is terribly important.  
Bertrand Russell

Everyone thinks of changing the world, but no one thinks of changing  
himself.  
Tolstoy

We forfeit three-fourths of ourselves to be like other people.  
Arthur Schopenhauer

Consistency is contrary to nature, contrary to life. The only completely  
consistent people are dead.  
Aldous Huxley

A man is a success if he gets up in the morning and gets to bed at  
night, and in between he does what he wants to do.  
Bob Dylan

As far as we can discern, the sole purpose of human existence is to  
kindle a light of meaning in the darkness of mere being.  
Carl Jung

Only the mediocre are always at their best.  
Jean Giraudoux

Common sense is the collection of prejudices acquired by age  
eighteen.  
Albert Einstein

I am always doing that which I can not do, in order that I may learn  
how to do it.  
Pablo Picasso

The more original a discovery, the more obvious it seems afterwards.  
Arthur Koestler

Sometimes being pushed to the wall gives you the momentum  
necessary to get over it!  
Peter de Jager

I want to stay as close to the edge as I can without going over. Out on  
the edge you see all kinds of things you can't see from the center.  
Kurt Vonnegut

Everything that irritates us about others can lead us to an  
understanding of ourselves.  
Carl Jung

Always listen to experts. They'll tell you what can't be done, and why.  
Then do it.  
Robert Heilein

I believe in God, only I spell it Nature.  
Frank Lloyd Wright

Love is the triumph of imagination over intelligence.  
Henry Louis Mencken

You will never find time for anything. If you want time you must make  
it.  
Charles Buxton

All great truths begin as blasphemies.  
George Bernard Shaw

I know but one freedom, and that is the freedom of the mind.  
Antoine de Saint-Exupery

Life's most urgent question is: what are you doing for others?  
Martin Luther King

One machine can do the work of fifty ordinary men. No machine can  
do the work of one extraordinary man.  
Elbert Hubbard

Only the shallow know themselves.  
Oscar Wilde

Sometimes we are lucky enough to know that our lives have been changed, to discard the old, embrace the new, and run headlong down an immutable course.

Jacques Cousteau

A man is the sum of his actions, of what he has done, of what he can do, nothing else.

Andre Malraux

There is no such thing as a 'self-made' man. We are made up of thousands of others. Everyone who has ever done a kind deed for us, or spoken one word of encouragement to us, has entered into the make-up of our character and of our thoughts, as well as our success.

George Matthew Adams

Anywhere is walking distance, if you've got the time.

Steven Wright

The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts about reality.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt

Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.

George Santayana

Truth is beautiful, without doubt; but so are lies.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Adults are just obsolete children and the hell with them.

Dr. Seuss

An expert is a person who has made all the mistakes that can be made in a very narrow field.

Niels Bohr

I have found the best way to give advice to your children is to find out what they want and then advise them to do it.

Harry S Truman

Trying to determine what is going on in the world by reading newspapers is like trying to tell the time by watching the second hand of a clock.

Ben Hecht

After I'm dead I'd rather have people ask why I have no monument  
than why I have one.  
Cato the Elder (234-149 B.C.)

Many people would rather die than think; in fact, most do.  
Bertrand Russell

It is something to be able to paint a particular picture, or to carve a  
statue, and so to make a few objects beautiful; but it is far more  
glorious to carve and paint the very atmosphere and medium through  
which we look, which morally we can do. To affect the quality of the  
day, that is the highest of arts.  
Henry David Thoreau, *Where I Live*

When you betray somebody else, you also betray yourself.  
Isaac Bashevis Singer

Whenever you find that you are on the side of the majority, it is time  
to reform.  
Mark Twain

Do not be too moral. You may cheat yourself out of much life so. Aim  
above morality. Be not simply good; be good for something.  
Henry David Thoreau

There is more to life than increasing its speed.  
Gandhi

It is of interest to note that while some dolphins are reported to have  
learned English -- up to fifty words used in correct context- no human  
being has been reported to have learned dolphinese.  
Carl Sagan

Past the seeker as he prayed, came the crippled and the beggar and  
the beaten. And seeing them . . . he cried, "Great God, how is it that a  
loving creator can see such things and yet do nothing about them?" . .  
. God said, "I did do something. I made you."  
Sufi Teaching

Skeptical scrutiny is the means, in both science and religion, by which  
deep insights can be winnowed from deep nonsense.  
Carl Sagan

It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought  
without accepting it.  
Aristotle

There is no expedient to which a man will not go to avoid the labor of  
thinking.  
Thomas Edison

If an elderly but distinguished scientist says that something is possible  
he is almost certainly right, but if he says that it is impossible he is  
very probably wrong.  
Arthur C. Clarke

A witty saying proves nothing.  
Voltaire

Good judgment comes from experience, and experience comes from  
bad judgment.  
Barry LePatner

Art is making something out of nothing and selling it.  
Frank Zappa

I hate quotations. Tell me what you know.  
Ralph Waldo Emerson

The power of accurate observation is commonly called cynicism by  
those who have not got it.  
George Bernard Shaw

The optimist proclaims we live in the best of all possible worlds; and  
the pessimist fears this is true.  
James B. Cabell

Never let your sense of morals get in the way of doing what's right.  
Isaac Asimov

The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the  
source of all true art and science.  
Albert Einstein

Life is a foreign language; all men mispronounce it.  
Christopher Morley

What is the difference between unethical and ethical advertising?  
Unethical advertising uses falsehoods to deceive the public; ethical  
advertising uses truth to deceive the public.

Vilhjalmur Stefansson

Always listen to experts. They'll tell you what can't be done, and why.  
Then do it.

Robert Heilein

Infinite striving to be the best is man's duty, it is its own reward.  
Everything else is in God's hands.

Mahatma Gandhi

How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young,  
compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and  
tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in your life you will  
have been all of these.

George Washington Carver

The man who views the world at 50 the same as he did at 20 has  
wasted 30 years of his life.

Muhammad Ali

If you can dream it, you can do it.

Walt Disney

The illusion that times that were are better than those that are, has  
probably pervaded all ages.

Horace Greeley

The opposite of a correct statement is a false statement. But the  
opposite of a profound truth may well be another profound truth.

Niels Bohr

If you can spend a perfectly useless afternoon in a perfectly useless  
manner, you have learned how to live.

Lin Yutang

I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is to try to  
please everyone.

Bill Cosby

Believe those who are seeking the truth. Doubt those who find it.

Andre Gide

Humanity has advanced, when it has advanced, not because it has been sober, responsible, and cautious, but because it has been playful, rebellious, and immature.

Tom Robbins

Never mistake motion for action.

Ernest Hemingway

In my music, I'm trying to play the truth of what I am. The reason it's difficult is because I'm changing all the time.

Charles Mingus

In science it often happens that scientists say, 'You know that's a really good argument; my position is mistaken,' and then they would actually change their minds and you never hear that old view from them again. They really do it. It doesn't happen as often as it should, because scientists are human and change is sometimes painful. But it happens every day. I cannot recall the last time something like that happened in politics or religion.

Carl Sagan

It ain't what they call you, it's what you answer to.

W. C. Fields

The strongest of all warriors are these two -- Time and Patience.

Leo Tolstoy

Faith: not wanting to know what is true.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Skeptical scrutiny is the means, in both science and religion, by which deep insights can be winnowed from deep nonsense.

Carl Sagan

My religion consists of a humble admiration of the illimitable superior spirit who reveals himself in the slight details we are able to perceive with our frail and feeble mind.

Albert Einstein

A pessimist is a person who thinks everybody is as nasty as himself and hates them for it.

George Bernard Shaw

A life spent making mistakes is not only more honorable, but more useful than a life spent doing nothing.

George Bernard Shaw

As tough as it is, you can usually find another customer if you have to. It's a lot tougher to find a new kid.

Harvey Mackay

In the bedroom suburbs that lie empty all day, commuters who work for international conglomerates decorate their homes in what is called American Country decor. Stage sets for the life we aren't living.

Ellen Goodman

Time is too slow for those who wait, too swift for those who fear, too long for those who grieve, too short for those who rejoice, but for those who love, time is eternity.

Henry Van Dyke

Some things have to be believed to be seen.

Ralph Hodgson

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

Ralph Waldo Emerson

You can't depend on your eyes when your imagination is out of focus.

Mark Twain

Cherish your visions and your dreams as they are the children of your soul; the blue prints of your ultimate achievements.

Napoleon Hill

It is not only for what we do that we are held responsible, but also for what we do not do.

Moliere

The wise man doesn't give the right answers, he poses the right questions.

Claude Levi-Strauss

Experience is what you get when you don't get what you want.

Dan Stanford

We don't know a millionth of one percent about anything.

Thomas Alva Edison

For every action there is an equal and opposite criticism.  
Unknown

I always wanted to be somebody, but I should have been more  
specific.  
Lily Tomlin

Words ought to be a little wild for they are the assaults of thought on  
the unthinking.  
John Maynard Keynes

Whatever you can do or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius,  
power, and magic in it. Begin it now.  
Goethe

Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls  
and looks like work.  
Thomas Edison

I had a linguistics professor who said that it's man's ability to use  
language that makes him the dominant species on the planet. That  
maybe. But I think there's one other thing that separates us from  
animals. We aren't afraid of vacuum cleaners.  
Jeff Stilson

If God doesn't destroy Hollywood Boulevard, he owes Sodom and  
Gomorrah an apology.  
Jay Leno

Why is it that when we talk to God we're said to be praying, but when  
God talks to us we're schizophrenic?  
Lily Tomlin

Talk sense to a fool and he calls you foolish.  
Euripides

If you have a talent, use it in every which way possible. Don't hoard it.  
Don't dole it out like a miser. Spend it lavishly like a millionaire intent  
on going broke.  
Brendan Francis

You can't turn back the clock. But you can wind it up again.

Bonnie Prudden

Everybody wants to go to heaven, but nobody wants to die.  
D. John Hammond

Make no little plans; they have no magic to stir men's blood...Make big  
plans, aim high in hope and work.  
Daniel H. Burnham

Time is the coin of your life. It is the only coin you have, and only you  
can determine how it will be spent. Be careful lest you let other people  
spend it for you.  
Carl Sandburg

The foolish man seeks happiness in the distance, the wise grows it  
under his feet.  
James Oppenheim

Reflect on your present blessings, of which every man has many, not  
on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some.  
Charles Dickens

To avoid criticism do nothing, say nothing, be nothing.  
Elbert Hubbard

Therefore search and see if there is not some place where you may  
invest your humanity.  
Albert Schweitzer

The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and  
write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn.  
Alvin Toffler

Some people only feel at full strength when they are in opposition to  
others.  
Garrison Keilor

Never try to reason the prejudice out of a man. It was not reasoned  
into him, and cannot be reasoned out.  
Sydney Smith

The happiest is the person who suffers the least pain; the most  
miserable who enjoys the least pleasure.  
Jean Jacques Rousseau, Emile, 1762

Everyone has talent. What is rare is the courage to follow the talent to the dark place where it leads.

Erica Jong

If Thomas Edison had had an MBA, he probably would have tried to invent a bigger candle.

Bennett Goodspeed

To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty; to find the best in others; to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

The reasonable man adapts himself to the world; the unreasonable one persists in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore all progress depends on the unreasonable man.

George Bernard Shaw:

The thought manifests as the word;  
The word manifests as the deed;  
The deed develops into habit;  
And habit hardens into character.

So watch the thought and its ways with care,  
And let it spring from love  
Born out of concern for all beings.

The Buddha

Not until you have achieved the ability to choose your attitudes have you achieved the freedom to be your own person, reaching out for any goal or dream of your choice. Without this freedom, you are the captive of every habit, situation, circumstance, or surrounding in which you find yourself.

Bob Conklin

If the highest aim of a captain were to preserve his ship, he would keep it in port forever.

Thomas Aquinas

When you come to the edge of all the light you know and are about to step off into the darkness of the unknown, faith is knowing one of two things will happen: There will be something solid to stand on, or you will be taught how to fly.

Barbara J. Winter

Words ought to be a little wild for they are the assaults of thought on the unthinking.

John Maynard Keynes

There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as if everything is.

Albert Einstein

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.

Theodore Roosevelt

Nothing is so strong as gentleness, and nothing is so gentle as true strength.

Ralph Sockman

Happiness is a choice, not a result.

Ralph Marsdon

Far better is it to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure...than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in a gray twilight that knows not victory nor defeat."

Theodore Roosevelt

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."

Mark Twain

"The ideals which have always shone before me and filled me with the joy of living are goodness, beauty, and truth. To make a goal of comfort or happiness has never appealed to me; a system of ethics built on this basis would be sufficient only for a herd of cattle.

Albert Einstein

"Great thoughts speak only to the thoughtful mind, but great actions speak to all mankind."

Emily P. Bissell

All that is gold does not glitter,  
Not all those who wander are lost;  
The old that is strong does not wither,  
Deep roots are not reached by the frost.  
From the ashes a fire shall be woken,  
A light from the shadows shall spring;  
Renewed shall be the blade that was broken,  
The crownless again shall be king.

J.R.R. Tolkien

"I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do something I can do."

Edward Everett Hale

"Life cannot wait until the sciences may have explained the universe scientifically. We cannot put off living until we are ready. The most salient characteristic of life is its coerciveness: it is always urgent, 'here and now' without any possible postponement. Life is fired at us point-blank."

Jose Ortega y Gasset

The art of living successfully consists largely in being able to hold two opposite ideas in balance at the same time: first, to make long-term plans as if we were going to live forever; and second, to conduct ourselves daily as if we were going to die tomorrow.

Sydney Harris

One of the most ironic symptoms of our national schizophrenia is that while we have a great respect for "education" in the abstract, we have an equally great mistrust of the educated person in the particular. It is much like our religion, which abstractly worships the Christian virtues, but is scandalized by any individual who takes the teachings of Christ "too seriously."

Sydney Harris

A zealot is somebody who berates us for not having the courage of their conviction.

Sydney Harris

People who think they are generous to a fault,  
usually think it's their only fault.  
Sydney Harris

What you possess in the world will be found at the day of your death  
to belong to someone else. But what you are will be yours forever.  
Henry Van Dyke

"As a well spent day brings happy sleep,  
so life well used brings happy death."  
Leonardo da Vinci

All violence in human life is caused by "wealth without work; pleasure  
without conscience; knowledge without character; commerce without  
morality; science without humanity; worship without sacrifice; politics  
without principle, and rights without responsibilities."  
Gandhi

Youth is not entirely a time of life; it is a state of mind. Nobody grows  
old by merely living a number of years. People grow old by deserting  
their ideals. You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt; as  
young as your self-confidence, as old as your fear; as young as your  
hope; as old as your despair.  
Douglas Mac Arthur

"This is the true joy of life: to be used for a purpose recognized by  
yourself as a mighty one; to be thoroughly worn out before being  
thrown on the scrap heap; to be a force of nature, rather than a  
feverish selfish clod of ailments and grievances, complaining that life  
will not devote itself to making you happy."  
G. B. Shaw?

"Don't ask yourself what the world needs; ask yourself what makes  
you come alive. And then go and do that. Because what the world  
needs is people who have come alive."  
Harold Whitman

"People travel to wonder at the height of the mountains, at the huge  
waves of the seas, at the long course of the rivers, at the vast  
compass of the ocean, at the circular motion of the stars, and yet they  
pass by themselves without wondering."  
St. Augustine, 354 430

When you were born, you cried and the world rejoiced. Live your life  
so that when you die, the world cries and you rejoice."  
Cherokee Expression

Fear knocked at the door. Faith answered. No one was there.  
Unknown

One day some people came to the master  
and asked: How can you be happy  
in a world of such impermanence,  
where you cannot protect your loved ones  
from harm, illness or death?

The master held up a glass and said:  
Someone gave me this glass;  
It holds my water admirably  
and it glistens in the sunlight.

I touch it and it rings!

One day the wind  
may blow it off the shelf,  
or my elbow  
may knock it from the table.

I know this glass is already broken,  
so I enjoy it—incredibly.

Achaan Chah Subato

I've never known a man to die from overwork,  
but I've known many men who have died from doubt.

Dr. Charles Mayo

Fame or integrity: which is more important?  
Money or happiness: which is more valuable?  
Success or failure: which is more destructive?

If you look to others for fulfillment,  
you will never truly be fulfilled.

If your happiness depends on money,  
you will never be happy with yourself.

Be content with what you have;  
rejoice in the way things are.

When you realize that nothing is lacking,  
the whole world belongs to you!

Lao Tzu

How lovely to think that no one need wait a moment, we can start now, start slowly changing the world! How lovely that everyone, great and small, can make their contribution toward introducing justice straightaway... And you can always, always give something, even if it is only kindness!

Anne Frank

Bad times, hard times - this is what people keep saying; but let us live well, and times shall be good. We are the times: Such as we are, such are the times.

St. Augustine

I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse

to do something I can do.

Edward Everett Hale

If logic tells you that life is a meaningless accident, don't give up on life. Give up on logic.

Shira Millgrom

The most visible creators I know of are those artists whose medium is life itself. The ones who express the inexpressible - without brush, hammer, clay, or guitar. They neither paint nor sculpt - their medium is

being. Whatever their presence touches has increased life. They see and

don't have to draw. They are the artists of being alive.

J. Stone

The moment one gives close attention to anything, even a blade of grass, it becomes a mysterious, awesome, indescribably magnificent world in itself.

Henry Miller

I've missed more than 9,000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life - and that is why I succeed.

Michael Jordan

"To know what you prefer instead of humbly saying Amen to what the world tells you you ought to prefer, is to have kept your soul alive."

Robert Louis Stevenson

"Don't spend your precious time asking 'Why isn't the world a better place?' It will only be time wasted. The question to ask is 'How can I make it better?' To that there is an answer."

Leo Buscaglia

"Everything is okay in the end.  
And if it's not okay, then it's not the end."

Author Unknown

"I cannot go back and make a brand-new start.  
But I can start from now and make a brand-new end."

Paraphrased from The Big Book of AA

"It is not the critic who counts;  
not the one who points out how the strong man stumbled  
or where the doer of deeds could have done them better.  
The credit belongs to the person  
who is actually in the arena,  
whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood;  
who strives valiantly;  
who errs and comes short again and again;  
who knows great enthusiasms,  
the great devotions;  
who spends themselves in a worthy cause;  
who at best, knows in the end the triumph of high achievement,  
and who, at worst, if they fail, at least fail while  
DARING GREATLY  
so that their place shall never be  
with those timid souls  
who know neither victory or defeat."

Theodore Roosevelt

"God protect me from self-interest masquerading as moral principle."

Mark Twain

"Through violence you may murder a liar, but you can't establish truth.  
Through violence you may murder a hater, but you can't murder hate.  
Darkness cannot put out darkness. Only light can do that. Difficult and  
painful as it is, we must walk on in the days ahead with an audacious  
faith in the future. When our days become dreary with low-hovering  
clouds of despair, and when our nights become darker than a thousand  
midnights, let us remember that there is a creative force in this

universe, working to pull down the gigantic mountains of evil, a power  
that is able to make a way out of no way and transform dark  
yesterdays  
into bright tomorrows. Let us realize the arc of the moral universe is  
long, but it bends toward justice."  
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Cowardice asks the question, "Is it safe?"  
Expediency asks the question, "Is it politic?"  
Vanity asks the question, "Is it popular?"  
But, conscience asks the question, "Is it right?"  
And there comes a time when one must take a position  
that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular,  
but one must take it because one's conscience  
tells one that it is right.  
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The one true freedom in life is to come to terms with death, and as  
early as possible, for death is an event that embraces all our lives.  
And the only way to have a good death is to lead a good life. Lead a  
good one, full of curiosity, generosity, and compassion, and there's no  
need at the close of the day to rage against the dying of the light. We  
can go gentle into that good night.  
William Sloan Coffin

First they came for the Communists but I was not a Communist so I  
did not speak out. Then they came for the Socialists and the Trade  
Unionists but I was not one of them, so I did not speak out. Then they  
came for the Jews but I was not Jewish so I did not speak out. And  
when they came for me, there was no one left to speak out for me.  
Martin Niemoeller

"One of my distinctions in religion is not 'liberal' and 'conservative,' but  
'mean' and 'non-mean.'"  
Martin Marty

Listen closely and you can hear them...  
the great spirits of every tribe  
the ones who were here before us  
Listen to what they are saying  
There is one who calls himself Gandhi  
and another who calls himself King  
They know that the way is not easy

There is a woman named Teresa  
and many who are simply known as  
Grandmothers and Grandfathers  
and all of them whisper into our ear...

'Don't give up' they tell us...

'Don't become cynical...'

'Take one more step...'

'There is a reason...'

Ron Atchison

"The one thing that separates us from the animals is that we're not  
afraid of vacuum cleaners."

Jeff Stilson

"It is the function of art to renew our perception. What we are familiar  
with we cease to see. The writer shakes up the familiar scene, and, as  
if by magic, we see a new meaning in it."

Anais Ninn

"Life is a process of becoming, a combination of states we have to go  
through. Where people fail is that they wish to elect a state and remain  
in it. This is a kind of death."

Anais Ninn

"Dreams pass into the reality of action. From the actions stems the  
dream again; and this interdependence produces the highest form of  
living."

Anais Ninn

"I postpone death by living, by suffering, by error, by risking, by  
giving, by losing."

Anais Ninn

"If you do not breathe through writing, if you do not cry out in writing,  
or sing in writing, then don't write, because our culture has no use for  
it."

Anais Ninn

"When you are inspired by some great purpose, some extraordinary  
project, all of your thoughts break their bonds. Your mind transcends  
limitations. Your consciousness expands in every direction. And you  
find yourself in a new, great and wonderful world. Dormant forces,

faculties and talents come alive and you discover yourself to be a  
greater person by far than you ever dreamed yourself to be."  
Putanjali

Life is like riding a bicycle. You have to keep moving or you'll lose  
your balance.  
Albert Einstein

"Expect failure, but don't accept failure."  
James Dyson

"Those who can make you believe absurdities  
can make you commit atrocities"  
Voltaire

"We can have Democracy in this country,  
or we can have great wealth concentrated  
in the hands of a few, but we cannot have both."  
Louis D. Brandeis

"Whenever the people are well-informed,  
They can be trusted with their own Government."  
Thomas Jefferson, 1789

"I decided to accept as true, my own thinking."  
Georgia O'Keefe

"Everyone is entitled to their own opinion, but not their own facts."  
Daniel Patrick Moynihan

It isn't what you have, or who you are,  
or where you are, or what you are doing  
that makes you happy or unhappy.  
It is what you think about.  
Dale Carnegie

"Oh the comfort, the inexpressible comfort o feeling safe with a  
person, having neither to weigh thoughts nor measure words, but  
pouring them all right out, just as they are – chaff and grain together  
– certain that a faithful hand will take and sift them, keep what is  
worth keeping, and with the breath of kindness blow the rest away."  
Dinah Mulock

When you realize where you come from, you naturally become tolerant, amused, kindhearted as a grandmother, and dignified as a king. Immersed in wonder, you can deal with whatever life brings you, and when death comes, you are ready.

Lao Tzu (Adapted)

Ignorance is not a simple lack of knowledge but an aversion to knowledge, the refusal to know, issuing from cowardice, pride or laziness of mind.

Karl Popper

Living is easy with eyes closed.

Misunderstanding all you see.

The Beatles

Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired, signifies in the final sense a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

A discriminating irreverence is the creator and protector of human liberty.

Mark Twain

"Television is the first truly democratic culture, the first culture available to everyone and entirely governed by what the people want.

The most terrifying thing is what people do want."

Clive Barnes

It had long since come to my attention that people of accomplishment rarely sat back and let things happen to them. They went out and happened to things.

Leonardo Da Vinci

Being rich isn't about having money. It's about having options.

Chris Rock