

# **The Art of Living**

**Artists, Photographers,  
Architects, Designers,  
Cartoonists, Poets,  
Writers, Novelists, and  
Critics on Art and Life**

**John Kremer  
and Friends**

Life itself is a quotation. — Jorge Luis Borges, poet and novelist

She had a pretty gift for quotation, which is a serviceable substitute for wit. — W. Somerset Maugham, dramatist and novelist

I might repeat to myself slowly and soothingly, a list of quotations beautiful from minds profound—if I can remember any of the damn things. — Dorothy Parker, poet and wit

I always have a quotation for everything, it saves original thinking. — Dorothy L. Sayers, mystery author

A facility for quotation covers the absence of original thought. — Dorothy L. Sayers, mystery author, *Gaudy Night*

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# A

May your trails be crooked, winding, lonesome, dangerous, leading to the most amazing view. May your mountains rise into and above the clouds. — Edward Abbey, artist

Our time is short, and the future is terrifyingly long.... With reverence for life, and with restraint enough to leave some things as they are, we can continue approaching, and perhaps can attain, a new society at last—one which is proportionate to nature. — Ansel Adams, photographer

When words become unclear, I shall focus with photographs. When images become inadequate, I shall be content with silence. — Ansel Adams, photographer

Cyberspace is—or can be—a good, friendly and egalitarian place to meet. — Douglas Adams, novelist

Having been an English literary graduate, I've been trying to avoid the idea of doing art ever since. I think the idea of art kills creativity. I think media are at their most interesting before anybody's thought of calling them art, when people still think they're just a load of junk. — Douglas Adams, science fiction novelist

It's not the fall that kills you; it's the sudden stop at the end. — Douglas Adams, science fiction novelist

A common mistake people make when trying to design something completely foolproof is to underestimate the ingenuity of complete fools. — Douglas Adams, science fiction novelist

There is an art, or, rather, a knack to flying. The knack lies in learning how to throw yourself at the ground and miss. — Douglas Adams, science fiction novelist

In those days spirits were brave, the stakes were high, men were real men, women were real women and small furry creatures from Alpha Centauri were real small furry creatures from Alpha Centauri. — Douglas Adams, science fiction novelist

It is known that there is an infinite number of worlds, simply because there is an infinite amount of space for them to be in. However, not every one of them is inhabited. Therefore, there must be a finite number of inhabited worlds. Any finite number divided by infinity is as near to nothing as makes no odds, so the average population of all the planets in the universe can be said to be zero. From this it follows that the population of the universe is also zero, and that any people you may meet from time to time are merely the product of a deranged imagination. — Douglas Adams, novelist

It is no coincidence that in no known language does the phrase "as pretty as an airport" appear. — Douglas Adams, science fiction novelist

Nothing travels faster than the speed of light with the possible exception of bad news, which obeys its own special laws. — Douglas Adams, novelist, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*

Space is big. You just won't believe how vastly, hugely, mind-bogglingly big it is. I mean, you may think it's a long way down the road to the chemist's, but that's just peanuts to space. — Douglas Adams, novelist, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*

The ships hung in the sky in much the same way that bricks don't. — Douglas Adams, novelist, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*

There is a theory which states that if ever anybody discovers exactly what the Universe is for and why it is here, it will instantly disappear and be replaced by something even more bizarre and inexplicable. There is another theory which states that this has already happened. — Douglas Adams, novelist, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*

I may not have gone where I intended to go, but I think I have ended up where I needed to be. — Douglas Adams, novelist, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*

I may not have gone where I intended to go, but I think I have ended up where I needed to be. — Douglas Adams, novelist, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*

Bypasses are devices that allow some people to dash from point A to point B very fast while other people dash from point B to point A very fast. People living at point C, being a point directly in between, are often given to wonder what's so great about point A that so many people from point B are so keen to get there, and what's so great about point B that so many people from point A are so keen to get there. They often wish that people would just once and for all decide where the hell they wanted to be. — Douglas Adams, novelist, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*

It is no coincidence that in no known language does the phrase "As pretty as an Airport" appear. — Douglas Adams, novelist, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*

Man has always assumed he was more intelligent than dolphins because he had achieved so much—the wheel, New York, wars, and so on—while all the dolphins had ever done was muck about in the water having a good time. But conversely, the dolphins had always believed that they were far more intelligent than man for precisely the same reason. — Douglas Adams, science fiction novelist, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*

The last time anybody made a list of the top hundred character attributes of New Yorkers, common sense snuck in at number 79. — Douglas Adams, novelist, *Mostly Harmless*

There is a particular disdain with which Siamese cats regard you. Anyone who has walked in on the Queen cleaning her teeth will be familiar with the feeling. — Douglas Adams, science fiction novelist, *The Salmon of Doubt*

The creator of the universe works in mysterious ways. But he uses a base ten counting system and likes round numbers. — Scott Adams, cartoonist

You don't have to be a person of influence to be influential. In fact, the most influential people in my life are probably not even aware of the things they have taught me. — Scott Adams, cartoonist

It's not funny if I have to explain it. — Scott Adams, cartoonist, *It's Not Funny If I Have to Explain It*

Creativity is allowing oneself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep. — Scott Adams, cartoonist, *The Dilbert Principle*

Colors speak all languages. — Joseph Addison, essayist, poet, dramatist, and politician

Self discipline is that which, next to virtue, truly and essentially raises one man above another. — Joseph Addison, essayist, poet, dramatist, and politician

From social intercourse are derived some of the highest enjoyments of life; where there is a free interchange of sentiments the mind acquires new ideas, and by frequent exercise of its powers, the understanding gains fresh vigor. — Joseph Addison, essayist, poet, dramatist, and politician

If men would consider not so much wherein they differ, as wherein they agree, there would be far less of uncharitableness and angry feeling. — Joseph Addison, essayist, poet, dramatist, and politician

He who would pass his declining years with honor and comfort, should, when young, consider that he may one day become old, and remember when he is old, that he has once been young. — Joseph Addison, essayist, poet, dramatist, and politician

The grand essentials to happiness in this life are something to do, something to love and something to hope for. — Joseph Addison, essayist, poet, dramatist, and politician

A good conscience is to the soul what health is to the body; it preserves constant ease and serenity within us; and more than countervails all the calamities and

afflictions which can befall us from without. — Joseph Addison, essayist, poet, dramatist, and politician

Friendship improves happiness, and abates misery, by doubling our joys, and dividing our grief. — Joseph Addison, essayist, poet, dramatist, and politician

What sculpture is to a block of marble, education is to the soul. — Joseph Addison, essayist, poet, dramatist, and politician

True happiness is of a retired nature, and an enemy to pomp and noise; it arises, in the first place, from the enjoyment of one's self, and in the next from the friendship and conversation of a few select companions. — Joseph Addison, essayist, poet, dramatist, and politician

There are many shining qualities on the mind of man; but none so useful as discretion. It is this which gives a value to all the rest, and sets them at work in their proper places, and turns them to the advantage of their possessor. Without it, learning is pedantry; wit, impertinence; virtue itself looks like weakness; and the best parts only qualify a man to be more sprightly in errors, and active to his own prejudice. Though a man has all other perfections and wants discretion, he will be of no great consequence in the world; but if he has this single talent in perfection, and but a common share of others, he may do what he pleases in his station of life. — Joseph Addison, essayist, poet, dramatist, and politician

A misery is not to be measured from the nature of the evil, but from the temper of the sufferer. — Joseph Addison, essayist, poet, dramatist, and politician

What sunshine is to flowers, smiles are to humanity. These are but trifles, to be sure; but, scattered along life's pathway, the good they do is inconceivable. — Joseph Addison, essayist, poet, dramatist, and politician

Ridicule is generally made use of to laugh men out of virtue and good sense, by attacking everything praiseworthy in human life. — Joseph Addison, essayist, poet, dramatist, and politician

If you wish success in life, make perseverance your bosom friend, experience your wise counselor, caution your elder brother and hope your guardian genius. — Joseph Addison, essayist, poet, dramatist, and politician

A good piece of art should make a revolution inside you. — Shohreh Aghdashloo, actress

I like writing. It's therapeutic in the same way a patient in an institution is given finger paints. — Woody Allen, actor, producer, and director

To do easily what is difficult for others is the mark of talent. To do what is impossible for talent is the mark of genius. — Henri-Frédérick Amiel, poet and philosopher

Life is short and we have never too much time for gladdening the hearts of those who are traveling the dark journey with us. Oh, be swift to love, make haste to be kind! — Henri-Frédérick Amiel, poet and philosopher

Tears are the symbol of the inability of the soul to restrain its emotion and retain its self command. — Henri-Frédérick Amiel, poet and philosopher

Thankfulness is the beginning of gratitude. Gratitude is the completion of thankfulness. Thankfulness may consist merely of words. Gratitude is shown in acts. — Henri-Frédéric Amiel, poet and philosopher

A man should look as if he had bought his clothes with intelligence, put them on with care, and then forgotten all about them. — Hardy Amies, tailor

Color is like cooking. The cook puts in more or less salt, that's the difference. — Josef Albers, painter

Do the things you know, and you shall learn the truth you need to know. — Louisa May Alcott, novelist

People who need to experience everything, even if only once, sooner or later fall into the temptation of bread making. — Isabel Allende, author, *Aphrodite: A Memoir of the Senses*

Just keep walking. Nothing lasts forever. The nature of life is change. — the mother of Isabel Allende, novelist

A novel is not, after all, a historical document, but a way to travel through the human heart. — Julia Alvarez, novelist, *In the Time of the Butterflies*

Where words fail, music speaks. — Hans Christian Anderson, folk tales author

As an artist, I'd choose the thing that's beautiful more than the one that's true. — Laurie Anderson, singer and songwriter

It is all right your saying you do not need other people, but there are a lot of people who need you. — Sherwood Anderson, novelist

If you find it in your heart to care for somebody else, you will have succeeded. — Maya Angelou, poet

If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude. Don't complain. — Maya Angelou, poet

The writer has to take the most used, most familiar objects—nouns, pronouns, verbs, adverbs—ball them together and make them bounce. — Maya Angelou, poet

If you're for the right thing, then you do it without thinking. — Maya Angelou, poet

I try to live what I consider a poetic existence. That means I take responsibility for the air I breathe and the space I take up. I try to be immediate, to be totally present for all my work. — Maya Angelou, poet

You can never go home again, but the truth is you can never leave home, so it's all right. — Maya Angelou, poet

You can only become truly accomplished at something you love. Don't make money your goal. Instead, pursue the things you love doing, and then do them so well that people can't take their eyes off you. — Maya Angelou, poet

Success is liking yourself, liking what you do, and liking how you do it. — Maya Angelou, poet

If you have only one smile in you, give it to the people you love. Don't be surly at home, then go out in the street and start grinning "Good morning" at total strangers. — Maya Angelou, poet

That's glamour: saying, "I want to be as beautiful as I can be, to myself first, and to anybody else who has enough sense to see." — Maya Angelou, poet

If one is lucky, a solitary fantasy can totally transform one million realities. — Maya Angelou, poet

You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it may be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, how you can still come out of it. — Maya Angelou, poet

The object of art is to give life a shape. — Jean Anouilh

A photograph is a secret about a secret. The more it tells you the less you know. — Diane Arbus, photographer

I'm not interested in age. People who tell me their age are silly. You're as old as you feel. — Elizabeth Arden, designer

Art completes what nature cannot bring to a finish. — Aristotle

I believe in adventure in clothing, but I do not believe in spandex superhero costumes. — Giorgio Armani, fashion designer

Fashion has expanded to encompass our way of life, not just how we dress but where we live, which restaurants we eat at, which car we drive, where we go on holiday and which hotels we stay in. — Giorgio Armani, fashion designer

Sexiness increases as you get older. There is something very attractive about experience. — Giorgio Armani, fashion designer

Clothing is the outward expression of the inner person. It's important to dress in a way that sends the right message but also looks effortless and natural. — Giorgio Armani, fashion designer

Always take the advice of a woman over that of a man. Always. — Giorgio Armani, fashion designer

If you're a man lost for style, find a male role model. Who do you identify with? Are you a Brad Pitt kind of guy? Or do you see yourself as a Derek Jeter? — Giorgio Armani, fashion designer

Sexy is not a matter of age; it's a matter of attitude. — Giorgio Armani, fashion designer

An air of mystery is a very sensual thing. I don't believe that women need to show a lot of skin to be sexy—why reveal to the entire world what is yet to be unwrapped? — Giorgio Armani, fashion designer

Young people always want to dress down. I say, why not? Experiment now, because as you grow older, you'll become more set in style, and things will maybe become a bit less fun. — Giorgio Armani, fashion designer

Writing comes more easily if you have something to say. — Sholem Asch

It has been my philosophy of life that difficulties vanish when faced boldly. — Isaac Asimov, science fiction novelist

If my doctor told me I had only six minutes to live, I wouldn't brood. I'd type a little faster. — Isaac Asimov, science fiction novelist

It pays to be obvious, especially if you have a reputation for subtlety. — Isaac Asimov, science fiction novelist

The most exciting phrase to hear in science, the one that heralds new discoveries, is not "Eureka!" (I found it!) but "That's funny ..." — Isaac Asimov, science fiction novelist

Being kind to your dog doesn't make you a better artist. — Margaret Atwood, novelist

In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt. — Margaret Atwood, novelist

All poets adore explosions, thunderstorms, tornadoes, conflagrations, ruins, scenes of spectacular carnage. The poetic imagination is therefore not at all a desirable quality in a chief of state. — W. H. Auden, poet

In times of joy, all of us wished we possessed a tail we could wag. — W H Auden, poet

Judges, policemen, critics: These are the real Lower Orders, the low, sly lives, whom no decent person should receive in his house. — W. H. Auden, poet

Art is our chief means of breaking bread with the dead. — W.H. Auden, poet

All good drama has two movements, first the making of the mistake, then the discovery that it was a mistake. — W. H. Auden, poet

Learn from your dreams what you lack. — W. H. Auden,  
poet

A true conservationist is a man who knows that the  
world is not given to his fathers but borrowed from his  
children. — John James Audubon, artist and naturalist

All photos are accurate. None of them is the truth. —  
Richard Avedon, photographer

# B

The job of the artist is always to deepen the mystery. — Francis Bacon, philosopher and scientist

If you can talk about it, why paint it? — Francis Bacon, philosopher and scientist

All art is a kind of confession, more or less oblique. All artists, if they are to survive, are forced at last to tell the whole story; to vomit the anguish up. — James Baldwin, author

Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced. — James Baldwin, author

It is said that the camera cannot lie, but rarely do we allow it to do anything else, since the camera sees what you point it at: the camera sees what you want it to see. — James Baldwin, author

Know from whence you came. If you know whence you came, there are absolutely no limitations to where you can go. — James Baldwin, author

Beyond talent lie all the usual words: discipline, love, luck—but, most of all, endurance. — James Baldwin, author

You think your pains and heartbreaks are unprecedented in the history of the world, but then you read. It was books that taught me that the things that tormented me were the very things that connected me with all the people who were alive, or who have ever been alive. — James Baldwin, author

The purpose of art is to lay bare the questions that have been concealed by the answers. — James Baldwin, author

Every great work of art has two faces, one toward its own time and one toward the future, toward eternity. — Daniel Barenboim

Always be a little kinder than necessary. — James Matthew Barrie, playwright

The secret of happiness is not in doing what one likes, but in liking what one does. — James Matthew Barrie, playwright

We are all failures—at least, all the best of us are. — James Matthew Barrie, playwright

Puns are little plays on words that a certain breed of person loves to spring on you and then look at you in a certain self-satisfied way to indicate that he thinks that you must think that he is by far the cleverest person on Earth now that Benjamin Franklin is dead. — Dave Barry, humorist

There's something in people's eyes. I can teach a chimp to make spaghetti with clams, but I can't teach a chimp to love it, and that's the difference. You need to love it with a passion like I have. — Mario Batali, chef and cookbook author

There exist only three beings worthy of respect: the priest, the soldier, the poet. To know, to kill, to create.  
— Charles Baudelaire, poet, *Mon Coeur Mis a Nu*

True courage is facing danger when you are afraid. — L. Frank Baum, novelist, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*

The odd thing is most of the things that stop an inexperienced writer are so far from the truth as to be nearly beside the point. When you feel global doubt about your talent, that *is* your talent. People who have no talent don't have any doubt. — Richard Bausch, author

All art is advertising. It stands for a particular point of view. — Jack Beal

To find a form that accommodates the mess, that is the task of the artist now. — Samuel Beckett, playwright

I shall state silences more competently than ever a better man spangled the butterflies of vertigo. — Samuel Beckett, playwright

All art is the same—an attempt to fill an empty space. — Samuel Beckett, playwright

A book is good company. It is full of conversation without loquacity. It comes to your longing with full instruction, but pursues you never. — Henry Ward Beecher, minister

Every artist dips his brush in his own soul, and paints his own nature into his pictures. — Henry Ward Beecher, minister, *Proverbs from Plymouth Pulpit*

It took me fifteen years to discover I had no talent for writing, but I couldn't give it up because by that time I was too famous. — Robert Benchley, critic

I believe trash is simply a failure of the imagination. — Neil Benson, artist, *Dumpster Divers*

An art school is a place for young girls to pass the time between high school and marriage. — Thomas Hart Benson, painter

Miracles happen to those who believe in them. Otherwise why does not the Virgin Mary appear to Lamaists, Mohammedans, or Hindus who have never heard of her? — Bernard Berenson, artist

Simplicity is the basis of good design. Style is not about complication and excess, but about being designed around the individual. — Sarah Berman, fashion designer

Poetry is the ultimate small business, requiring a careful keeping of accounts to stay afloat. — Charles Bernstein

Art that can not shape society and therefore also can not penetrate the heart questions of society and, in the end, influence the question of capital, is no art. — Joseph Beuys

Painting is, literally, the primal impulse to mark. It's such a clear way of formulating what's inside one's head; it's the most direct way of communication. — Anna Bialobroda, painter

Painting: The art of protecting flat surfaces from the weather and exposing them to critics. — Ambrose Bierce, author, *The Devil's Dictionary*

It is easier to forgive an enemy than to forgive a friend.  
— William Blake, poet and artist

How do you know but every bird that cuts the airy way,  
is an immense world of delight, closed by your senses  
five? — William Blake, poet and artist

To create a little flower is the labor of ages. — William  
Blake, poet and artist

If the doors of perception were cleansed everything  
would appear to man as it is, infinite. — William Blake,  
poet and artist

Be attentive to the minute particular. — William Blake,  
poet and artist

To see a world in a Grain of Sand,  
And a Heaven in a Wild Flower,  
Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand,  
And eternity in an hour.  
— William Blake, poet and artist

I myself do nothing. The Holy Spirit accomplishes all  
through me. — William Blake, poet and artist

Those who restrain desire, do so because theirs is weak  
enough to be restrained. — William Blake, poet and  
artist

He who binds to himself a joy  
Does the winged life destroy;  
But he who kisses the joy as it flies  
Lives in eternity's sunrise.  
— William Blake, poet and artist

The man who never alters his opinions is like standing water, and breeds reptiles of the mind. — William Blake, poet and artist

To generalize is to be an idiot. — William Blake, poet and artist

Thou art a Man, God is no more.  
Thy own humanity learn to adore.  
— William Blake, poet and artist

If the Sun and Moon should ever doubt, they'd immediately go out. — William Blake, poet and artist

Education makes a people easy to lead, but difficult to drive; easy to govern, but impossible to enslave. — William Blake, poet and artist

Innocence dwells with Wisdom, but never with Ignorance. — William Blake, poet and artist

When thou seest an eagle, thou seest a portion of genius; lift up thy head! — William Blake, poet and artist

Use what talents you possess; the woods would be very silent if no birds sang there except those that sang best. — William Blake, poet and artist

Energy is eternal delight. — William Blake, poet and artist

No bird soars too high, if it soars with his own wings. — William Blake, poet and artist

A truth that's told with bad intent  
Beats all the lies you can invent.  
— William Blake, poet and artist

Always be ready to speak your mind and a base man will  
avoid you. — William Blake, poet and artist

I have always found that angels have the vanity to  
speak of themselves as the only wise. — William Blake,  
poet and artist, *Marriage of Heaven and Hell*

About half my designs are controlled fantasy, 15% are  
total madness, and the rest are bread-and-butter  
designs. — Manolo Blahnik, fashion designer

When in doubt, wear red. — Bill Blass, fashion designer

Dogs come when they're called; cats take a message  
and get back to you later. — Mary Bly, novelist

A journalist is a grumbler, a censorer, a giver of advice,  
a regent of sovereigns, a tutor of nations. Four hostile  
newspapers are more to be feared than a thousand  
bayonets. — Napoleon Bonaparte

Each thing implies the universe. — Jorge Luis Borges,  
poet and short story writer

Perhaps the most important things are those we don't  
remember in a precise way, that we remember  
unconsciously. — Jorge Luis Borges, poet and short  
story writer

Writing is nothing but a guided dream. — Jorge Luis  
Borges, poet and short story writer

Art is the only thing that can go on mattering once it has stopped hurting. — Elizabeth Bowen

I have learned that if I let a day go by without writing, I grow uneasy. Two days and I am in tremor. Three and I suspect lunacy. Four and I might as well be a hog, suffering the flux in a wallow. An hour's writing is tonic. I'm on my feet, running in circles and yelling for a clean pair of spats. — Ray Bradbury, science fiction novelist

You have to know how to accept rejection and reject acceptance. — Ray Bradbury, science fiction novelist

Don't think! Thinking is the enemy of creativity. It's self-conscious and anything self-conscious is lousy. You can't try to do things. You simply must do things. — Ray Bradbury, science fiction novelist

You're never too old to be in love with what you do. — Ray Bradbury, science fiction novelist

Living at risk is jumping off a cliff and building your own wings on the way down. — Ray Bradbury, science fiction novelist

If you write a hundred short stories and they're all bad, that doesn't mean you've failed. You fail only when you stop writing. — Ray Bradbury, science fiction author

See the world. It's more fantastic than any dream made or paid for in factories. — Ray Bradbury, science fiction author

If you dream the proper dreams, and share the myths with people, they will want to grow up to be like you. — Ray Bradbury, science fiction novelist

Simplicity is not an end, but one arrives at simplicity in spite of oneself, in approaching the real sense of things.  
— Constantin Brancusi, sculptor

When you see a fish you don't think of its scales, do you? You think of its speed; its floating, flashing body seen through the water.... If I made fins and eyes and scales, I would arrest its movement, give a pattern or shape of reality. I want just the flash of its spirit. — Constantin Brancusi, sculptor

Art is meant to disturb, science reassures. — Georges Braque, painter

To define a thing is to substitute the definition for the thing itself. — Georges Braque, painter

Art is not a mirror held up to reality, but a hammer with which to shape it. — Bertolt Brecht, playwright

It is vain to say human beings ought to be satisfied with tranquility: they must have action; and they will make it if they cannot find it. — Charlotte Brontë, novelist

I've dreamt in my life dreams that have stayed with me ever after, and changed my ideas; they've gone through and through me, like wine through water, and altered the color of my mind. — Emily Brontë, novelist

Freedom is poetry, taking liberties with words, breaking the rules of normal speech, violating common sense. Freedom is violence. — Norman O. Brown, philosopher

Meaning is not in things but in between; in the iridescence, in the interplay; in the interconnections at the intersections, at the crossroads. — Norman O. Brown, philosopher

The antimony between mind and body, word and deed, speech and silence, overcome. Everything is only metaphor; there is only poetry. — Norman O. Brown, philosopher

The artist has one function: to affirm and glorify life. — W. Edward Brown

No man can be called friendless when he has God and the companionship of good books. — Elizabeth Barrett Browning, poet

Grow old along with me!  
The best is yet to be,  
The last of life, for which the first was made.  
— Robert Browning, poet

People ask what I am really trying to do with humor. The answer is, I'm getting even. For me, being funny is the best revenge. — Art Buchwald, syndicated columnist

There is an alchemy in sorrow. It can be transmuted into wisdom, which, if it does not bring joy, can yet bring happiness. — Pearl Buck, novelist

The secret of joy in work is contained in one word—excellence. To know how to do something well is to enjoy it. — Pearl S. Buck, novelist

I don't wait for moods. You accomplish nothing if you do that. Your mind must know it has got to get down to work. — Pearl S. Buck, novelist

Make no little plans; they have no magic to stir men's blood. Make big plans, aim high in hope and work, remembering that a noble logical diagram once recorded

will never die, but long after we are gone will be a living thing. — Daniel H. Burnham, architect

A man paints with his brains and not with his hands. — Michelangelo Buonarroti, painter and sculptor

If people knew how hard I worked to get my mastery, it wouldn't seem so wonderful after all. — Michelangelo Buonarroti, painter and sculptor

The true work of art is but a shadow of the divine perfection. — Michelangelo Buonarroti, painter and sculptor

Genius is eternal patience. — Michelangelo Buonarroti, painter and sculptor

I hope that I may always desire more than I can accomplish. — Michelangelo Buonarroti, painter and sculptor

The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it. — Michelangelo Buonarroti, painter and sculptor

I saw the angel in the marble and carved until I set him free — Michelangelo Buonarroti, painter and sculptor

Trifles go to make perfection. And perfection is no trifle. — Michelangelo Buonarroti, painter and sculptor

Beauty is the purgation of superfluities. — Michelangelo Buonarroti, painter and sculptor

Artists to my mind are the real architects of change, and not the political legislators who implement change after the fact. — William S. Burroughs, novelist

Life is like playing a violin in public and learning the instrument as one goes on. — Samuel Butler, novelist

Life is one long process of getting tired. — Samuel Butler, novelist

Words are things, and a small drop of ink,  
Falling like dew, upon a thought, produces  
That which makes thousands, perhaps millions, think.  
— George Gordon Byron, poet



People don't only need bread. They need bread given to them with care. It is sometimes just as important to focus on how you serve it. — Santiago Caltrava, architect

These are the two keys to the future. I am always searching for more light and space. — Santiago Caltrava, architect

I believe that architects need to deliver hope and optimism. It is part of our duty. — Santiago Caltrava, architect

If you can imagine a thing, conjure it up in space then you can make it... The universe is real but you can't see it. You have to imagine it. Then you can be realistic about reproducing it. — Alexander Calder, artist

A classic is a book that has never finished saying what it has to say. — Italo Calvino

As artists, we must learn to be self nourishing. We must become alert enough to consciously replenish our creative resources as we draw on them—to restock the trout pond, so to speak. — Julia Cameron, author, *The Artist's Way*

Leap, and the net will appear. — Julia Cameron, author,  
*The Artist's Way*

The goal of life is rapture. Art is the way we experience it. Art is the transforming experience. — Joseph Campbell, mythologist

After the age of 40, every man is responsible for his own face. — Albert Camus, existentialist

Art advances between two chasms, which are frivolity and propaganda. On the ridge where the great artist moves forward, every step is an adventure, an extreme risk. In that risk, however, and only there, lies the freedom of art. — Albert Camus, existentialist

Art for art's sake is a philosophy of the well-fed. — Yu Cao

Failure is the condiment that gives success its flavor. — Truman Capote, novelist

Abstract art is a product of the untalented, sold by the unprincipled to the utterly bewildered. — Al Capp, cartoonist

Success is following the pattern of life one enjoys most. — Al Capp, cartoonist

The only way to bring the world down to size is to blow everything into outrageous proportions and show that everything is a little ridiculous. — Al Capp, cartoonist

A man of eighty has outlived probably three new schools of painting, two of architecture and poetry and a hundred in dress. — Joyce Carey

If you don't know where you're going, any road will take you there. — Lewis Carroll, novelist

Feed the body food and drink, it will survive today. Feed the soul art and music, it will live forever. — Catherine, character in *One Special Night* TV movie

When painting the faces of young people, use the egg yolk of a city hen because they have light yolks than those of country hens. — Cennino Cennini, painter

The day is coming when a single carrot, freshly observed, will set off a revolution. — Paul Cezanne, painter

Great art picks up where nature ends. — Marc Chagall, painter

When I am finishing a picture, I hold some God-made object up to it—a rock, a flower, the branch of a tree or my hand—as a final test. If the painting stands up beside a thing man cannot make, the painting is authentic. If there's a clash between the two, it's bad art. — Marc Chagall, painter

Color is all. When color is right, form is right. Color is everything, color is vibration like music; everything is vibration. — Marc Chagall, painter

Success is often achieved by those who don't know that failure is inevitable. — Coco Chanel, fashion designer

Beauty begins the moment you decide to be yourself. — Coco Chanel, fashion designer

Fashion is architecture: it is a matter of proportions. —  
Coco Chanel, fashion designer

Innovation! One cannot be forever innovating. I want to  
create classics. — Coco Chanel, fashion designer

The most courageous act is still to think for yourself.  
Aloud. — Coco Chanel, fashion designer

Nature gives you the face you have at 20. It is up to you  
to merit the face you have at 50. — Coco Chanel,  
fashion designer

In order to be irreplaceable one must always be  
different. — Coco Chanel, fashion designer

Gentleness doesn't get work done unless you happen to  
be a hen laying eggs. — Coco Chanel, fashion designer

There are people who have money and people who are  
rich. — Coco Chanel, fashion designer

Simplicity requires focusing on the similarities between  
entities, not the differences. — Gary Chang, architect

The organizations of men, like men themselves, seem  
subject to deafness, near-sightedness, lameness, and  
involuntary cruelty. We seem tragically unable to help  
one another, to understand one another. — John  
Cheever, novelist

Art is the triumph over chaos. — John Cheever, novelist

There must always be a rich moral soil for any artistic  
growth. — Gilbert Keith Chesterton, essayist and  
novelist

A dead thing goes with the stream. Only a living thing can go against it. — Gilbert Keith Chesterton, essayist and novelist

The way to love anything is to realize that it might be lost. — Gilbert Keith Chesterton, essayist and novelist

White...is not a mere absence of color; it is a shining and affirmative thing, as fierce as red, as definite as black...God paints in many colors; but He never paints so gorgeously, I had almost said so gaudily, as when He paints in white. — Gilbert Keith Chesterton, essayist and novelist

There is at the back of every artist's mind, a pattern or type of Architecture. — Gilbert Keith Chesterton, essayist and novelist

By a curious confusion, many modern critics have passed from the proposition that a masterpiece may be unpopular to the other proposition that unless it is unpopular it cannot be a masterpiece. — Gilbert Keith Chesterton, essayist and novelist

Art, like morality, consists of drawing the line somewhere. — Gilbert Keith Chesterton, essayist and novelist

A good novel tells us the truth about its hero; but a bad novel tells us the truth about its author. — Gilbert Keith Chesterton, essayist and novelist

All slang is a metaphor, and all metaphor is poetry. — Gilbert Keith Chesterton, essayist and novelist,  
*Defendant*

Literature is a luxury; fiction is a necessity. — Gilbert Keith Chesterton, essayist and novelist, *Defendant*

The poet only asks to get his head into the heavens. It is the logician who seeks to get the heavens into his head. And it is his head that splits. — Gilbert Keith Chesterton, essayist and novelist, *Orthodoxy*

Architecture is the truest reflection of the human condition. Not art. Not literature. Not religion. Architecture. — Tom Chiarella, author

You don't have to cook fancy or complicated masterpieces—just good food from fresh ingredients. — Julia Child, cookbook author and TV chef

It's so beautifully arranged on the plate - you know someone's fingers have been all over it. — Julia Child, cookbook author and TV chef

Noncooks think it's silly to invest two hours' work in two minutes' enjoyment; but if cooking is evanescent, so is the ballet. — Julia Child, cookbook author and TV chef

You were given an appetite so that you would nourish yourself. — Julia Child, cookbook author and TV chef

Life itself is the proper binge. — Julia Child, cookbook author and TV chef

Find something you're passionate about and keep tremendously interested in it. — Julia Child, cookbook author and TV chef

A book is like a garden carried in the pocket. — Chinese proverb

I like living. I have sometimes been wildly, despairingly, acutely miserable, racked with sorrow, but through it all I still know quite certainly that just to be alive is a grand thing. — Agatha Christie, mystery novelist

The best time for planning a book is while you're doing the dishes. — Agatha Christie, mystery novelist

Your travel life has the aspect of a dream. It is something outside the normal, yet you are in it. It is peopled with characters you have never seen before and in all probability will never see again. It brings occasional homesickness, and loneliness, and pangs of longing... But you are like the Vikings who have gone into a world of adventure, and home is not home until you return. — Agatha Christie, mystery novelist

You don't have to suffer to be a poet; adolescence is enough suffering for anyone. — John Ciardi, poet

Painting is dancing with chaos. — Melanie Circle

Cooking is at once child's play and adult joy. And cooking done with care is an act of love. — Craig Claiborne, cookbook author and TV chef

The difference between fiction and reality? Fiction has to make sense. — Tom Clancy, novelist

Every revolutionary idea—in Science, Politics, Art or Whatever—evokes three stages of reaction. They may be summed up by the three phrases: 1. "It is completely impossible — don't waste my time." 2. "It is possible, but it is not worth doing." 3. "I said it was a good idea all along." — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist

The best measure of a man's honesty isn't his income tax return. It's the zero adjust on his bathroom scale. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist

There is hopeful symbolism in the fact that flags do not wave in a vacuum. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist

The greatest tragedy in mankind's entire history may be the hijacking of morality by religion. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist

I'm sure we would not have had men on the Moon if it had not been for Wells and Verne and the people who write about this and made people think about it. I'm rather proud of the fact that I know several astronauts who became astronauts through reading my books. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist

It may be that our role on this planet is not to worship God—but to create him. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist

As our own species is in the process of proving, one cannot have superior science and inferior morals. The combination is unstable and self-destroying. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist

I don't believe in God but I'm very interested in her. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist

Science can destroy religion by ignoring it as well as by disproving its tenets. No one ever demonstrated, so far as I am aware, the non-existence of Zeus or Thor—but they have few followers now. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist

Human judges can show mercy. But against the laws of nature, there is no appeal. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist

At the present rate of progress, it is almost impossible to imagine any technical feat that cannot be achieved—if it can be achieved at all—within the next few hundred years. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist

Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist

CNN is one of the participants in the war. I have a fantasy where Ted Turner is elected president but refuses because he doesn't want to give up power. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist

The only way to discover the limits of the possible is to go beyond them into the impossible. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist

It has yet to be proven that intelligence has any survival value. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist

How can it be, in a world where half the things a man knows at 20 are no longer true at 40—and half the things he knows at 40 hadn't been discovered when he was 20? — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist

Politicians should read science fiction, not westerns and detective stories. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist

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, scientist and novelist, Clarke's first law

If we have learned one thing from the history of invention and discovery, it is that, in the long run—and often in the short one—the most daring prophecies seem laughably conservative. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist, *The Exploration of Space*

The inspirational value of the space program is probably of far greater importance to education than any input of dollars. A whole generation is growing up which has been attracted to the hard disciplines of science and engineering by the romance of space. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist, *First on the Moon*

It may be that the old astrologers had the truth exactly reversed, when they believed that the stars controlled the destinies of men. The time may come when men control the destinies of stars. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist, *First on the Moon*

A hundred years ago, the electric telegraph made possible—indeed, inevitable—the United States of America. The communications satellite will make equally inevitable a United Nations of Earth; let us hope that the transition period will not be equally bloody. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist, *First on the Moon*

We are just tenants on this world. We have just been given a new lease, and a warning from the landlord. — Arthur C. Clarke, scientist and novelist, *2010*

Life is what you make it. You can choose to see rain and be negative or see sunshine and be positive. — Harlan Coben, novelist

If it looks like art, chances are it's somebody else's art.  
— Chuck Close, artist

Never talk about our secret methods. If we talk about them, they stop working. — Jean Cocteau, novelist and film director

An artist cannot speak about his art any more than a plant can discuss horticulture. — Jean Cocteau, novelist and film director

Art is science made clear. — Jean Cocteau, novelist and film director

It's the possibility of having a dream come true that makes life interesting. — Paulo Coelho, novelist

To be aware is more important than what you wear. — Kenneth Cole, fashion designer

In politics, what begins in fear usually ends in folly. — Samuel Taylor Coleridge, poet

If you are not sure where you are going, it is possible you are on the right road. — Les Coleman, artist

I like what is in work—the chance to find yourself. — Joseph Conrad, novelist

Gossip is what no one claims to like, but everyone enjoys. — Joseph Conrad, novelist

Words, as is well known, are the great foes of reality. — Joseph Conrad, novelist

In music's sweet harmony, I have all the proof I need of God. — Pat Conroy, novelist, *Beach Music*

The art of seeing nature is a thing almost as much to be acquired as the art of reading Egyptian hieroglyphics. — John Constable, painter

My favorite word is grace—whether it's amazing grace, saving grace, grace under fire, Grace Kelly. How we live contributes to beauty—whether it's how we treat people or the environment. — Celeste Cooper, designer

There are three things we cry for in life: things that are lost, things that are found, and things that are magnificent. — Douglas Coupland, artist and designer

God moves in mysterious ways,  
His wonders to perform.  
He plants His footsteps in the sea,  
and rides upon the storm.  
— William Cowper, poet

Whenever you hear the consensus of scientists agrees on something or other, reach for your wallet, because you're being had. — Michael Crichton, novelist

Often I feel I go to some distant region of the world to be remind of who I really am. There is no mystery about why this should be so. Stripped of your ordinary surroundings, your friends, your daily routines, your refrigerator full of your food, your closet full of your clothes—with all this taken away, you are forced into direct experience. Such direct experience inevitably makes you aware of who it is that is having the experience. That's not always comfortable, but it is always invigorating. — Michael Crichton, novelist

An autobiography is an obituary in serial form with the last installment missing. — Quentin Crisp, humorist

Euphemisms are unpleasant truths wearing diplomatic cologne. — Quentin Crisp, humorist

What would it be like if you lived each day, each breath, as a work of art in progress? Imagine that you are a Masterpiece unfolding every second of every day, a work of art taking form with every breath. — Thomas Crum

Art should comfort the disturbed and disturb the comfortable. — Cesar Cruz

How we choose what we do, and how we approach it will determine whether the sum of our days adds up to a formless blur, or to something resembling a work of art. — Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi, psychologist

It takes courage to grow up and turn out to be who you really are. — e. e. cummings, poet

Listen; there's a hell of a good universe next door: let's go. — e. e. cummings, poet

I'd rather learn from one bird how to sing than to reach ten thousand stars how not to dance. — e. e. cummings, poet

To be nobody but yourself, in a world which is doing its best to make you everybody else, means to fight the hardest battle which any human being can fight, and never stop fighting. — e. e. cummings, poet

here is the deepest secret nobody knows  
(here is the root of the root and the bud of the bud

and the sky of the sky of a tree called life; which grows  
higher than soul can hope or mind can hide)  
and this is the wonder that's keeping the stars apart  
i carry your heart (i carry it in my heart)  
— e. e. cummings, poet, "i carry your heart"

love is a place  
& through this place of  
love move  
(with brightness of peace)  
all places.  
— e. e. cummings, poet, "love is a place"

yes is a world  
& in this world of  
yes live  
(skillfully curled)  
all worlds.  
— e. e. cummings, poet, "love is a place"

# D

We make realities out of our dreams and dreams out of our realities. We are the dreamers of the dream. — Roald Dahl, children's book author

If you have good thoughts, they will shine out of your face like sunbeams and you will always look lovely. — Roald Dahl, children's book author, *The Twits*

Drawing is the honesty of the art. There is no possibility of cheating. It is either good or bad. — Salvador Dalí, artist

Very often the things in my life that I consider gags, done only to make friends or journalists sit up and take notice, I see after a while as the most extraordinarily tragic and important of all. Whereas sometimes things I work very hard at, that I think are very serious, like my painting technique, I eventually come to see as childish nonsense, of no value at all. — Salvador Dalí, artist

My whole ambition in the pictorial domain is to materialize the images of concrete irrationality with the most imperialist fury of precision. — Salvador Dalí, artist

I consider myself a very mediocre painter. I have always affirmed that I'm a very mediocre painter. I simply believe that I'm a better painter than my

contemporaries. If you prefer, they're much worse than I am. — Salvador Dalí, artist

The jealousy of other painters has always been the thermometer of my success. — Salvador Dalí, artist

Mistakes are almost always of a sacred nature. Never try to correct them. On the contrary: rationalize them, understand them thoroughly. After that, it will be possible for you to sublimate them. — Salvador Dalí, artist

I believe that I am the savior of modern art, the only one who can sublimate, integrate, and rationalize, in an imperial manner and with beauty, all the revolutionary experiences of modern times. — Salvador Dalí, artist

The secret, the best-kept secret is that the most famous painter in the world, which I am, does not yet know how to go about painting. — Salvador Dalí, artist

The true painter must be able, with the most usual things to have the most unusual ideas. — Salvador Dalí, artist

My audience mustn't know whether I'm spoofing or being serious; and likewise, I mustn't know either. — Salvador Dalí, artist

Have no fear of perfection. You'll never reach it. — Salvador Dalí, artist

The fact that I myself, at the moment of painting, do not understand my own pictures, does not mean that these pictures have no meaning; on the contrary, their meaning is so profound, complex, coherent and

involuntary that it escapes the most simple analysis of logical intuition. — Salvador Dalí, artist

It has to be said once for all to art critics, artists, etc., that they need expect nothing from the new Surrealist images but disappointment, distaste, and repulsion. — Salvador Dalí, artist

The only difference between a madman and myself is that I am not mad! — Salvador Dalí, artist

I have never taken drugs, since I am the drug. I don't talk about my hallucinations, I evoke them. Take me, I am the drug; take me, I am hallucinogenic. — Salvador Dalí, artist

What is important is to spread confusion, not eliminate it. — Salvador Dalí, artist

It is difficult to hold the world's interest for more than half an hour at a time. I myself have done so successfully for twenty years, and every day. My motto has been: 'Let them speak of Dalí, even if it is favorably.' — Salvador Dalí, artist

The difference between me and the Surrealists is that I am Surrealism. — Salvador Dalí, artist

At the age of six I wanted to be a cook. At seven I wanted to be Napoleon. And my ambition has been growing steadily ever since. — Salvador Dalí, artist

No masterpiece was ever created by a lazy artist. — Salvador Dalí, artist

The two most fortunate things that could happen to a person are, first, to be Spanish, and second, to be named Salvador Dalí. These two things have happened to me. — Salvador Dalí, artist

The difference between false memories and true ones is the same as for jewels: it is always the false ones that look...the most brilliant. — Salvador Dalí, artist

Iron rusts from disuse, stagnant water loses its purity and in cold weather becomes frozen; even so does inaction sap the vigor of the mind. — Leonardo Da Vinci, painter, sculptor, and inventor

The noblest pleasure is the joy of understanding. — Leonardo Da Vinci, painter, sculptor, and inventor

The painter disputes and competes with nature. — Leonardo Da Vinci, painter, sculptor, and inventor

Principles for the development of a complete mind:  
Study the science of art. Study the art of science.  
Develop your senses; especially learn how to see.  
Realize that everything connects to everything else. — Leonardo Da Vinci, painter, sculptor, and inventor

A shadow is always affected by the color of the surface on which it is cast. — Leonardo Da Vinci, painter, sculptor, and inventor

Inaction saps the vigor of the mind. — Leonardo da Vinci, painter, sculptor, and inventor

Once you have tasted flight, you will forever walk the earth with your eyes turned skyward, for there you have been, and there you will always long to return. — Leonardo Da Vinci, painter, sculptor, and inventor

Vegetables are a must on a diet. I suggest carrot cake, zucchini bread, and pumpkin pie. — Jim Davis, cartoonist, *I'm in the Mood for Food: In the Kitchen with Garfield*

Painting is easy when you don't know how, but very difficult when you do. — Edgar Degas, painter

A picture is first of all a product of the imagination of the artist; it must never be a copy. — Edgar Degas, painter

Art is not what you see but what you make others see. — Edgar Degas, painter

Only when he no longer knows what he is doing does the painter do good things. — Edgar Degas, painter

Make a drawing; begin it again; trace it; begin it again and trace it again. — Edgar Degas, painter

The terrible thing about the quest for truth is that you find it. — Remy de Gourmont, poet

It's really absurd to make an image, like a human image, with paint, today, when you think about it.... But then all of a sudden, it was even more absurd not to do it. — Willem deKooning, painter

I refrain from finishing. I paint myself out of the picture, and when I have done that, I either throw it away or keep it. — Willem deKooning, painter

If a man throws himself out of the fourth floor window, and you can't make a sketch of him before he gets to the ground, you will never do anything big. — Eugène Delacroix, painter

One never paints violently enough. — Eugène Delacroix, painter

Do all the work you can; that is the whole philosophy of the good way of life. — Eugène Delacroix, painter

What makes men of genius, or rather, what they make, is not new ideas, it is that idea—possessing them—that what has been said has still not been said enough. — Eugène Delacroix, painter

Artists who seek perfection in everything are those who cannot attain it in anything. — Eugène Delacroix, painter

I live in company with a body, a silent companion, exacting and eternal. — Eugène Delacroix, painter

The source of genius is imagination alone, the refinement of the senses that sees what others do not see, or sees them differently. — Eugène Delacroix, painter

You cannot hear the waterfall if you stand next to it. I paint my jungles in the desert. — Macedonlo de la Torre, painter

The cure for writer's cramp is writer's block. — Indigo De Leon

Writing is a form of personal freedom. It frees us from the mass identity we see in the making all around us. In the end, writers will write not to be outlaw heroes of some under-culture but mainly to save themselves, to survive as individuals. — Don DeLillo, novelist

If I were a writer, how I would enjoy being told the novel is dead. How liberating to work in the margins, outside a central perception. You are the ghoul of literature. Lovely. — Don DeLillo, novelist

That's what we all are—just little stories. We only exist by how people remember us, by the stories we make of our lives. Without the stories we would just fade away — Charles de Lint

I lived at home until I was 31. My parents were very understanding, though not terribly sure what was going on. —Jeremy Deller, British artist

Art takes what in life is an accidental pleasure and tries to repeat and prolong it. — Edwin Denby

Criticism is easy, art is difficult. — Phillipe Destouches

The murals in restaurants are on a par with the food in museums. — Peter De Vries, novelist

Nothing is sweeter in this sad world than the sound of someone you love calling your name. — Kate DiCamillo, author, *The Tale of Despereaux*

The basic tool for manipulation of reality is the manipulation of words. If you can control the meaning of words, you can control the people who must use the words. — Philip K. Dick, science fiction novelist

Sometimes the appropriate response to reality is to go insane. — Philip K. Dick, science fiction novelist

Reality is that which, when you stop believing in it, doesn't go away. — Philip K. Dick, science fiction novelist

No one is useless in this world who lightens the burdens of another. — Charles Dickens, novelist

There is no Frigate like a Book  
To take us Lands away. — Emily Dickenson, poet

Character — the willingness to accept responsibility for one's own life — is the source from which self-respect springs. — Joan Didion, author, *Slouching Towards Bethlehem*

How we spend our days is, of course, how we spend our lives. — Annie Dillard, novelist

Poetry has been able to function quite directly as human interpretation of the raw, loose universe. It is a mixture, if you will, of journalism and metaphysics, or of science and religion. — Annie Dillard, novelist

Spend the afternoon. You can't take it with you. — Annie Dillard, novelist

There is no shortage of good days. It is good lives that are hard to come by. — Annie Dillard, novelist, *The Writing Life*

Western art is built on the biographical passion of one artist for another. — Jim Dine, sculptor

We invent the past and remember the future. — Isak Dinesen, author

Through all the world there goes one long cry from the heart of the artist: Give me leave to do my utmost. — Isak Dineson, author

Writing is a socially acceptable form of schizophrenia. — E. L. Doctorow, novelist

In times of change and danger, when there is a quicksand of fear under men's reasoning, a sense of continuity with generations gone before can stretch like a lifeline across the scary present. — John Dos Passos, novelist

People don't choose their careers; they are engulfed by them. — John Dos Passos, novelist

There is no subject so old that something new cannot be said about it. — Fyodor Dostoevsky, novelist

Mediocrity knows nothing higher than itself, but talent instantly recognizes genius. — Arthur Conan Doyle, novelist

What if the question is not why am I so infrequently the person I really want to be, but why do I so infrequently want to be the person I really am? — Oriah Mountain Dreamer, author, *The Dance*

What if it truly doesn't matter what you do, but how you do whatever you do? — Oriah Mountain Dreamer, author, *The Dance*

What if there is no need to change, no need to try to transform yourself into someone who is more compassionate, more present, more loving or wise? How would this affect all the places in your life where you are

endlessly trying to be better? — Oriah Mountain  
Dreamer, author, *The Dance*

I want to know if you can be with joy  
mine or your own  
if you can dance with wildness  
and let the ecstasy fill you to the tips of your fingers and  
toes  
without cautioning us to  
be careful  
be realistic  
remember the limitations of being human.  
— Oriah Mountain Dreamer, author, *The Invitation*

I want to know if you can be alone  
with yourself  
and if you truly like the company you keep  
in the empty moments.  
— Oriah Mountain Dreamer, author, *The Invitation*

It doesn't interest me  
to know where you live or how much money you have.  
I want to know if you can get up  
after the night of grief and despair  
weary and bruised to the bone  
and do what needs to be done  
to feed the children.  
— Oriah Mountain Dreamer, author, *The Invitation*

It doesn't interest me what you do for a living.  
I want to know what you ache for  
and if you dare to dream of meeting your heart's  
longing.  
— Oriah Mountain Dreamer, author, *The Invitation*

It doesn't interest me how old you are.  
I want to know if you will risk looking like a fool  
for love

for your dream  
for the adventure of being alive.  
— Oriah Mountain Dreamer, author, *The Invitation*

It doesn't interest me where or what or with whom  
you have studied  
I want to know what sustains you  
from the inside  
when all else falls away.  
— Oriah Mountain Dreamer, author, *The Invitation*

The test of literature is, I suppose, whether we  
ourselves live more intensely for the reading of it. —  
Elizabeth Drew

All in all, the creative act is not performed by the artist  
alone; the spectator brings the work in contact with the  
external world by deciphering and interpreting its inner  
qualification and thus adds his contribution to the  
creative act. — Marcel Duchamp, artist

I have forced myself to contradict myself in order to  
avoid conforming to my own taste. — Marcel Duchamp,  
artist

To all appearances, the artist acts like a mediumistic  
being who, from the labyrinth beyond time and space,  
seeks his way out to a clearing. — Marcel Duchamp,  
artist

Rogues are preferable to imbeciles because they  
sometimes take a rest. — Alexandre Dumas, novelist

A poem is a ritual referring to divine orders. — Robert  
Duncan, poet

In writing songs I've learned as much from Cezanne as I have from Woody Guthrie. — Bob Dylan, singer and songwriter

# E

In a big picture you see what o'clock it is, afternoon or morning, if it is hot or cold, winter or summer, and what kind of people are there, and what they are doing and why they are doing it. — Thomas Eakins, painter

The big artist keeps a sharp eye on nature and steals her tools. — Thomas Eakins, painter

The brush is a more powerful and rapid tool than the point or the stump. The main thing that the brush secures is the instant grasp of the grand construction of a figure. — Thomas Eakins, painter

The biographer may be as imaginative as he pleases—the more imaginative the better—in the way in which he brings together his materials, but he must not imagine the materials. — Leon Edel

Every master knows that the material teaches the artist. — Ilya Grigorievich Ehrenburg, novelist

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. — Albert Einstein, physicist

Art is the expression of the profoundest thoughts in the simplest ways. — Albert Einstein, scientist

Keep true, never be ashamed of doing right; decide on what you think is right and stick to it. — George Eliot, novelist

The reward of one duty is the power to fulfill another. — George Eliot, novelist

It is only a poor sort of happiness that could ever come by caring very much about our own pleasures. We can only have the highest happiness such as goes along with being a great man, by having wide thoughts and much feeling for the rest of the world as well as ourselves. — George Eliot, novelist

It's never too late to become what you might have become. — George Eliot, novelist

The golden moments in the stream of life rush past us, and we see nothing but sand; the angels come to visit us, and we only know them when they are gone. — George Eliot, novelist

The strongest principle of growth lies in human choice. — George Eliot, novelist

Our passions do not live apart in locked chambers but dress in their small wardrobe of notions, bring their provisions to a common table and mess together, feeding out of the common store according to their appetite. — George Eliot, novelist

What do we live for, if it is not to make life less difficult to each other? — George Eliot, novelist

Men can do nothing without the make-believe of a beginning. Even Science, the strict measurer, is obliged to start with a make-believe unit, and must fix on a

point in the stars' unceasing journey when his sidereal clock shall pretend that time is Nought. His less accurate grandmother Poetry has always been understood to start in the middle; but on reflection it appears that her proceeding is not very different from his; since Science, too, reckons backward as well as forward, divides his unit into billions, and with his clock-finger at Nought really sets off *in medias res*. No retrospect will take us to the true beginning; and whether our prologue be in heaven or on earth, it is but a fraction of that all-presupposing fact with which our story sets out. — George Eliot, novelist

Animals are such agreeable friends—they ask no questions, they pass no criticisms. — George Eliot, novelist, *Scenes of Clerical Life*

If you haven't the strength to impose your own terms upon life, you must accept the terms it offers you. — T. S. Eliot, poet

It is impossible to design a system so perfect that no one needs to be good. — T. S. Eliot, poet

Humility is the most difficult of all virtues to achieve; nothing dies harder than the desire to think well of oneself. — T. S. Eliot, poet

Never commit yourself to a cheese without having first examined it. — T.S. Eliot, poet

Immature poets imitate; mature poets steal. — T. S. Eliot, poet

When a cat adopts you, there is nothing to be done about it except to put up with it and wait until the wind changes. — T. S. Eliot, poet

Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go. — T. S. Eliot, poet

We shall not cease from exploration.  
And the end of all our exploring  
Will be to arrive where we started  
And know the place for the first time.  
— T. S. Eliot, poet, *Little Gidding*

God wants us to spend more money and be more generous in bum economic climates. Go out and get yourself a hamburger. — James Ellroy, novelist

What's the best cure for a hangover? More booze.  
What's the best cure for a heartache? More women. —  
James Ellroy, novelist

Open your heart. Open it wide; someone is standing outside. — Mary Engelbreit, artist

What is possible in art becomes thinkable in life. — Brian Eno

The desire to write grows with writing. — Erasmus, playwright

I don't use drugs, my dreams are frightening enough. — M.C. Escher, artist

Only those who attempt the absurd will achieve the impossible. — M.C. Escher, artist

Life does not count by years. Some suffer a lifetime in a day, and so grow old between the rising and the setting of the sun. — Augusta Jane Evans, novelist

# F

The aim of every artist is to arrest motion, which is life, by artificial means and hold it fixed so that a hundred years later, when a stranger looks at it, it moves again, since it is life. — William Faulkner, novelist

Gratitude is a quality similar to electricity. It must be produced and discharged and used up in order to exist at all. — William Faulkner, novelist

I believe man will not merely endure, he will prevail. He is immortal, not because he, alone among creatures, has an inexhaustible voice, but because he has a soul, a spirit, capable of compassion and sacrifice and endurance. The poet's, the writer's duty is to write about these things. It is his privilege to help man endure by lifting his heart, by reminding him of courage and honor and hope and pride and compassion and pity. The poet's voice need not merely be the record of man; it can be one of the props to help him endure and prevail. — William Faulkner, novelist

The man who removes a mountain begins by carrying away small stones. — William Faulkner, novelist

Always dream and shoot higher than you know you can do. Don't bother just to be better than your contemporaries or predecessors. Try to be better than yourself. — William Faulkner, novelist

Artists can color the sky red because they know it's blue. Those of us who aren't artists must color things the way they really are or people might think we're stupid. — Jules Feiffer, cartoonist

At sixteen I was stupid, confused, insecure and indecisive. At twenty-five I was wise, self-confident, prepossessing and assertive. At forty-five I am stupid, confused, insecure and indecisive. Who would have supposed that maturity is only a short break in adolescence? — Jules Feiffer, cartoonist

A photograph is a page from life, and that being the case, it must be real. — Arthur "Weegee" Fellig, photographer

The coffee cup is always emptied just as the waitress goes on break. — Owen Finsden, art critic

Man, became man through work, who stepped out of the animal kingdom as transformer of the natural into the artificial, who became therefore the magician, man the creator of social reality, will always stay the great magician, will always be Prometheus bringing fire from heaven to earth, will always be Orpheus entralling nature with his music. Not until humanity itself dies will art die. — Ernst Fischer, poet

Genius is the ability to put into effect what is on your mind. — F. Scott Fitzgerald, novelist

Never confuse a single defeat with a final defeat. — F. Scott Fitzgerald, novelist

You don't write because you want to say something, you write because you have something to say. — F. Scott Fitzgerald, novelist

If you're strong enough, there are no precedents. — F. Scott Fitzgerald, novelist

Be regular and orderly in your life, that you may be violent and original in your work. — Gustave Flaubert, novelist

Break with the outside world, live like a bear. — Gustave Flaubert, novelist

Love is a springtime plant that perfumes everything with its hope, even the ruins to which it clings. — Gustave Flaubert, novelist

The one way of tolerating existence is to lose oneself in literature as in a perpetual orgy. — Gustave Flaubert, novelist

When you really want to do something, you should go ahead and do it. I feel fear, but I never let that stop me. — Tom Ford, fashion designer

That is the ultimate design project. You don't just get to design what people wear, but you design the whole world and whether characters get to live or die. There is a permanence to film that fashion lacks. — Tom Ford, fashion designer

Writing is easy. All you do is sit staring at a blank piece of paper until drops of blood form on your forehead — Gene Fowler, author

We all write poems. It is simply that poets are the ones who write in words. — John Fowles, novelist

If fifty million people say a foolish thing, it is still a foolish thing. — Anatole France, novelist

The average man, who does not know what to do with his life, wants another one which will last forever. — Anatole France, novelist

To imagine is everything, to know is nothing at all. — Anatole France, novelist

Wandering reestablishes the original harmony which once existed between man and the universe. — Anatole France, novelist

To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe. — Anatole France, novelist

A poem begins in delight and ends in wisdom. — Robert Frost, poet

Politics is an honest effort to misunderstand one another. — Robert Frost, poet

An idea is a feat of association. — Robert Frost, poet

Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence. — Robert Frost, poet

We dance in a circle and suppose, while the secret sits in the middle and knows. — Robert Frost, poet

All men are born free and equal—free at least in their right to be different. Some people want to homogenize society everywhere. I'm against the homegenizers in

art, in politics, in every walk of life. I wan the cream to rise. — Robert Frost, poet

Love is an irresistible desire to be irresistibly desired. — Robert Frost, poet

The brain is a wonderful organ. It starts working the moment you get up in the morning and does not stop until you get into the office. — Robert Frost, poet

You can be a rank insider as well as a rank outsider. — Robert Frost, poet

A jury consists of twelve persons chosen to decide who has the better lawyer. — Robert Frost, poet

Happiness makes up in height for what it lacks in length. — Robert Frost, poet

All the best things a poet ever uses are things he didn't know he was getting when he was getting them. — Robert Frost, poet

The reason why worry kills more people than work is that more people worry than work. — Robert Frost, poet

The best way out is always through. — Robert Frost, poet

As it is more blessed to give than receive, so it must be more blessed to receive than to give back. — Robert Frost, poet

I never dared to be radical when young for fear it would make me conservative when old. — Robert Frost, poet

I'm against a homogenized society, because I want the cream to rise. — Robert Frost, poet

Most of the change we think we see in life is due to truths being in and out of favor. — Robert Frost, poet

Half the world is composed of those who have something to say but can't; the other half is of those who have nothing to say and keep on saying it. — Robert Frost, poet

A liberal is a man too broadminded to take his own side in a quarrel. — Robert Frost, poet

Forgive, O Lord, my little jokes on Thee, and I'll forgive Thy great big joke on me. — Robert Frost, poet

There are tones of voices that mean more than words. — Robert Frost, poet

By working faithfully eight hours a day, you may eventually get to be a boss and work twelve hours a day. — Robert Frost, poet

Poetry is a way of taking life by the throat. — Robert Frost, poet

Suppose we write poetry as we make a dynamo without ornament—well only the great poetry can be written that way. — Robert Frost, poet

Form is only the last refinement of subject matter. — Robert Frost, poet

The world is full of willing people, some willing to work, the rest willing to let them. — Robert Frost, poet

Progress is like walking on a rolling barrel. — Robert Frost, poet

A bank is a place where they lend you an umbrella in fair weather and ask for it back when it begins to rain. — Robert Frost, poet

An idea comes as close to something for nothing as you can get. — Robert Frost, poet

A nation should be just as full of conflict as it can contain.... But, of course, it must contain. — Robert Frost, poet

The only lasting beauty is the beauty of the heart. — Robert Frost, poet

Forgive me my nonsense as I also forgive the nonsense of those who think they talk sense. — Robert Frost, poet

The chief reason for going to school is to get the impression fixed for life that there is a book side for everything. — Robert Frost, poet

Life is a bursting unity of opposition barely held. — Robert Frost, poet

A diplomat is a man who always remembers a woman's birthday but never remembers her age. — Robert Frost, poet

In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life. It goes on. — Robert Frost, poet

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—  
I took the one less traveled by,

And that has made all the difference.  
— Robert Frost, poet, "The Road Not Taken"

Home is the place where, when you have to go there,  
they have to take you in. — Robert Frost, poet, "The  
Death of a Hired Man"

There is no way to order chaos. It's the fundamental  
theory at the beginning and end of everything; it's the  
ultimate law of nature. — Alexandra Fuller, author

Of course, our failures are a consequence of many  
factors, but possibly one of the most important is the  
fact that society operates on the theory that  
specialization is the key to success, not realizing that  
specialization precludes comprehensive thinking. — R.  
Buckminster Fuller, inventor and architect

You can't change things by force, only by making the  
things you want to change seem obsolete. — R.  
Buckminster Fuller, inventor and architect

Humanity is acquiring all the right technology for all the  
wrong reasons. — R. Buckminster Fuller, inventor and  
architect

Nature is trying very hard to make us succeed, but  
nature does not depend on us. We are not the only  
experiment. — R. Buckminster Fuller, inventor and  
architect

If humanity does not opt for integrity we are through  
completely. It is absolutely touch and go. Each one of us  
could make the difference. — R. Buckminster Fuller,  
inventor and architect

God, to me, it seems, is a verb not a noun. — R.  
Buckminster Fuller, inventor and architect

Everything you've learned in school as obvious becomes less and less obvious as you begin to study the universe. For example, there are no solids in the universe. There's not even a suggestion of a solid. There are no absolute continuums. There are no surfaces. There are no straight lines. — R. Buckminster Fuller, inventor and architect



A book is a dream that you hold in your hand. — Neil Gaiman, novelist

If you are going to do anything, do it to perfection and surround yourself with like-minded rebels. — John Galliano, fashion designer

Idealism increases in direct proportion to one's distance from the problem. — John Galsworthy, novelist

I shut my eyes in order to see. — Paul Gauguin, painter

Do not finish your work too much. An impression is not sufficiently durable for its first freshness to survive a belated search for infinite detail. — Paul Gauguin, painter

Art is either plagiarism or revolution. — Paul Gauguin, painter

Many excellent cooks are spoiled by going into the arts. — Paul Gauguin, painter

I shut my eyes in order to see. — Paul Gauguin, painter

Life being what it is, one dreams of revenge. — Paul Gauguin, painter

Yes, there is a Nirvanah; it is leading your sheep to a green pasture, and in putting your child to sleep, and in writing the last line of your poem. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

Generosity is giving more than you can, and pride is taking less than you need. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

I have learnt silence from the talkative, toleration from the intolerant, and kindness from the unkind; yet strange, I am ungrateful to these teachers. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

God made Truth with many doors to welcome every believer who knocks on them. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

Work is love made visible. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

You pray in your distress and in your need; would that you might also pray in the fullness of your joy and in your days of abundance. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

If you reveal your secrets to the wind you should not blame the wind for revealing them to the trees. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

In battling evil, excess is good; for he who is moderate in announcing the truth is presenting half-truth. He conceals the other half out of fear of the people's wrath. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

Say not, "I have found the truth," but rather, "I have found a truth." — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

And forget not that the earth delights to feel your bare feet and the winds long to play with your hair. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

The significance of a man is not in what he attains, but rather what he longs to attain. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

When you work, you fulfill a part of earth's fondest dream assigned to you when that dream is born. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

If you cannot work with love but only with distaste, it is better that you should leave your work. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

Tenderness and kindness are not signs of weakness and despair, but manifestations of strength and resolutions. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

If indeed you must be candid, be candid beautifully. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

I am one of those who believe that spiritual progress is a rule of human life, but the approach to perfection is slow and painful. If a woman elevates herself in one respect and is retarded in another, it is because the rough trail that leads to the mountain peak is not free of ambushes of thieves and lairs of wolves. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

Marriage is the golden ring in a chain, whose beginning is a glance and whose ending is eternity. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

To understand the heart and mind of a person, look not at what he has already achieved, but at what he aspires to do. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

Ever has it been that love knows not its own depth until the hour of separation. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

They deem me mad for I will not sell my days for gold; I deem them mad for they think my days have a price. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

It is slavery to live in the mind unless it has become part of the body. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

The lights of stars that were extinguished ages ago still reaches us. So it is with great men who died centuries ago, but still reach us with the radiations of their personalities. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

It is well to give when asked, but it is better to give unasked, through understanding. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

Money is like life; it kills slowly and painfully the one who withholds it, and enlivens the other who turns it on his fellow man. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

If you are poor, shun association with him who measures men with the yardstick of riches. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

To love is to know the pain of too much tenderness. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist

Give your hearts, but not into each other's keeping, for only the hand of God can contain your hearts. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist, *The Prophet*

You shall be free indeed when your days are not without a care nor your nights without a want and a grief, But rather when these things girdle your life and yet you rise above them naked and unbound. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist, *The Prophet*

That which seems most feeble and bewildered in you is the strongest and most determined. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist, *The Prophet*

And in the sweetness of friendship let there be laughter and the sharing of pleasures. For in the dew of little things the heart finds its morning and is refreshed. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist, *The Prophet*

You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist, *The Prophet*

Love gives naught but itself and takes naught but from itself. Love possesses not nor would it be possessed; for love is sufficient unto love. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist, *The Prophet*

And think not you can direct the course of love, for love, if it finds you worthy, directs your course. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist, *The Prophet*

For what is evil but good tortured by its own hunger and thirst? Verily, when good is hungry it seeks food even in dark caves, and when it thirsts it drinks even of dead waters. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist, *The Prophet*

Your pain is the breaking of the shell that encloses your understanding. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist, *The Prophet*

Your soul is oftentimes a battlefield, upon which your reason and your judgment wage war against passion and your appetite. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist, *The Prophet*

For what is it to die but to stand naked in the wind and to melt into the sun? And what is it to cease breathing, but to free the breath from its restless tides, that it may rise and expand and seek God unencumbered? — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist, *The Prophet*

It is well to give when asked but it is better to give unasked, through understanding. — Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist, *The Prophet*

Beauty is life when life unveils her holy face.  
But you are life and you are the veil.  
Beauty is eternity gazing at itself in a mirror.  
But you are eternity and you are the mirror.  
— Kahlil Gibran, poet and artist, *The Prophet*

Art is a collaboration between God and the artist, and the less the artist does the better. — Andre Gidé, novelist and critic

Seize from every moment its unique novelty, and do not prepare your joys. — Andre Gidé, novelist and critic

One ought never to buy anything except with love.  
Anyone whatever, anything whatsoever, ought to belong to the person who loves it best. — Andre Gidé, novelist and critic

We can never discover new continents until we have the courage to lose sight of all coasts. — Andre Gidé, novelist and critic

Dare to be yourself. — Andre Gidé, novelist and critic

Be faithful to that which exists nowhere but in yourself—and thus make yourself indispensable. — Andre Gidé, novelist and critic

Believe those who are seeking the truth. Doubt those who find it. — Andre Gidé, novelist and critic

The want of logic annoys. Too much logic bores. Life eludes logic, and everything that logic alone constructs remains artificial and forced. — André Gide, novelist and critic

It is only in adventure that some people succeed in knowing themselves—in finding themselves. — Andre Gidé, novelist and critic

One does not discover new continents without consenting to lose sight of the shore for a very long time. — Andre Gidé, novelist and critic

Fortunately art is a community effort—a small but select community living in a spiritualized world endeavoring to interpret the wars and the solitudes of the flesh. — Allen Ginsburg, poet

Most of us love from our need to love, not because we find someone deserving. — Nikki Giovanni, poet

Never trust a plastic surgeon who collects Picassos. — Carl Glead

An artist is someone who uses bravery, insight, creativity, and boldness to challenge the status quo. And an artist takes it personally. — Seth Godin

One of the most striking signs of the decay of art is evident when we see its separate forms jumbled together. — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, poet, dramatist, and essayist

Wealth lost is something lost. Honor lost is something lost. But courage lost, then all is lost. — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, poet, dramatist, and essayist

Things that matter most must never be at the mercy of things that matter least. — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, poet, dramatist, and essayist

Death is a commingling of eternity with time. In the death of a good man, eternity is seen looking through time. — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, novelist, poet, and essayist

If a man writes a book, let him set down only what he knows. I have guesses enough of my own. — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, poet, dramatist, and essayist

When two people are really happy about one another, one can generally assume they are mistaken. — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, poet, dramatist, and essayist

How can you come to know yourself? Never by thinking, always by doing. Try to do your duty, and you'll know right away what you amount to. — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, poet, dramatist, and essayist

Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Willing is not enough; we must do. — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, poet, dramatist, and essayist

Thinking is easy, acting is difficult, and to put one's thoughts into action is the most difficult thing in the world. — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, poet, dramatist, and essayist

Beware of dissipating your powers; strive constantly to concentrate them. Genius thinks it can do whatever it sees others doing, but is sure to repent of every ill-judged outlay. — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, poet, dramatist, and essayist

If I accept you as you are, I will make you worse. However, if I treat you as though you are what you are capable of becoming, I help you to become that. — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, poet, dramatist, and essayist

Architecture is frozen music. — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, poet, dramatist, and essayist

A man should hear a little music, read a little poetry, and see a fine picture every day of his life, in order that worldly cares may not obliterate the sense of the beautiful which God has implanted in the human soul. — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, poet, dramatist, and essayist

True excellence is rarely found, even more rarely is it cherished. — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, poet, dramatist, and essayist

The essence of drawing is the line exploring space. — Andy Goldsworthy

Dreams form the bristles of the artist's brush. In trying to probe beyond the ordinary and the common...I probe beyond the confines of the finite to create an infinite. Liver. Bone. Living rocks and living plants and animals. — Arshile Gorky, painter

When one loves somebody, everything is clear—where to go, what to do—it all takes care of itself and one doesn't have to ask anybody about anything. — Maxim Gorky, novelist, *The Zykovs*

Fantasy, abandoned by reason, produces impossible monsters; united with it, she is the mother of the arts and the origin of marvels. — Francisco José de Goya, painter

Always lines, never forms. But where do they find these lines in nature? For my part, I see only forms that are lit up and forms that are not. There is only line and shadow. — Francisco José de Goya, painter

In a place like this, you have to ask a client to have faith, and faith to me has always been the belief in something you can't see. — Jorge Gracia, architect

Art is the only work open to people who can't get along with others and still want to be special. — Alasdair Gray

Artists are like the Phoenix, they periodically have to self-immolate, burn off an aspect of themselves to give birth to something new. The blank canvas demands you exceed yourself. And most times you fail. This pisses you off so bad you want to quit making art or makes some artists want to quit living. But then you calm down and come back to the work. Also, bringing spirit to form calls for an encounter with difficult and resistant materials, the craft and techniques of art. The meditator

is unlikely to spill turpentine on themselves in the course of a session on the cushion, but in the fire and alchemy of the studio, you deal with the very frustrating and physical limits of "stuff." Most artists agree, their dissatisfaction drives them toward something deeper and better, and keeps them making art . Even a "happy" artist like Matisse agreed with this. — Alex Grey, artist

Transformative art must express something beyond where you are, it demands that you grow beyond your current self. This is where an artist's angst and the pain of transformation coincide. You reach toward the true, the good and the beautiful and become a better person through the struggle. — Alex Grey, artist

I prefer emotion that corrects the rule. — Juan Gris, Cubist painter

When authorities warn you of the sinfulness of sex, there is an important lesson to be learned. Do not have sex with the authorities. — Matt Groening, TV show creator and cartoonist

Families are about love overcoming emotional torture. — Matt Groening, TV show creator and cartoonist

This is my advice to cartoonists: If you want to invent a memorable cartoon, draw characters that can be identified in silhouette. — Matt Groening, TV show creator and cartoonist

Love is a perky elf dancing a merry little jig, then suddenly he turns on you with a miniature machine gun. — Matt Groening, TV show creator and cartoonist

Warning signs that a lover is bored: 1. Passionless kisses. 2. Frequent sighing. 3. Moved, left no forwarding

address. — Matt Groening, TV show creator and cartoonist

If money is the root of all evil, then why do we have to have jobs? — Matt Groening, TV show creator and cartoonist, *Bart Simpsons' Guide to Life*

Love is a snowmobile racing across the tundra and then suddenly it flips over, pinning you underneath. At night, the ice weasels come. — Matt Groening, TV show creator and cartoonist, *Life in Hell*

The ultimate aim of all visual arts is the complete building. — Walter Gropius, architect

The neutrality and clarity of an engineering drawing is a better model for teaching about art than all the uncontrollable drivel about the cabbala and metaphysics and the ecstasy of sainthood. — George Grosz, artist

Painting is manual labor, no different from any other; it can be done well or poorly. — George Grosz, artist

The timid and fearful first failures dismay,  
But the stout heart stays trying by night and by day.  
He values his failures as lessons that teach  
The one way to get to the goal he would reach.  
— Edgar A. Guest, poet

You are the person who has to decide.  
Whether you'll do it or toss it aside.  
You are the person who makes up your mind.  
Whether you'll lead or will linger behind.  
Whether you'll try for the goal that's afar.  
Or just be contented to stay where you are.  
— Edgar A. Guest, poet

All mothers have intuition. The great ones have radar. —  
Cathy Guisewite, cartoonist

# H

Family is the link to our past, the bridge to our future. — Alex Haley, novelist

Anyone can overcome a broken heart. Every life is a story worth telling. — E. Lynn Harris, novelist

Never ask directions from a gas station attendant named Waldo. — Johnny Hart, cartoonist, *BC* comic strip

Fig Newton: The force required to accelerate a fig 39.37 inches per sec. — Johnny Hart, cartoonist, *BC* comic strip

Love is a common bond that occurs between two people when each thinks they have something to gain through the other's stupidity. — Johnny Hart, cartoonist, *BC* comic strip

Don't go to a doctor who places his stethoscope on your wallet. — Johnny Hart, cartoonist, *BC* comic strip

Never eat in a restaurant where the waitress asks for her tip up front. — Johnny Hart, cartoonist, *BC* comic strip

Genuine politics—even politics worthy of the name—the only politics I am willing to devote myself to—is simply a matter of serving those around us: serving the

community and serving those who will come after us. — Vaclav Havel, Czech leader and poet

Hope is an orientation of the spirit, an orientation of the heart. It is not the conviction that something will turn out well, but the certainty that something makes sense, regardless of how it turns out. — Vaclav Havel, Czech leader and poet

Easy reading is damn hard writing. — Nathaniel Hawthorne, novelist

Our Creator would never have made such lovely days and have given us the deep hearts to enjoy them unless we were meant to be immortal. — Nathaniel Hawthorne, novelist

Generosity is the flower of justice. — Nathaniel Hawthorne, novelist

In the absence of clearly-defined goals, we become strangely loyal to performing daily trivia until ultimately we become enslaved by it. — Robert Heinlein, science fiction author

Writing is not necessarily something to be ashamed of, but do it in private and wash your hands afterwards. — Robert Heinlein, science fiction novelist

Of course the game is rigged. Don't let that stop you—if you don't play, you can't win. — Robert Heinlein, science fiction author

Never mistake motion for action. — Ernest Hemingway, novelist

The most essential gift for a good writer is a built-in, shock-proof crap detector. — Ernest Hemingway, novelist

When people talk, listen completely. Most people never listen. — Ernest Hemingway, novelist

All you have to do is write one true sentence. Write the truest sentence that you know. — Ernest Hemingway, novelist

Writing and travel broaden your ass if not your mind. — Ernest Hemingway, novelist

To be a successful father there's one absolute rule: when you have a kid, don't look at it for the first two years. — Ernest Hemingway, novelist

A curve does not exist in its full power until contrasted with a straight line. — Robert Henri, painter

There are mighty few people who think what they think they think. — Robert Henri, painter

An artist who has no imagination is a mechanic. — Robert Henri, painter

You can do anything you want to do. What is rare is this actual wanting to do a certain thing: wanting it so much that you are practically blind to all other things, that nothing else will satisfy you. — Robert Henri, painter

Cherish your own emotions and never undervalue them. — Robert Henri, painter

If you think of a school drawing while you work, your drawing will look like one. — Robert Henri, painter

Lines are results; do not draw them for themselves. — Robert Henri, painter

Look for echoes. Sometimes the same shape or direction will echo through the picture. — Robert Henri, painter

The real work of art is the result of a magnificent struggle. — Robert Henri, painter

I must always have a clear image of the form of a work before I begin. Otherwise there is no impulse to create. — Barbara Hepworth, sculptor

The resolved mind hath no cares. — George Herbert, poet

One never reaches home, but wherever friendly paths intersect the whole world looks like home for a time. — Herman Hesse, novelist

We forget that we ourselves are part of history, that we are the product of growth and are condemned to perish if we lose the capacity for further growth and change. — Herman Hesse, novelist

If you hate a person, you hate something in him that is a part of yourself. What isn't part of ourselves doesn't disturb us. — Herman Hesse, novelist

Paint a masterpiece daily. Always autograph your work with excellence. — Greg Hickman

I do believe it is possible to create, even without ever writing a word or painting a picture, by simply molding one's inner life. And that too is a deed. — Etty Hillesum

Love is the only game that is not called on account of darkness. — M. Hirschfeld, cartoonist

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. — Alfred Hitchcock, director

The ability to simplify means to eliminate the unnecessary so that the necessary may speak. — Hans Hofmann, painter

From the age of six I had a mania for drawing the forms of things. By the time I was 50, I had published an infinity of designs, but all I have produced before 70 is not worth taking into account. At 73 I learned a little about the real structure of nature, of animals, plants, birds, and fishes. In consequence, when I am 80, I shall have made still more progress. At 90 I shall penetrate the mystery of things. At 100 I shall certainly have reached a marvelous stage. And, when I am 110, everything I do, be it but a dot, will be alive. I beg those who live as long as I do to see if I do not keep my word. — Hokusai, artist (at the age of 73), epilogue to *A Hundred Views of Fuji*

Know from the bounteous heavens all riches flow; and what man gives, the gods by man bestow. — Homer, poet

Never regret. If it's good, it's wonderful. If it's bad, it's experience. — Victoria Holt, novelist

A picture is a poem without words. — Horace, poet

No amount of skillful invention can replace the essential element of imagination. — Edward Hopper, painter

Of course we all have our limits, but how can you possibly find your boundaries unless you explore as far and as wide as you possibly can? I would rather fail in an attempt at something new and uncharted than safely succeed in a repeat of something I have done. — A. E. Hotchner, novelist and biographer

Artists make lousy slaves. — Hellpope Huey, artist

Hold fast to dreams.  
For if dreams die.  
Life is a broken-winged bird  
That cannot fly.  
— James Langston Hughes, poet

Money and art  
are far apart.  
— James Langston Hughes, poet

The future has several names. For the weak, it is the impossible. For the fainthearted, it is the unknown. For the thoughtful and valiant, it is the ideal. — Victor Hugo, novelist

There is nothing like a dream to create the future. — Victor Hugo, novelist

There is one thing stronger than all the armies in the world; and that is an idea whose time has come. — Victor Hugo, novelist

Nothing is more imminent than the impossible. What we must always foresee is the unforeseen. — Victor Hugo, novelist

I don't mind what the legislature does, as long as they don't do it in the streets and frighten the horses. — Victor Hugo, novelist

He who every morning plans the transaction of the day and follows out that plan, carries a thread that will guide him through the maze of the most busy life. But where no plan is laid, where the disposal of time is surrendered merely to the chance of incidence, chaos will soon reign. — Victor Hugo, novelist

Nothing is more powerful than an idea whose time has come. — Victor Hugo, novelist

Life's greatest happiness is the conviction that we are loved—loved for ourselves, or rather, loved in spite of ourselves. — Victor Hugo, novelist, *Les Misérables*

To be a saint is the exception; to be upright is the rule. Err, falter, sin, but be upright. To commit the least possible sin is the law for man. Sin is a gravitation. — Victor Hugo, novelist, *Les Misérables*

There is nothing like dreams to create the future. Utopia today, flesh and blood tomorrow. — Victor Hugo, novelist, *Les Misérables*

To love another person is to see the face of God. — Victor Hugo, novelist, *Les Misérables*

Nothing discernable to the eye of the spirit is more brilliant or obscure than man; nothing is more formidable, complex, mysterious, and infinite. There is a

prospect greater than the sea, and it is the sky; there is a prospect greater than the sky, and it is the human soul. — Victor Hugo, novelist, *Les Misérables*

Southern writers get their start on porches. You sit on one and watch the town go by. From a porch, other people's lives look interesting. — Josephine Humphreys

Art is a place where you can be wild. Kids—all of us—need that. — Helen Hunt, actress

Art is resuscitation; it is rejuvenation. Art recognizes humanity and frees it. — William Hurt, actor

Experience is not what happens to you. It is what you do with what happens to you. — Aldous Huxley, novelist

On no account brood over your wrong-doing. Rolling in the muck is not the best way of getting clean. — Aldous Huxley, novelist

The smallest fact is a window through which we can see the infinite. — Aldous Huxley, novelist

After silence that which comes nearest to expressing the inexpressible is music. — Aldous Huxley, novelist



The discipline of writing something down is the first step toward making it happen. — Lee Iacocca, automaker

All design begins with a single line. A line that challenges. A line that creates power ... or control ... or size. A line can make what's functional, emotional. — Infinity auto TV commercial

The nature of the masterpieces is not to dazzle. Their nature is to persuade, to convince, to enter into us through our pores. — Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres

There are no solutions. History solved nothing. Nothing.... For I do not give solutions, either, no answers, I only ask questions, in a tattling way. I talk much, much, very much, in order to disrupt language. I pitch into ideas by the uproar of the word. — Eugène Ionesco, dramatist

Great minds have purpose, others have wishes. — Washington Irving, short story writer

- 1) Don't think you need special effects or big-budget drama....
- 2) Don't eschew the plain....
- 3) Don't assume you know more than your characters do, or condescend, even to children....
- 4) Don't try to make your characters consistent. Life

doesn't....

5) Don't get beyond yourself....

6) Don't give us a steady point of view....

7) Don't stick to what you know firsthand....

8) Don't look away from anything....

9) Don't be linear or too sensible....

10) Don't be afraid of going where you've never been before.

— Pico Iyer, author, "How to Write a Short Story"

J

The essential difference between art and spying is that in art, you share all the secrets. — Caleb Jackson

Artists are God's little pickpockets. — Caleb Jackson

We all have a choice in how to look at things, and when things don't go the way I like I tend to think they're a problem. Well, you can look at something as a problem or look at it as a learning experience or an opportunity for growth or whatever. This idea that everything happens for a reason and is perfect and you will benefit from it even if you can't see the benefit—it's just a nicer ideal to subscribe to. — Marc Jacobs, fashion designer

That's what I think everyone should aspire to in life—being shameless. — Marc Jacobs, fashion designer

The moment you cheat for the sake of beauty, you know you're an artist. — Max Jacob

After 8 hours of sending faxes, licking envelopes, and dealing with idiotic people on the phone, a guy can get pretty unhappy with his lot in life. — Jeph Jacques, cartoonist, Questionable Content Comic

It is impossible to ignore a girl who has your nipple in her vicelike grip. — Jeph Jacques, cartoonist, Questionable Content Comic

First Law of Sexual Dynamics: In a given dispute, the female is more likely to be correct. — Jeph Jacques, cartoonist, Questionable Content Comic

Boy-punching is the best way for a girl to test her depth perception. — Jeph Jacques, cartoonist, Questionable Content Comic

The quickest way to a man's heart really is through his stomach, because then you don't have to chop through that pesky rib cage. — Jeph Jacques, cartoonist, Questionable Content Comic

Spontaneous kindness is to hipsters as high beams are to deer. — Jeph Jacques, cartoonist, Questionable Content Comic

One of the core tenets of my sex life is "No poo-poo on the pee-pee." — Jeph Jacques, cartoonist, Questionable Content Comic

You can either hold yourself up to the unrealistic standards of others, or ignore them and concentrate on being happy with yourself as you are. — Jeph Jacques, cartoonist, Questionable Content Comic

Common sense and a sense of humor are the same thing, moving at different speeds. A sense of humor is just common sense, dancing. — Clive James, author

There are two kinds of taste, the taste for emotions of surprise and the taste for emotions of recognition. — Henry James, novelist

Architecture is to make us know and remember who we are. — Geoffrey Jellicoe

All architecture is shelter, all great architecture is the design of space that contains, cuddles, exalts, or stimulates the persons in that space. — Philip Johnson, architect

Architecture is the art of how to waste space. — Philip Johnson, architect

On a lazy Saturday morning when you're lying in bed, drifting in and out of sleep, there is a space where fantasy and reality become one. Are you awake, or are you dreaming? You see people and things; some are familiar; some are strange. You talk, you feel, but you move without walking; you fly without wings. Your mind and your body exist, but on separate planes. Time stands still. For me, this is the feeling I have when ideas come. — Lynn Johnston, cartoonist, *For Better or For Worse*

We are all born with wonderful gifts. We use these gifts to express ourselves, to amuse, to strengthen, and to communicate. We begin as children to explore and develop our talents, often unaware that we are unique, that not everyone can do what we're doing! — Lynn Johnston, cartoonist, *For Better or For Worse*

You don't have to die in order to make a living. — Lynn Johnston, cartoonist, *For Better or For Worse*

Complaining is good for you as long as you're not complaining to the person you're complaining about. — Lynn Johnston, cartoonist, *For Better or For Worse*

The most profound statements are often said in silence. — Lynn Johnston, cartoonist, *For Better or For Worse*

No matter how old you are, there's always something good to look forward to. — Lynn Johnston, cartoonist, *For Better or For Worse*

I know ultimately I'm just a glorified tailor. But as in any profession, if you're a glorified tailor with a purpose, then the sky's the limit. — Anand Jon, fashion designer

You will find poetry nowhere unless you bring some of it with you. — Joseph Joubert, essayist

A man's errors are his portals of discovery. — James Joyce, novelist

Saying that a great genius is mad, while at the same time recognizing his artistic worth, is like saying that he had rheumatism or suffered from diabetes. — James Joyce, novelist

Art is the human disposition of sensible or intelligible matter for an esthetic end. — James Joyce, novelist

The artist, like the God of creation, remains within or behind or beyond or above his handiwork, invisible, refined out of existence, indifferent, paring his fingernails. — James Joyce, novelist

Expect everything, I always say, and the unexpected never happens. — Norton Juster, novelist, *The Phantom Tollbooth*

So many things are possible as long as you don't know they're impossible. — Norton Juster, author, *The Phantom Tollbooth*



Irresponsibility is part of the pleasure of all arts. —  
Pauline Kael, playwright

The first prerogative of an artist in any medium is to  
make a fool of himself. — Pauline Kael, playwright

There are some things one can only achieve by a  
deliberate leap in the opposite direction. — Franz Kafka,  
novelist

From a certain point onward there is no longer any  
turning back. That is the point that must be reached. —  
Franz Kafka, novelist

Writing is a form of prayer. — Franz Kafka, novelist

You do not need to leave your room. Remain sitting at  
your table and listen. Do not even listen, simply wait, be  
quiet, still and solitary. The world will freely offer itself  
to you to be unmasked. It has no choice. It will roll in  
ecstasy at your feet. — Franz Kafka, novelist

Anything that has real and lasting value is always a gift  
from within. — Franz Kafka, novelist

Don't bend; don't water it down; don't try to make it  
logical; don't edit your own soul according to the

fashion. Rather, follow your most intense obsessions mercilessly. — Franz Kafka, novelist

Writing means revealing oneself to excess. — Franz Kafka, novelist

I always paint my own reality. — Frida Kahlo, artist

I applied streaks and blobs of color onto the canvas with a palette knife and I made them sing with all the intensity I could. — Wassily Kandinsky, painter

There is no must in art because art is free. — Wassily Kandinsky, painter

I don't think there's anything more important than spirituality. I don't think it's about a religion. It's about caring and sharing and realizing that it's not about us independently but about what we can do to help in life and make a difference for other people. — Donna Karan, fashion designer

Being romantic can be simple—it's those quiet times. When you can just shut it down and really come together as one—that's romantic. — Donna Karan, fashion designer

You have your colors. You have your brushes. Paint paradise and walk right in. — Nikos Kazantzakis, novelist

Don't be discouraged by a failure. It can be a positive experience. Failure is, in a sense, the highway to success, inasmuch as every discovery of what is false leads us to seek earnestly after what is true, and every fresh experience points out some form of error which we shall afterwards carefully avoid. — John Keats, poet

I love you the more that I believe you have liked me for my own sake and for nothing else. — John Keats, poet

The only means of strengthening one's intelligence is to make up one's mind about nothing—to let the mind be a thoroughfare for all thoughts. — John Keats, poet

I am certain of nothing but the holiness of the heart's affections and the truth of imagination. What the imagination seizes as beauty must be truth—whether it existed before or not. — John Keats, poet

Beauty is truth, truth beauty—that is all  
Ye know on earth, and all ye need to know.  
— John Keats, poet, "Ode on a Grecian Urn"

Success is measured by the memories you create. —  
Thomas Keller, chef

Copywriting is salesmanship in print. — John E.  
Kennedy, copywriter

When power leads man towards arrogance, poetry reminds him of his limitations. When power narrows the area of man's concern, poetry reminds him of the richness and diversity of his existence. When power corrupts, poetry cleanses. — John F. Kennedy, U.S. president

We must never forget that art is not a form of propagand; it is a form of truth. — John F. Kennedy, U.S. president

Creativity belongs to the artist in each of us. To create means to relate. The root meaning of the word art is "to fit together" and we all do this every day. Not all of us are painters but we are all artists. Each time we fit

things together we are creating—whether it is to make a loaf of bread, a child, a day. — Corita Kent, artist and teacher

Life is a succession of moments. To live each one is to succeed. — Corita Kent, artist and teacher

And nobody, nobody knows what's going to happen to anybody besides the forlorn rags of growing old. — Jack Kerouac, novelist, *On the Road*

The only people for me are the mad ones, the ones who are mad to live, mad to talk, mad to be saved, the ones who never yawn or say a commonplace thing, but burn, burn, burn like fabulous roman candles exploding like spiders across the stars and in the middle you see the blue centerlight pop and everybody goes "Awww!" — Jack Kerouac, novelist, *On the Road*

A poet is an unhappy being whose heart is torn by secret sufferings, but whose lips are so strangely formed that when the sighs and the cries escape them, they sound like beautiful music. — Søren Kierkegaard, philosopher

Express everything you like. No word can hurt you. None. No idea can hurt you. Not being able to express an idea or a word will hurt you much more. As much as a bullet. — Jamaica Kincaid

If a man is called to be a streetsweeper, he should sweep streets even as Michelangelo painted, or Beethoven played music, or Shakespeare wrote poetry. He should sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth will pause to say, here lived a great streetsweeper who did his job well. — Martin Luther King Jr., civil rights leader

Talent is cheaper than table salt. What separates the talented individual from the successful one is a lot of hard work. — Stephen King, novelist

Fiction is the truth inside the lie. — Stephen King, novelist

You can't deny laughter. When it comes, it plops down in your favorite chair and stays as long as it wants. — Stephen King, novelist

People want to know why I write such gross stuff. I like to tell them I have the heart of a small boy—and I keep it in a jar on my desk. — Stephen King, novelist

If you don't have the time to read, you don't have the time or the tools to write. — Stephen King, novelist

The very least you can do in your life is to figure out what you hope for. And the most you can do is live inside that hope. Not admire it from a distance but live right in it, under its roof. — Barbara Kingsolver, novelist

Words are, of course, the most powerful drug used by mankind. — Rudyard Kipling, poet

Of all the liars in the world, sometimes the worst are your own fears. — Rudyard Kipling, poet

Each energy calls for its complementary energy to achieve self-contained stability based on the play of energies. — Paul Klee, painter

I want to be as though newborn, knowing nothing, absolutely nothing. — Paul Klee, painter

To achieve vital harmony in a picture, it must be constructed out of parts in themselves incomplete, brought into harmony only at the last stroke. — Paul Klee, painter

A line is a dot out for a stroll. — Paul Klee, painter

Color possesses me. I don't have to pursue it. It will possess me always. I know it. This is the meaning of the happy hour. Color and I are one. I am a painter. — Paul Klee, painter

Art does not reproduce the visible; rather, it makes it visible. — Paul Klee, painter

Truth is like the color turquoise. It changes under different light. — Vincent Kofi, sculptor

Ego held me back. Only when I realized that everything I wrote wasn't golden did I begin to improve. — J.A. Konrath, novelist

If you're not great-looking, wear a fabulous watch, carry expensive luggage, and wear sunglasses. It worked for Onassis. — Michael Kors, fashion designer

The more minimal the art, the more maximum the explanation. — Hilton Kramer

All my works keeps going like a pendulum.... For me, change is the only constant. — Lee Krasner, abstract painter

With every door and cabinet and drawer I opened, I learned something new. — Nicole Krauss, novelist, *The History of Love*

For a novelist, a given historic situation is an anthropologic laboratory in which he explores his basic question: What is human existence? — Milan Kundera, novelist and poet

Be what you are. Give what is yours to give. Have style. Dare. — Stanley Kunitz, poet

Without darkness there are no dreams. — Karla Kuran, novelist, *Marchlands*



That it is shallow to judge by appearances is a well-known saying. That it is shallow to dismiss appearances is a lesser-known truth. — Yahia Lababidi, poet

Everyone should be trendy today. Nobody wants to be a poor little thing forgotten by fashion. — Karl Lagerfeld, fashion designer

People are cheap, but clothes are expensive or inexpensive. — Karl Lagerfeld, fashion designer

Buying expensive things in beautiful shops is a pleasure. — Karl Lagerfeld, fashion designer

Hope begins in the dark, the stubborn hope that if you just show up and try to do the right thing, the dawn will come. You wait and watch and work: You don't give up. — Anne Lamott, novelist

There will come a time when you believe everything is finished. That will be the beginning. — Louis L'Amour, novelist

A good many young writers make the mistake of enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope, big enough for the manuscript to come back in. This is too much of a temptation to the editor. — Ring Lardner, humorist

I didn't get here by dreaming about it or thinking about it—I got here by doing it. — Estée Lauder, fashion designer

Never trust the artist. Trust the tale. The proper function of a critic is to save the tale from the artist who created it. — D. H. Lawrence, poet and novelist

For whereas the mind works in possibilities, the intuitions work in actualities, and what you intuitively desire, that is possible to you. Whereas what you mentally or "consciously" desire is nine times out of ten impossible; hitch your wagon to star, or you will just stay where you are. — D. H. Lawrence, poet and novelist

One could laugh at the world better if it didn't mix tender kindness with its brutality. — D. H. Lawrence, poet and novelist

If only we could have two lives: the first in which to make one's mistakes, which seem as if they have to be made; and the second in which to profit by them. — D. H. Lawrence, poet and novelist

The mosquito knows full well, small as he is  
he's a beast of prey.  
But after all  
he only takes his bellyful,  
he doesn't put my blood in the bank.  
— D. H. Lawrence, poet and novelist, "The Mosquito Knows"

I never saw a wild thing  
sorry for itself.  
A small bird will drop frozen dead from a bough

without ever having felt sorry for itself.

— D. H. Lawrence, poet and novelist, "Self-Pity"

We are liars, because  
the truth of yesterday becomes a lie tomorrow,  
whereas letters are fixed,  
and we live by the letter of truth.

— D. H. Lawrence, poet and novelist, "Lies About Love"

There are three cures for ennui: sleep, drink and travel.

— D. H. Lawrence, poet and novelist, *Women in Love*

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 dreams with open eyes to make it possible. — T. E. Lawrence, soldier, adventurer, and novelist

You cannot truly say you live well unless you eat well. —  
Nigella Lawson, TV chef

Each morning I wake up and expect something wonderful to happen. And if it hasn't happened by lunchtime, I make it happen. — Irving "Swifty" Lazar, literary agent

Just get paper and pencil, sit down, and write as it occurs to you. The writing is easy; it's the occurring that's hard. — Stephen Leacock, author and economist

Architecture is the learned game, correct and magnificent, of forms assembled in the light. — Le Corbusier (Charles Édouard Jeanneret), architect

Less is more. — Le Corbusier (Charles Édouard Jeanneret), architect

I organize the opposition between colors, lines, and curves. I set curves against straight lines, patches of color against plastic forms, pure colors against nuanced shades of gray. — Fernand Léger, artist

It is good have an end to journey towards; but it is the journey that matters in the end. — Ursula K. Le Guin, science fiction author

If you see a whole thing—it seems that it's always beautiful. Planets, lives... But up close a world's all dirt and rocks. And day to day, life's a hard job, you get tired, you lose the pattern. — Ursula K. LeGuin, science fiction novelist

The only thing that makes life possible is permanent, intolerable uncertainty; not knowing what comes next. — Ursula K. LeGuin, science fiction novelist

Boredom is the main thing that makes a man go down to death. If you have activity, that is what brings you back to life. — Harry Lieberman, artist

In plain words, believing is not for me. But if you don't believe in God, you still have to believe in yourself. If I wouldn't believe in myself, I couldn't be an artist. Not, anyway, to start at age 80, knowing nothing. — Harry Lieberman, artist

I don't call myself 101 years old. I call myself 101 years mature. I like to show the people who think they are elderly that 70, 80, 90 years is not old. Don't think how old you are. Think only of what you could accomplish. Go do! This alone is living. — Harry Lieberman, artist

A thing that you see in my pictures is that I was not afraid to fall in love with these people. — Annie Leibovitz, photographer

Sometimes I enjoy just photographing the surface because I think it can be as revealing as going to the heart of the matter. — Annie Leibovitz, photographer

A photograph is just a little, teeny-weeny, small piece of life. I feel like I see so much more than what I can actually get. I believe strongly in the power of the still photograph; it can say so much, but it really is just a small piece of what actually is going on. — Annie Leibovitz, photographer

The great thing about getting older is that you don't lose all the other ages you've been. — Madeleine L'Engle, children's book author

You have to write the book that wants to be written. And if that book will be too difficult for grown-ups, then you write it for children. — Madeleine L'Engle, children's book author

In reading great literature I become a thousand men and yet remain myself. — C. S. Lewis, novelist

Miracles are a retelling in small letters of the very same story which is written across the whole world in letters too large for some of us to see. — C.S. Lewis, novelist

You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream. — C. S. Lewis, novelist

If you look for truth, you may find comfort in the end; if you look for comfort, you will get neither comfort nor

truth, only soft soap and wishful thinking to begin with and, in the end, despair. — C.S. Lewis, novelist

The future is something which everyone reaches at the rate of sixty minutes an hour, whatever he does, whoever he is. — C. S. Lewis, novelist

People will buy anything that's one to a customer. — Sinclair Lewis, novelist

A writer achieves greatness and immortality by being totally ignored by the media and academia whilst being enjoyed by ordinary people. — Michael Levy

Arranging a bowl of flowers in the morning can give a sense of quiet in a crowded day—like writing a poem, or saying a prayer. — Anne Morrow Lindbergh, author

Change not the mass but change the fabric of your own soul and your own visions, and you change all. — Vachel Lindsay, poet

I remember one day when Juan Gris told me about a bunch of grapes he had seen in a painting by Picasso. The next days these grapes appeared in a painting by Gris, this time in a bowl; and the day after that, the bowl appeared in a painting by Picasso. — Jacques Lipschitz

Come to the edge.  
We might fall.  
Come to the edge.  
It's too high!  
Come to the edge.  
And they came,  
and we pushed,

And they flew.  
— Christopher Logue, poet

You can't wait for inspiration. You have to go after it with a club. — Jack London, novelist

I would rather be ashes than dust! I would rather that my spark should burn out in a brilliant blaze than it should be stifled by dry rot. I would rather be a superb meteor ... than a sleepy and permanent plant. — Jack London, novelist

The proper function of man is to live, not to exist. I shall not waste my days trying to prolong them. I shall use my time. — Jack London, novelist

We judge ourselves by what we feel capable of doing, while others judge us by what we have already done. — Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, poet

Perseverance is a great element of success. If you only knock long enough and loud enough at the gate, you are sure to wake up somebody. — Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, poet

The greatest firmness is the greatest mercy. — Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, poet

The talent of success is nothing more than doing what you can do well, and doing well whatever you do. — Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, poet

The heights by great men reached and kept were not attained by sudden flight, but they, while their companions slept, were toiling upward in the night. — Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, poet

It takes less time to do things right than to explain why you did it wrong. — Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, poet

Most people would succeed in small things if they were not troubled by great ambitions. — Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, poet

All art is erotic... A horizontal stroke: the woman lying down. A vertical stroke: the male who penetrates her. — Adolf Loos, artist

Art is the desire of a man to express himself, to record the reactions of his personality to the world he lives in. — Amy Lowell, poet

Whether we look, or whether we listen,  
We hear life murmur, or see it glisten.  
— James Russell Lowell, poet, "The Vision of Sir Launfal"

Look at a man in the midst of doubt and danger, and you will learn in his hour of adversity what he really is. — Lucretius, poet

The nature of the work is to prepare for a good accident. — Sidney Lumet, director

When life handed me a lemon, not only did I make lemonade, I also wrote the recipe and then sold that recipe! — Joanna Lund, cookbook author

The reason poets aren't read is that we don't hang any of them anymore. We don't take them seriously. — Thomas Lynch, poet

# M

Work is not always required. There is such a thing as sacred idleness. — George MacDonald, poet and novelist

If, instead of a gem, or even a flower, we should cast the gift of a loving thought into the heart of a friend, that would be giving as the angels give. — George MacDonald, poet and novelist

Traveler, there is no path. Paths are made by walking. — Antonio Machado, poet

Life is the path you beat while you walk it. — Antonio Machado, poet

It's about being able to display your flaws in a real, vulnerable way. That's what makes art beautiful. Make mistakes! — Macklemore, rapper

All that this world knows of living lies in giving—and more giving. He that keeps, be sure he loses. Friendship grows by what it uses. — Alexander Maclaren, poet

Simplicity is knowing when less is too little and more is too much. Simplicity = sanity. — John Maeda, graphic designer

The mind loves the unknown. It loves images whose meaning is unknown, since the meaning of the mind is unknown. — René Magritte, surrealist painter

Scissors, paste, images and genius in effect superseded brushes, paint, models, style, sensibility and that famous sincerity demanded of artists. — René Magritte, surrealist painter

Only thought can resemble. It resembles by being what it sees, hears, or knows; it becomes what the world offers it. — René Magritte, surrealist painter

Take it easy. Take it as it comes. And if it doesn't come, go out and get it. And if it isn't there, create it. — Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, guru

Human consciousness can realize the truth of every aspect of creation in terms of itself and naturally become capable of accomplishing anything--capable of enjoying the full range of creative intelligence in its infinite potential. — Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, guru

The purpose of creation is the expansion of happiness. — Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, guru

Creative intelligence is the impelling life force which expresses itself in the evolutionary process, creating and ordering all forms and relationships in the universe.... The whole range of CI, manifest and unmanifest, is open to direct experience. — Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, guru

You can tell a man is clever by his answers. You can tell a man is wise by his questions. — Naguib Mahfouz, novelist

Sentimentality is the emotional promiscuity of those who have no sentiment. — Norman Mailer, novelist

In infinity, there are just as many lame jokes as there are lame jokes *and* good jokes. — Jef Mallett, cartoonist, *Frazz*

$6 \times 12 = 62$  isn't an ideal. It's an error. — Jef Mallett, cartoonist, *Frazz*

Try moments. You can turn them into discoveries, triumphs, thrills, art. Something to be remembered by. Or you can piddle them away. Your choice. But when they're gone, they're gone. — Jef Mallett, cartoonist, *Frazz*

Do what you love, love what you do, leave the world a better place and don't pick your nose. — Jef Mallett, cartoonist, *Frazz*

Mach-S, the speed at which stress can't keep up, is simply forward motion. But it has to be self-propelled. Note that people in cars are still stressed. — Jef Mallett, cartoonist, *Frazz*

Risking failure isn't the same as inviting it. — Jef Mallett, cartoonist, *Frazz*

If time flies when you're having fun, it hits the afterburners when you don't think you're having enough. — Jef Mallett, cartoonist, *Frazz*

An art book is a museum without walls. — Andre Malraux, novelist

I decided it is better to scream.... Silence is the real crime against humanity. — Nadezhda Mandelstam

Art is to the community what the dream is to the individual. — Thomas Mann, novelist

To be an artist means to never avert one's eyes. — Marcus Claudius Marcellus, philosopher

Why plan ahead? It's always a party if you have the right spirit. — Silvano Marchetto, chef

If I could be anything but a model, I would be an artist of any kind, whether it's in graphic arts, sculpting, or painting. — Jarah Mariano, model, *Sports Illustrated* swimsuit issue

I have learned that if you must leave a place that you have lived in and loved and where all your yesterdays are buried deep—leave it any way except a slow way, leave it the fast way you can. Never turn back and never believe that an hour you remember is a better hour because it is dead. — Beryl Markham, novelist, *West with the Night*

Poetry is what Milton saw when he went blind. — Don Marquis, author

Religion is no more possible without prayer than poetry without language or music without atmosphere. — James Martineau

Outside of a dog, a book is man's best friend. Inside of a dog, it's too dark to read. — Groucho Marx, comedian

Whoever wishes to devote himself to painting should begin by cutting out his tongue. — Henri Matisse, painter

I have simply wished to assert the reasoned and independent feeling of my individuality within a total knowledge of tradition. — Henri Matisse, painter

The artist must never be a prisoner of himself, prisoner of style, prisoner of a reputation. — Henri Matisse, painter

I don't paint things. I paint the difference between the things. — Henri Matisse, painter

I am simply conscious of the forces I am using and I am driven on by an idea that I really only grasp as it grows with the picture. — Henri Matisse, painter

Impressionism is the newspaper of the soul. — Henri Matisse, painter

My models, my human figures, are never like extras in an interior. They are the main theme of my work. I depend absolutely on my model. — Henri Matisse, painter

There are flowers everywhere for those who are willing to see them. — Henri Matisse, painter

I have always tried to hide my efforts and wished my works to have the light joyousness of springtime which never lets anyone suspect the labors it has cost me. — Henri Matisse, painter

Men seek but one thing in life—their pleasure. — William Somerset Maugham, dramatist and novelist

If nobody spoke unless he had something to say, the human race would very soon lose the use of speech. — William Somerset Maugham, dramatist and novelist

It's a funny thing about life; if you refuse to accept anything but the best, you very often get it. — William Somerset Maugham, dramatist and novelist

You can't learn too soon that the most useful thing about a principle is that it can always be sacrificed to expediency. — William Somerset Maugham, dramatist and novelist

An unfortunate thing about this world is that the good habits are much easier to give up than the bad ones. — William Somerset Maugham, dramatist and novelist

If a nation values anything more than freedom, it will lose its freedom: and the irony of it is that if it is comfort or money that it values more, it will lose that, too. — William Somerset Maugham, dramatist and novelist

Only a mediocre writer is always at his best. - William Somerset Maugham, dramatist and novelist

I have an idea that some men are born out of their due place. Accident has cast them amid certain surroundings, but they have always a nostalgia for a home they know not. They are strangers at their birthplace, and the leafy lanes they have known from childhood or the populous streets in which they have played, remain but a place of passage. They may spend their whole lives aliens among their kindred and remain

aloof among the only scenes they have ever known.  
Perhaps it is this sense of strangeness that sends men far and wide in the search for something permanent, to which they may attach themselves. Perhaps some deep-rooted atavism urges the wanderer back to lands which his ancestors left in the dim beginnings of history. Sometimes a man hits upon a place to which he mysteriously feels that he belongs. Here is the home he sought, and he will settle amid scenes that he has never seen before, among men he has never known, as though they were familiar to him from his birth. Here at last he finds rest. — William Somerset Maugham, dramatist and novelist

Dying is a very dull, dreary affair. And my advice to you is to have nothing whatever to do with it. — William Somerset Maugham, dramatist and novelist

I don't think of the past. The only thing that matters is the everlasting present. — William Somerset Maugham, dramatist and novelist, *The Moon and Sixpence*

It's asking a great deal that things should appeal to your reason as well as your sense of the aesthetic. — William Somerset Maugham, dramatist and novelist, *Of Human Bondage*

The rain fell alike upon the just and upon the unjust, and for nothing was there a why and a wherefore. — William Somerset Maugham, dramatist and novelist, *Of Human Bondage*

Art is merely the refuge which the ingenious have invented, when they were supplied with food and women, to escape the tediousness of life. — William Somerset Maugham, dramatist and novelist, *Of Human Bondage*

I daresay one profits more by the mistakes one makes off one's own bat than by doing the right thing on somebody's else advice. — William Somerset Maugham, dramatist and novelist, *Of Human Bondage*

When things are at their worst I find something always happens. — William Somerset Maugham, dramatist and novelist, *Of Human Bondage*

I do not confer praise or blame: I accept. I am the measure of all things. I am the centre of the world. — William Somerset Maugham, dramatist and novelist, *Of Human Bondage*

It's important to do things you believe in. If you're going to do something day in and day out, just liking pretty clothes isn't really good enough. — Stella McCartney, fashion designer

Life is the garment we continually alter, but which never seems to fit. — David McCord, poet

Writers lie. Performers lie. People lie. The act of creation is always to some degree an act of reinvention: of selecting the desired strands of infinite reality and weaving them together. — Evelyn McDonnell, book critic

Gossip isn't scandal and it's not merely malicious. It's chatter about the human race by lovers of the same. Gossip is the tool of the poet, the shop-talk of the scientist, and the consolation of the housewife, wit, tycoon and intellectual. It begins in the nursery and ends when speech is past. — Phyllis McGinley, novelist

Art at its most significant is a distant early warning system that can always be relied on to tell the old

culture what is beginning to happen. — Marshall McLuhan, media critic

Painting, for me, is something that I know I will return to. That's how I will live out my life—as a painter. I know it. My wife knows it. Everybody who knows me knows it. So, that is what I will do. — John Mellencamp, rock singer

It is better to fail in originality than to succeed in imitation. — Herman Melville, novelist

Speech is the small change of silence. — George Meredith, novelist

Why should I buy expensive art when I can make my own. — Piero Milani

We all have a few failures under our belt. It's what makes us ready for the successes. — Randy K. Milholland, cartoonist

Typos are very important to all written form. It gives the reader something to look for so they aren't distracted by the total lack of content in your writing. — Randy K. Milholland, cartoonist, *Something Positive Comic*

Sometimes old things need to go away. That way, we have room for the new things that come into our lives. — Randy K. Milholland, cartoonist, *Something Positive Comic*

Things aren't magically better if that's what you're hoping for. It's not that simple. — Randy K. Milholland, cartoonist, *Something Positive Comic*

The only way to be truly misogynistic is to be a woman.  
— Randy K. Milholland, cartoonist, *Something Positive Comic*

Sometimes the measure of friendship isn't your ability to not harm but your capacity to forgive the things done to you and ask forgiveness for your own mistakes. — Randy K. Milholland, cartoonist, *Something Positive Comic*

The key is to commit crimes so confusing that police feel too stupid to even write a crime report about them. — Randy K. Milholland, cartoonist, *Something Positive Comic*

Slow and steady wins the race, then wastes no time grinding salt-caked glass in your open wounds. — Randy K. Milholland, cartoonist, *Something Positive Comic*

It's a lot like nature. You only have as many animals as the ecosystem can support and you only have as many friends as you can tolerate the bitching of. — Randy K. Milholland, cartoonist, *Something Positive Comic*

That's the thing with suicide pacts. Sometimes they only really work if they catch you by surprise. — Randy K. Milholland, cartoonist, *Something Positive Comic*

Sometimes people do things that hurt and it's not because they mean to. They just do. It doesn't necessarily have anything to do with you, but you end up hurt because of it. — Randy K. Milholland, cartoonist, *Something Positive Comic*

It hurts to find out that what you wanted doesn't match what you dreamed it would be. — Randy K. Milholland, cartoonist, *Something Positive Comic*

In the end, you'll know which people really love you. They're the ones who see you for who you are and, no matter what, always find a way to be at your side. — Randy K. Milholland, cartoonist, *Something Positive Comic*

Moralities, ethics, laws, customs, beliefs, doctrines—these are of trifling import. All that matters is that the miraculous become the norm. — Henry Miller, novelist

Why change the world? Change worlds! — Henry Miller, novelist

Perhaps I am still very much of an American. That is to say, naive, optimistic, gullible. In the eyes of a European, what am I but an American to the core, an American who exposes his Americanism like a sore. Like it or not, I am a product of this land of plenty, a believer in superabundance, a believer in miracles. — Henry Miller, novelist

One's destination is never a place but rather a new way of looking at things. — Henry Miller, novelist

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, novelist

Until we lose ourselves there is no hope of finding ourselves. — Henry Miller, novelist

Life moves on, whether we act as cowards or heroes. Life has no other discipline to impose, if we would but realize it, than to accept life unquestioningly. — Henry Miller, novelist

The real leader has no need to lead—he is content to point the way. — Henry Miller, novelist

Back of every creation, supporting it like an arch, is faith. Enthusiasm is nothing: it comes and goes. But if one believes, then miracles occur. — Henry Miller, novelist

If there is to be any peace, it will come through being, not having. — Henry Miller, novelist

Until it is kindled by a spirit as flamingly alive as the one which gave it birth, a book is dead to us. Words divested of their magic are but dead hieroglyphs. — Henry Miller, novelist

We create our fate every day we live. — Henry Miller, novelist

Even if it doesn't work, there is something healthy and invigorating about direct action. — Henry Miller, novelist, *Remember to Remember*

You can't stay in your corner of the forest waiting for others to come to you. You have to go to them sometimes. — A. A. Milne, children's book author

Good judgment comes from experience, and experience ... well, that comes from poor judgment. — A. A. Milne, children's book author

Some people talk to animals. Not many listen though. That's the problem. — A.A. Milne, children's book author

Organizing is what you do before you do something, so that when you do it, it is not all mixed up. — A. A. Milne, children's book author

What I say is, if a man really likes potatoes, he must be a pretty decent sort of fellow. — A. A. Milne, children's book author

One of the advantages of being disorderly is that one is constantly making exciting discoveries. — A. A. Milne, children's book author

A good book is the life blood of a master spirit. — John Milton, poet

My definition of the word glamour? Anything that inspires fascination. — Marilyn Minter, artist

My way is to seize an image the moment it has formed in my mind, to trap it as a bird and to pin it at once to canvas. Afterward I start to tame it, to master it. I bring it under control and I develop it. — Joan Miro, painter

Art class was like a religious ceremony to me. I would wash my hands carefully before touching paper or pencils. The instruments of work were sacred objects to me. — Joan Miro, painter

I try to apply colors like words that shape poems, like notes that shape music. — Joan Miro, painter

I throw down the gauntlet to chance. For example, I prepare the ground for a picture by cleaning my brush over the canvas. Spilling a little turpentine can also be helpful. — Joan Miro, painter

Until you've lost your reputation, you never realize what a burden it was or what freedom really is. — Margaret Mitchell, novelist

Do not wear rentals, and do not wear alternatuxes. — Isaac Mizrahi, fashion designer

You may as well be gay if you're going to start coordinating outfits with your girlfriend. — Isaac Mizrahi, fashion designer

Do not emulate European men. It's a little too stylish. — Isaac Mizrahi, fashion designer

Never ever carry a computer case. Use an attaché, a backpack, anything. It doesn't matter what you're wearing—a laptop bag will wreck it. — Isaac Mizrahi, fashion designer

The position of the artist is humble. He is essentially a channel. — Piet Mondrian, painter

No one is an artist unless he carries his picture in his head before painting it, and is sure of his method and composition. — Claude Monet, painter

For me, a landscape does not exist in its own right, since its appearance changes every moment. — Claude Monet, painter

When you're traveling, you are what you are, right there and then. People don't have your past to hold against you. No yesterdays on the road. — William Least Heat Moon, novelist

There is a right physical size for every idea. — Henry Moore, sculptor

A work can have in it a pent-up energy, an intense life of its own, independent of the subject it may represent. — Henry Moore, sculptor

When you sell a man a book, you don't sell him 12 ounces of paper and ink and glue—you sell him a whole new life. — Christopher Morley, critic

Art is man's expression of his joy in labor. — William Morris, artist and poet

At some point in life the world's beauty becomes enough. You don't need to photograph, paint it, or even remember it. It is enough. — Toni Morrison, novelist

Life is what we make it; always has been, always will be. — Grandma Moses, artist

If I hadn't started painting, I would have raised chickens. — Grandma Moses, artist

It may be that the deep necessity of art is the examination of self-deception. — Robert Motherwell, painter

You must always take care of what's on the surface, and what is behind, so immense and disturbing, will take care of itself. — Alice Munro, short story writer, *The View from Castle Rock*

The young have aspirations that will never come to pass, and the old have reminiscences of what never happened. — H.H. Munro, novelist

One of the secrets of a happy life is continuous small treats. — Iris Murdoch, novelist

Falling out of love is very enlightening. For a short while you see the world with new eyes. — Iris Murdoch, novelist

We can only learn to love by loving. — Iris Murdoch, novelist

Winning is like getting married. One should never commit oneself until one is amazed at one's luck. — Iris Murdoch, novelist

Love is the difficult realization that something other than oneself is real. — Iris Murdoch, novelist

# N

To begin with, let us take the following motto ...  
Literature is Love. Now we can continue. — Vladimir Nabokov, novelist

Art is the sex of the imagination. — George Jean Nathan, author

When women like the way they look, they feel great. — Elena Nazarov, fashion designer

I do not pose my sitters. I do not deliberate and then concoct. Before painting, when I talk to the person, they unconsciously assume their most characteristic pose, which in a way involves all their character and social standing—what the world has done to them and their retaliation. — Alice Neel, painter

You know it's very hard to maintain a theory in the face of life that comes crashing about you. — Alice Neel, painter

From the first day in school until the day I graduated, everyone gave me one hundred plus in art. Well, where do you go in life? You go to the place where you got one hundred plus. — Louise Nevelson, sculptor

If you have creative work, you don't have age or time. — Louise Nevelson, sculptor

I think most artists create out of despair. The very nature of creation is not a performing glory on the outside, it's a painful, difficult search within. — Louise Nevelson, sculptor

I think all great innovations are built on rejections. — Louise Nevelson, sculptor

In my studio I'm as happy as a cow in her stall. That's the only place where everything is all right. — Louise Nevelson, sculptor

I have made my world and it is a much better world than I ever saw outside. — Louise Nevelson, sculptor

Don't treat art like an accent pillow. Purchase only what you'll love forever. You buy the couch to match the painting—never the other way around. — Julian Niccolini, co-owner of the Four Seasons restaurant

I've always believed, if you're involved even in a very small struggle—in some sort of infinity in a grain of sand—in your local neighborhood, that every action has universal implications. — John Nichols, novelist

We have art in order not to die of the truth. — Friedrich Nietzsche, philosopher

The essence of all beautiful art, all great art, is gratitude. — Friedrich Nietzsche, philosopher

Art is the proper task of life. — Friedrich Nietzsche, philosopher

There are only two kinds of freedom in the world; the freedom of the rich and powerful, and the freedom of

the artist and the monk who renounces possessions. —  
Anais Nin, novelist

Age does not protect you from love. But love, to some extent, protects you from age. — Anais Nin, novelist

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

The role of a writer is not to say what we all can say, but what we are unable to say. — Anais Nin, novelist

Throw your dreams into space like a kite, and you do not know what it will bring back, a new life, a new friend, a new love, a new country. — Anais Nin, novelist

The personal, if it is deep enough, becomes universal, mythical, symbolic. — Anais Nin, novelist

When you make a world tolerable for yourself, you make a world tolerable for others. — Anais Nin, novelist

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 Nin, novelist, *Winter of Artifice*

Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one's courage. — Anais Nin, novelist, *The Diary of Anais Nin*

Art is the difference between seeing and just identifying. — Jean Mary Norman



The experience is there, the reality is there, but how to get at it? Everything I type turns into a lie simply because it is not the truth. — Joyce Carol Oates, novelist

I don't know if the muse is going to show up or not on any given day, but by golly, I'm going to be at my desk from 8 to 12 every morning in case she does. — Flannery O'Connor

It's not so much how busy you are, but why you are busy. The bee is praised. The mosquito is swatted. — Mary O'Connor, romance novelist

We are living in a time when new art works should shoot bullets. — Clifford Odets, playwright

If you take a flower in your hand and really look at it, it's your world for the moment. — Georgia O'Keefe, artist

I hate flowers. I only paint them because they're cheaper than models and they don't move. — Georgia O'Keefe, artist

When I was born and where and how I have lived is unimportant. It is what I have done with where I have been that should be of interest. — Georgia O'Keefe, artist

To create one's own world in any of the arts takes courage. — Georgia O'Keefe, artist

Love is seduced by change, itself unchanging. — Ben Okri, poet and novelist

Change is good, but no change is better. — Ben Okri, poet and novelist

All around, leonids, planets, stars  
Are whirling;  
The cosmos shrinks and grows,  
Dreams and flows  
Under the immutable spell of change.  
— Ben Okri, poet and novelist

No change is good, but dancing gracefully with change is better. — Ben Okri, poet and novelist

It is natural to want calm places  
Where stillness dwells  
Where cool waters flow  
Where concerts radiate music and grace  
Where the mind contemplates crystals.  
— Ben Okri, poet and novelist

Simplicity involves two major processes: eliminating redundant elements and integrating things to make them flow. — Ken Okuyama, transportation designer

Beauty is not generic. Quite often, the thing that makes you memorable is the thing that makes you different. — Laura Mercier, makeup artist and cosmetician

Poetry is adolescence fermented, and thus preserved. — Jose Ortega Y Gasset, novelist

The quickest way to end a war is to lose it. — George Orwell, novelist

Serious sport has nothing to do with fair play. It is bound up with hatred, jealousy, boastfulness, disregard of all rules and sadistic pleasure in witnessing violence: in other words it is war minus the shooting. — George Orwell, novelist

Whoever is winning at the moment will always seem to be invincible. — George Orwell, novelist

Men can only be happy when they do not assume that the object of life is happiness. — George Orwell, novelist

If you would marry suitably, marry your equal. — Ovid, poet

There is no such thing as pure pleasure. Some anxiety always goes with it. — Ovid, poet

Wine gives courage and makes men more apt for passion. — Ovid, poet

What is harder than rock, or softer than water? Yet soft water hollows out hard rock. Persevere. — Ovid, poet

We two are to ourselves a crowd. — Ovid, poet

We are slow to believe that which if believed would hurt our feelings. — Ovid, poet

Whether they give or refuse, it delights women just the same to have been asked. — Ovid, poet

Love will enter cloaked in friendship's name. — Ovid,  
poet

Judgment of beauty can err, what with the wine and the  
dark. — Ovid, poet

Happy is the man who has broken the chains which hurt  
the mind and has given up worrying once and for all. —  
Ovid, poet

Tears at times have all the weight of speech. — Ovid,  
poet

Dignity and love do not blend well, nor do they continue  
long together. — Ovid, poet

If you'd be loved, be worthy to be loved. — Ovid, poet,  
*Ars Amatoria*

To be loved, be lovable. — Ovid, poet, *Ars Amatoria*

So I can't live either without you or with you. — Ovid,  
poet, *Amores*

What is allowed us is disagreeable; what is denied us  
causes us intense desire. — Ovid, poet, *Amorum*

# P

Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365-page book. Write a good one. — Brad Paisley, country singer and songwriter

I am not a great cook, I am not a great artist, but I love art, and I love food, so I am the perfect traveller. — Michael Palin

A writer is someone who spends years patiently trying to discover the second being inside him, and the world that makes him who he is: when I speak of writing, what comes first to my mind is not a novel, a poem, or literary tradition, it is a person who shuts himself up in a room, sits down at a table, and alone, turns inward; amid its shadows, he builds a new world with words. — Orhan Pamuk, novelist

The writer's secret is not inspiration—for it is never clear where it comes from—it is his stubbornness, his patience. — Orhan Pamuk, novelist

The writer who shuts himself up in a room and first goes on a journey inside himself will, over the years, discover literature's eternal rule: he must have the artistry to tell his own stories as if they are other people's stories, and to tell other people's stories as if they were his own, for this is what literature is. — Orhan Pamuk, novelist

A writer talks of things that everyone knows but does not know they know. To explore this knowledge, and to watch it grow, is a pleasurable thing. — Orhan Pamuk, novelist

My confidence comes from the belief that all human beings resemble each other, that others carry wounds like mine—that they will therefore understand. All true literature rises from this childish, hopeful certainty that all people resemble each other. — Orhan Pamuk, novelist

Why do you write? I write because I have an innate need to write! I write because I can't do normal work like other people. I write because I want to read books like the ones I write. I write because I am angry at all of you, angry at everyone. I write because I love sitting in a room all day writing. I write because I can only partake in real life by changing it. I write because I want others, all of us, the whole world, to know what sort of life we lived, and continue to live, in Istanbul, in Turkey. I write because I love the smell of paper, pen, and ink. I write because I believe in literature, in the art of the novel, more than I believe in anything else. I write because it is a habit, a passion. I write because I am afraid of being forgotten. I write because I like the glory and interest that writing brings. I write to be alone. Perhaps I write because I hope to understand why I am so very, very angry at all of you, so very, very angry at everyone. I write because I like to be read. I write because once I have begun a novel, an essay, a page, I want to finish it. I write because everyone expects me to write. I write because I have a childish belief in the immortality of libraries, and in the way my books sit on the shelf. I write because it is exciting to turn all of life's beauties and riches into words. I write not to tell a story, but to compose a story. I write because I wish to escape from the foreboding that there is a place I must go but—just as in a dream—I can't quite get there. I

write because I have never managed to be happy. I write to be happy. — Orhan Pamuk, novelist

The cure for boredom is curiosity. There is no cure for curiosity. — Dorothy Parker, novelist

The guy who takes a chance, who walks the line between the known and unknown, who is unafraid of failure, will succeed. — Gordon Parks, photographer and director

You can fight back. But do it in a way to help yourself, not destroy yourself. — Gordon Parks, photographer and director

I cannot judge my work while I am doing it. I have to do as painters do, stand back and view it from a distance, but not too great a distance. How great? Guess. — Blaise Pascal, philosopher and mathematician

Art has two constant, two unending concerns: It always meditates on death and thus always creates life. All great, genuine art resembles and continues the Revelation of St John. — Boris Pasternak, novelist, *Doctor Zhivago*

Be a little bit ruthless. No one else in the world cares if you get your writing done, so you have to make room for it yourself. — Rachel Pastan, author

Great art is always an invention that begins as an imitation. — Octavio Paz, poet

By definition, the history book is a Deviant's Hall of Fame. (And indeed, upon occasion...Hall of Shame.) A Museum of Misfits. — Tom Peters, business author

Every page must explode, whether through seriousness, profundity, turbulence, nausea, the news, the eternal, annihilating nonsense, enthusiasm for principles, or the way it is printed. Art must be unaesthetic in the extreme; useless; impossible to justify. — Francis Picabia

All art is subversive. — Pablo Picasso, artist

There is no abstract art. You must always start with something. Afterward you can remove all traces of reality. — Pablo Picasso, artist

I'd like to live like a poor man with lots of money. — Pablo Picasso, artist

Action is the foundational key to all success. — Pablo Picasso, artist

Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up. — Pablo Picasso, artist

God is really only another artist. He made the elephant, giraffe, and cat. He has no real style but keeps trying new ideas. — Pablo Picasso, artist

It is your work in life that is the ultimate seduction. — Pablo Picasso, artist

Only put off until tomorrow what you are willing to die having left undone. — Pablo Picasso, artist

Every positive value has its price in negative terms; the genius of Einstein leads to Hiroshima. — Pablo Picasso, artist

If I like it, I say it's mine. If I don't, I say it's a fake. — Pablo Picasso, artist

A picture is not thought out and settled beforehand. While it is being done, it changes as one's thoughts change. — Pablo Picasso, artist

Everything you can imagine is real. — Pablo Picasso, artist

The artist is a receptacle for emotions that come from all over the place: from the sky, from the earth, from a scrap of paper, from a passing shape. — Pablo Picasso, artist

Good taste is the enemy of creativity. — Pablo Picasso, artist

Everything is a miracle. It is a miracle that one does not dissolve in one's bath like a lump of sugar. — Pablo Picasso, artist

Some painters transform the sun into a yellow spot. Others transform a yellow spot into the sun. — Pablo Picasso, artist

We have a lot of reasons but only one real one. — Pablo Picasso, artist

There are painters who transform the sun to a yellow spot, but there are others who with the help of their art and their intelligence, transform a yellow spot into the sun. — Pablo Picasso, artist

Love is the greatest refreshment in life. — Pablo Picasso, artist

Computers are useless. All they can do is give you answers. — Pablo Picasso, artist

Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life. Art is just another way of keeping a diary. — Pablo Picasso, artist

Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up. — Pablo Picasso, artist

We all know that Art is not truth. Art is a lie that makes us realize truth, at least the truth that is given us to understand. The artist must know the manner whereby to convince others of the truthfulness of his lies. If he only shows in his work that he has searched, and researched, for the way to put over lies, he would never accomplish anything. — Pablo Picasso, artist

Every act of creation is first of all an act of destruction. — Pablo Picasso, artist

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

When one starts from a portrait and seeks by successive eliminations to find pure form, one inevitably ends up with an egg. — Pablo Picasso, artist

Cover the canvas at the first go, then work at it until you see nothing more to add. — Camille Pissarro, impressionist painter

Those who dream by day are cognizant of many things which escape those who dream only by night. — Edgar Allan Poe, poet and short story author

I think that human activity will have no appreciable effect upon humanity. Man is now only more active—not more happy, nor more wise—than he was six thousand years ago. — Edgar Allan Poe, poet and short story author

A painting has a life of its own. I try to let it come through. — Jackson Pollock, painter

There is no accident, just as there is no beginning and no end. — Jackson Pollock, painter

Art is coming face to face with yourself. — Jackson Pollock, painter

A little learning is a dangerous thing; drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring: there shallow draughts intoxicate the brain, and drinking largely sobers us again. — Alexander Pope, poet

Tis education forms the common mind;  
Just as the twig is bent, the tree's inclined.  
— Alexander Pope, poet

Fools rush in where angels fear to tread. — Alexander Pope, poet

A man should never be ashamed to own he has been wrong, which is but saying, that he is wiser today than he was yesterday. — Alexander Pope, poet

An honest man is the noblest work of God. — Alexander Pope, poet

One who is too wise an observer of the business of others, like one who is too curious in observing the labor

of bees, will often be stung for his curiosity. —  
Alexander Pope, poet

To err is human, to forgive divine. — Alexander Pope,  
poet

He who tells a lie is not sensible of how great a task he  
undertakes; for he must be forced to invent twenty  
more to maintain that one. — Alexander Pope, poet

Amusement is the happiness of those that cannot think.  
— Alexander Pope, poet

Trust your happiness and the richness of your life at this  
moment. It is just as true and as much yours as  
anything else that ever happened to you. — Katherine  
Anne Porter, novelist and journalist

Experience is what really happens to you in the long  
run; the truth that finally overtakes you. — Katherine  
Anne Porter, novelist and journalist

You can't be successful in business unless there are  
hiccups. That American mentality of picking yourself up,  
brushing your shoulders off, and then really going for it  
makes you 100 times stronger and smarter. — Zac  
Posen, fashion designer

Believe there is a great power silently working all things  
for good, behave yourself, and never mind the rest. —  
Beatrix Potter, children's book author

Never let your head hang down. Never give up and sit  
and grieve. Find another way. And don't pray when it  
rains if you don't pray when the sun shines. — Beatrix  
Potter, children's book author

Artists are the antennae of the human race, but the bullet-headed many will never learn to trust their great artists. — Ezra Pound, poet

Literature is news that stays news. — Ezra Pound, poet, *ABC of Reading*

Properly, we should read for power. Man reading should be man intensely alive. The book should be a ball of light in one's hand. — Ezra Pound, poet, *ABC of Reading*

It is easier to edit than it is to create. Create now and edit later, and your writing will continually improve. — Dan Poynter, self-publishing expert

If the big publishers are doing so well, why do they require writers to send return postage with their manuscripts? — Dan Poynter, self-publishing expert

Thanks to art, instead of seeing a single realm, our own, we see it multiply until we have before us as many worlds as there are original artists. — Marcel Proust, dramatist

A work of art that contains theories is like an object on which the price tag remains. — Marcel Proust, dramatist

We don't receive wisdom. We must discover it for ourselves after a journey that no one can take for us or spare us. — Marcel Proust, dramatist

Art is the ability to tell the truth, especially about yourself. — Richard Pryor, comedian and actor

# Q

Having money is rather like being a blonde. It is more fun but not vital. — Mary Quant, fashion designer

You cannot be really first-rate at your work if your work is all you are. — Anna Quindlan, novelist

If your success is not on your own terms, if it looks good to the world but does not feel good in your heart, it is not success at all. — Anna Quindlan, novelist

The perfection of art is to conceal art. — Quintilian, rhetorician

Nothing can be pleasing which is not also becoming. — Quintilian, rhetorician

# R

Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying, "I will try again tomorrow." — Mary Anne Radmacher, artist

There are two sides to every issue: one side is right and the other is wrong, but the middle is always evil. — Ayn Rand, novelist

You begin with the possibilities of the material, and then you see what they can do, so the artist is almost a bystander while he's working. — Robert Rauschenberg, collage artist

It's when you've found out how to do certain things, that it's time to stop doing them, because what's missing is that you're not including the risk. — Robert Rauschenberg, collage artist

A woman has got to love a bad man once or twice in her life to be thankful for a good one. — Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, novelist

Dreams have no titles. — Man Ray, Dada artist

It has never been my object to record my dreams, just the determination to realize them. — Man Ray, Dada artist

A man can be an artist in anything, food, whatever. It depends on how good he is at it. Creasey's art is death. He's about to paint his masterpiece. — Rayburn, character in *Man on Fire* movie

Failure is not the only punishment for laziness; there is also the success of others. — Jules Renard, novelist and dramatist

The reward of great men is that, long after they have died, one is not quite sure that they are dead. — Jules Renard, dramatist and novelist

It is not how old you are, but how you are old. — Jules Renard, novelist and dramatist

Photography freed painting from a lot of tiresome chores, starting with family portraits. — Pierre Auguste Renoir, painter

You come to nature with all her theories, and she knocks them all flat. — François Pierre Auguste Renoir, sculptor

Shall I tell you what I think are the two qualities of a work of art? First, it must be indescribable, and second, it must be inimitable. — Pierre Auguste Renoir, sculptor

A room hung with pictures is a room hung with thoughts. — Joshua Reynolds, artist

Poetry is the liquid voice that can wear through stone. — Adrienne Rich, poet

The moment of change is the only poem. — Adrienne Rich, poet

Life is not what is said, but the process of saying, not the created picture, but the creating. — Gerhard Richter

We must take on our existence as broadly as we possibly can. Everything, even the unheard of, must be possible in it. This, underneath all, is the only courage that is demanded of us: to have courage for the most strange, the most inexplicable. — Rainer Maria Rilke, poet

Go into yourself and see how deep the place is from which your life flows. — Rainer Maria Rilke, poet

Surely all art is the result of one's having been in danger, of having gone through an experience all the way to the end, where no one can go any further. — Rainer Maria Rilke, poet

If your daily life seems poor, do not blame it; blame yourself that you are not poet enough to call forth its riches; for the Creator, there is no poverty. — Rainer Maria Rilke, poet

For one human being to love another; that is perhaps the most difficult of all our tasks, the ultimate, the last test and proof, the work for which all other work is but preparation. — Rainer Maria Rilke, poet

Fame is finally only the sum total of all the misunderstandings that can gather around a name. — Rainer Maria Rilke, poet

Don't search for the answers, which could not be given to you now, because you would not be able to live them. And the point is, to live everything. Live the questions now. Perhaps then, someday far in the future, you will

gradually, without ever noticing it, live your way into the answer. — Rainer Maria Rilke, poet

It is a tremendous act of violence to begin anything. I am not able to begin. I simply skip what should be the beginning. — Rainer Maria Rilke, poet

I live my life in growing orbits which move out over the things of the world. Perhaps I can never achieve the last, but that will be my attempt. I am circling around God, around the ancient tower, and have been circling for a thousand years, and still don't know if I am a falcon, or a storm, or a great song. — Rainer Maria Rilke, poet

Do continue to believe that with your feeling and with your work you are taking part in the greatest. The more strongly you cultivate in yourself this belief, the more will reality and the world go forth from it. — Rainer Maria Rilke, poet

Have patience with everything unresolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves. — Rainer Maria Rilke, poet, *Letters to a Young Poet*

Life is short, art is long. — John Ringling, circus master

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, novelist

If you don't go after what you want, you'll never have it. If you don't ask, the answer is always no. If you don't step forward, you're always in the same place. — Nora Roberts, novelist

Some things in life are out of your control. You can make it a party or a tragedy. — Nora Roberts, novelist

You need to learn to see and compose. The more time you waste worrying about your equipment the less time you'll have to put into creating great images. Worry about your images, not your equipment. — Ken Rockwell, photographer, *Your Camera Does Not Matter*

It's entirely an artist's eye, patience and skill that makes an image and not his tools. — Ken Rockwell, photographer, *Your Camera Does Not Matter*

The camera's only job is to get out of the way of making photographs. — Ken Rockwell, photographer, *Your Camera Does Not Matter*

No matter how advanced your camera you still need to be responsible for getting it to the right place at the right time and pointing it in the right direction to get the photo you want. — Ken Rockwell, photographer, *Your Camera Does Not Matter*

I choose a block of marble and chop off whatever I don't need. — François Auguste René Rodin, sculptor

Nothing is a waste of time if you use the experience wisely. — François Auguste René Rodin, sculptor

All the best works of any artist must be bathed, so to speak, in mystery. — François Auguste René Rodin, sculptor

What we need is more people who specialize in the impossible. — Theodore Roethke, poet

No matter what, you have to stay true to who you are.  
— Mally Roncal, founder, Mally Beauty

If my husband ever met a woman on the street who looked like one of his paintings, he would faint. —  
Jacqueline Roque (wife of Pablo Picasso)

We don't make mistakes. We make happy accidents. —  
Bob Ross, painter

The worst moment for the atheist is when he is really thankful and has nobody to thank. — Dante Gabriel Rossetti, painter and poet

Poetry is truth in its Sunday clothes. — Joseph Roux

There is an expiry date on blaming your parents for steering you in the wrong direction. The moment you are old enough to take the wheel, the responsibility lies with you. — J.K. Rowling, fantasy novelist

Failure gave me an inner security that I had never attained by passing examinations. Failure taught me things about myself that I could have learned no other way. — J.K. Rowling, fantasy novelist

Failure meant a stripping away of the inessential. I stopped pretending to myself that I was anything other than what I was, and began to direct all my energy into finishing the only work that mattered to me. Had I succeeded at anything else, I might have never found the determination to succeed in the one arena I believed I truly belonged. — J.K. Rowling, fantasy novelist

You will never truly know yourself, or the strength of your relationships, until both have been tested by adversity. — J.K. Rowling, fantasy novelist

It is impossible to live without failing at something, unless you live so cautiously that you might as well not have lived at all—in which case, you fail by default. — J.K. Rowling, fantasy novelist

We do not need magic to transform our world. We carry all of the power we need inside ourselves already. We have the power to imagine better. — J.K. Rowling, fantasy novelist

You sort of start thinking anything's possible if you've got enough nerve. — J. K. Rowling, fantasy novelist, *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*

If you want to see the true measure of a man, watch how he treats his inferiors, not his equals. — J. K. Rowling, fantasy novelist, *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*

It does not do to dwell on dreams and forget to live. — J. K. Rowling, fantasy novelist, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*

It is our choices, Harry, that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities. — J. K. Rowling, fantasy novelist, *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

Every human is an artist. The dream of your life is to make beautiful art. — Don Miguel Ruiz, author and spiritual leader

By default I became a writer. The first lesson in Creative Writing 101 is to write about what you know, and I knew about crime and cops and killers. — Ann Rule, novelist

If you can't pray sincerely, offer your dry, hypocritical prayer for God in his mercy accepts bad coin. —  
Jalaluddin Rumi, poet and mystic

Sell your cleverness and purchase bewilderment. —  
Jalaluddin Rumi, poet and mystic

Out beyond ideas of wrong doing and right doing, there is a field. I will meet you there. When the soul likes down in that grass, the world is too full to talk about. Ideas, language, even the phrase *each other* doesn't make any sense. — Jalaluddin Rumi, poet and mystic

There is no wealth but life. — John Ruskin, art critic

The artist's business is to feel, although he may think a little sometimes...when he has nothing better to do. —  
John Ruskin, art critic

You should never underestimate the power of art. —  
Lawson Russell, character in *A Murder of Crows* movie

# S

They despise my novelty, I their timidity. — Eero Saarinen, architect

Art must take reality by surprise. — Françoise Sagan

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-Exupéry, poet and aviator

True happiness comes from the joy of deeds well done, the zest of creating things new. — Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, poet and aviator

A designer knows he has achieved perfection not when there is nothing more to add, but when there is nothing left to take away. — Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, poet and aviator

It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye. — Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, poet and aviator, *The Little Prince*

We must never confuse elegance with snobbery. — Yves Saint-Laurent, fashion designer

Over the years I have learned that what is important in a dress is the woman who is wearing it. — Yves Saint-Laurent, fashion designer

Fashions fade, but style is eternal. — Yves Saint-Laurent, fashion designer

I knew the youthfulness of the sixties: Talitha and Paul Getty lying on a starlit terrace in Marrakesh, beautiful and damned, and a whole generation assembled as if for eternity where the curtain of the past seemed to lift before an extraordinary future. — Yves Saint-Laurent, fashion designer

A good model can advance fashion by ten years. — Yves Saint-Laurent, fashion designer

It pains me physically to see a woman victimized, rendered pathetic, by fashion. — Yves Saint-Laurent, fashion designer

I have often said that I wish I had invented blue jeans: the most spectacular, the most practical, the most relaxed and nonchalant. They have expression, modesty, sex appeal, simplicity—all I hope for in my clothes. — Yves Saint-Laurent, fashion designer

The soul can split the sky in two,  
and let the face of God shine through.  
— Edna St. Vincent Millay, poet

It's not true that life is one damn thing after another; it is one damn thing over and over. — Edna St. Vincent Millay, poet

If you have time to chatter  
Read books.  
If you have time to read  
Walk into mountain, desert and ocean.  
If you have time to walk  
sing songs and dance.

If you have time to dance  
Sit quietly, you Happy Lucky Idiot.  
— Nanao Sakaki, poet

We must have a passion in life. — George Sand, novelist

Poetry is an echo asking a shadow to dance. — Carl Sandburg, poet

The degree in which a poet's imagination dominates reality is, in the end, the exact measure of his importance and dignity. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

The body is an instrument, the mind its function, the witness and reward of its operation. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

The earth has music for those who listen. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

Miracles are propitious accidents, the natural causes of which are too complicated to be readily understood. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

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

Sanity is a madness put to good use. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

Before he sets out, the traveler must possess fixed interests and facilities to be served by travel. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

Each religion, by the help of more or less myth which it takes more or less seriously, proposes some method of fortifying the human soul and enabling it to make its peace with its destiny. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

Life is not a spectacle or a feast; it is a predicament. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

To knock a thing down, especially if it is cocked at an arrogant angle, is a deep delight of the blood. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

It takes a wonderful brain and exquisite senses to produce a few stupid ideas. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

The world is not respectable; it is mortal, tormented, confused, deluded forever; but it is shot through with beauty, with love, with glints of courage and laughter; and in these, the spirit blooms timidly, and struggles to the light amid the thorns. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

Our character is an omen of our destiny, and the more integrity we have and keep, the simpler and nobler that destiny is likely to be. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

That life is worth living is the most necessary of assumptions, and, were it not assumed, the most impossible of conclusions. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

America is a young country with an old mentality. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

Matters of religion should never be matters of controversy. We neither argue with a lover about his taste, nor condemn him, if we are just, for knowing so human a passion. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

Wealth, religion, military victory have more rhetorical than efficacious worth. — George Santayana, poet and philosopher

Before you contradict an old man, my fair friend, you should endeavor to understand him. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

Culture is on the horns of this dilemma; if profound and noble it must remain rare, if common it must become mean. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

Society is like the air; necessary to breathe, but insufficient to live on. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

Whoever it was who searched the heavens with a telescope and found no God would not have found the human mind if he had searched the brain with a microscope. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

A child only educated at school is an uneducated child. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

Beauty as we feel it is something indescribable; what it is or what it means can never be said. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

Why shouldn't things be largely absurd, futile, and transitory? They are so, and we are so, and they and we

go very well together. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

Those who speak most of progress measure it by quantity and not by quality. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

Advertising is the modern substitute for argument; its function is to make the worse appear the better. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

A man's feet should be planted in his country, but his eyes should survey the world. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

The need of exercise is a modern superstition, invented by people who ate too much and had nothing to think about. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

Whoever it was who searched the heavens with a telescope and found no God would not have found the human mind if he had searched the brain with a microscope. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

The family is one of nature's masterpieces. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

Skepticism is the chastity of the intellect, and it is shameful to surrender it too soon or to the first comer: there is nobility in preserving it coolly and proudly through long youth, until at last, in the ripeness of instinct and discretion, it can be safely exchanged for fidelity and happiness. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

The wisest mind has something yet to learn. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

A man is morally free when, in full possession of his living humanity, he judges the world, and judges other men, with uncompromising sincerity. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

America is the greatest of opportunities and the worst of influences. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

Science is nothing but developed perception, interpreted intent, common sense rounded out and minutely articulated. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

The family is one of nature's masterpieces. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

The world is not respectable; it is mortal, tormented, confused, deluded forever; but it is shot through with beauty, with love, with glints of courage and laughter; and in these, the spirit blooms timidly, and struggles to the light amid the thorns. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

Skepticism, like chastity, should not be relinquished too readily. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

Friends need not agree in everything or go always together, or have no comparable other friendships of the same intimacy. On the contrary, in friendship union is more about ideal things: and in that sense it is more ideal and less subject to trouble than marriage is. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

A child only educated at school is an uneducated child. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet

The young man who has not wept is a savage, and the old man who will not laugh is a fool. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet, *Dialogues in Limbo*

There is no cure for birth and death save to enjoy the interval. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet, *Soliloquies in England*

The truth is cruel, but it can be loved, and it makes free those who have loved it. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet, *Little Essays*

Happiness is the only sanction of life; where happiness fails, existence remains a mad and lamentable experiment. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet, *Life of Reason*

An artist is a dreamer consenting to dream of the actual world. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet, *Life of Reason*

Nothing is really so poor and melancholy as art that is interested in itself and not in its subject. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet, *Life of Reason*

Music is essentially useless, as life is: but both have an ideal extension which lends utility to its conditions. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet, *Life of Reason*

Progress, far from consisting in change, depends on retentiveness. When change is absolute there remains no being to improve and no direction is set for possible improvement: and when experience is not retained, as among savages, infancy is perpetual. Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it. In the first stage of life the mind is frivolous and easily distracted, it misses progress by failing in

consecutiveness and persistence. This is the condition of children and barbarians, in which instinct has learned nothing from experience. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet, *Life of Reason*

Fanaticism consists in redoubling your effort when you have forgotten your aim. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet, *Life of Reason*

Intolerance itself is a form of egoism, and to condemn egoism intolerantly is to share it. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet, *Winds of Doctrine*

For an idea ever to be fashionable is ominous, since it must afterwards be always old-fashioned. — George Santayana, philosopher and poet, *Winds of Doctrine*

A portrait is a picture in which there is just a tiny little something not quite right about the mouth. — John Singer Sargent, painter

“Yes” is contagious on a subliminal level. It affects everything you do. — SARK, artist

Remember: “Impossible” means “I’m possible.” — SARK, artist

The only place where success comes before work is a dictionary. — Vidal Sassoon, haircutter

Happiness is a warm puppy. — Charles M. Schulz, cartoonist

I know the answer! The answer lies within the heart of all mankind! The answer is twelve? I think I'm in the wrong building. — Charles M. Schulz, cartoonist

Life is like a ten speed bicycle. Most of us have gears we never use. — Charles M. Schulz, cartoonist

My life has no purpose, no direction, no aim, no meaning, and yet I'm happy. I can't figure it out. What am I doing right? — Charles M. Schulz, cartoonist

Security is knowing there's some more pie left. — Charles M. Schulz, cartoonist

Don't worry about the world coming to an end today. It's already tomorrow in Australia. — Charles M. Schulz, cartoonist

No problem is so formidable that you can't walk away from it. — Charles M. Schulz, cartoonist

Life isn't waiting for the storm to pass. It's learning to dance in the rain. — Charles M. Schulz, cartoonist

I love mankind; it's people I can't stand. — Charles M. Schulz, cartoonist

There's a difference between a philosophy and a bumper sticker. — Charles M. Schulz, cartoonist

Yesterday I was a dog. Today I'm a dog. Tomorrow I'll probably still be a dog. Sigh! There's so little hope for advancement. — Charles M. Schulz, cartoonist (Snoopy, a character in *Peanuts*)

That's the secret to life... replace one worry with another. — Charles M. Schulz, cartoonist (Charlie Brown, a character in *Peanuts*)

Life is like an ice-cream cone, you have to lick it one day at a time. — Charles M. Schulz, cartoonist (Charlie Brown, a character in *Peanuts*)

Sometimes I lie awake at night, and I ask, "Where have I gone wrong?" Then a voice says to me, "This is going to take more than one night." — Charles M. Schulz, cartoonist (Charlie Brown, a character in *Peanuts*)

I have a new philosophy. I'm only going to dread one day at a time. — Charles M. Schulz, cartoonist (Charlie Brown, a character in *Peanuts*)

Mental note: Only a beautiful woman can understand the true power of a naked man. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: People project all sorts of emotions onto their cats, and cats like it that way. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: Satan exists and he works for Champion. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: Some feelings make no sense. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: Law school is useless. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: New things are disconcerting at first, then stay that way. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: Progress brings its own downside. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: Perspective sneaks up on everyone, in time. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: You never can tell who's lonely just by looking. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: Maybe bosses become bosses for a reason. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: Some people have to choose between making love or making war, but lawyers can do both. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: Men rehab sucks. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: Girlfriends are more necessary than underwear. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: Impulsiveness may not be related to haircolor. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: Nothing wrong with the term "mouthpiece." — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: Any vehicle with daisies in the dashboard is not a muscle car. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: Don't dress like a whore to meet clients who cheat. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: Once you actually get a personal life, it's hard to live it. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: Lucy Ricardo would have been a great lawyer. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: If people celebrate when you get killed, it's time to make a few changes. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: Patriotism is really about belonging. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

Mental note: Life is too short to be anything but a redhead. — Lisa Scottoline, author, *Courting Trouble*

You write the book you're driven to write, and you really can't do more than that. It's a leap of faith, the entire book is a leap of faith, and not everybody is going to take it with me. — Alice Sebold, novelist

Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not. — Dr. Seuss, children's book author

Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind. — Dr. Seuss, children's book author

I like nonsense, it wakes up the brain cells. Fantasy is a necessary ingredient in living, it's a way of looking at life

through the wrong end of a telescope. — Dr. Seuss,  
children's book author

Form is the shape of content. — Ben Shahn, painter

Wisely, and slow. They stumble that run fast. — William  
Shakespeare, poet and playwright

The true artist will let his wife starve, his children go  
barefoot, his mother drudge for his living, at seventy,  
sooner than work at anything but his art. — George  
Bernard Shaw, playwright

The best place to seek God is in a garden. You can dig  
for him there. — George Bernard Shaw, playwright

If more than ten percent of the population likes a  
painting it should be burned, for it must be bad. —  
George Bernard Shaw, playwright

This is the true joy in life, the being used for a purpose  
recognized by yourself as a mighty one; the being  
thoroughly worn out before you are thrown on the scrap  
heap; the being a force of nature instead of a feverish  
selfish little clod of ailments and grievances complaining  
that the world will not devote itself to making you  
happy. — George Bernard Shaw, playwright, *Man and  
Superman*

If we don't change, we don't grow. If we don't grow, we  
aren't really living. — Gail Sheehy, novelist

Pursuing the passionate life requires taking the risk of  
change. Not just aging—but daring. — Gail Sheehy,  
novelist

If every day is an awakening, you will never grow old.  
You will just keep growing. — Gail Sheehy, novelist

Photography is nature seen from the eyes outwards.  
Painting is nature seen from the eyes inwards. —  
Charles Sheeler

Poetry is a sword of lightning, ever unsheathed, which  
consumes the scabbard that would contain it. — Percy  
Bysshe Shelley, poet

A poem is never finished. It's abandoned. — Percy  
Bysshe Shelley, poet

What are all these kissings worth,  
If thou kiss not me?  
— Percy Bysshe Shelley, poet, "Love's Philosophy"

Listen to the mustn'ts, child. Listen to the don'ts.  
Listen to the shouldn'ts, the impossibles, the won'ts.  
Listen to the never haves, then listen close to me...  
Anything can happen, child. Anything can be.  
— Shel Silverstein, poet and illustrator

This bridge will take you halfway there—the last few  
steps you will have to take yourself. — Shel Silverstein,  
poet and illustrator

How much love inside a friend? Depends how much you  
give `em. — Shel Silverstein, poet and illustrator, *A Light  
in the Attic*

Glamour is getting ready to go to the party—a bath, a  
dress, lipstick, perfume, kissing your children good  
night. The rest of the evening is overrated. — Laurie  
Simmons, artist

If no one ever took risks, Michelangelo would have painted the Sistine floor. — Neil Simon, playwright

An artist has been defined as a neurotic who continually cures himself with his art. — Lee Simonson

Before I sit down to write a story I must have the conviction that of all the writers in the world, I am the only one who can write it. — Isaac Bashevis Singer, novelist

Poetry is the deification of reality. — Edith Sitwell

Draw with the brush. Carve the form. Don't be carried away by subtleties of modeling and nice pigmentation at the expense of losing the form. — John French Sloan, painter

The great art of writing is the art of making people real to themselves with words. — Logan Pearsall Smith, author

It is a miracle if you can find true friends, and it is a miracle if you have enough food to eat, and it is a miracle if you get to spend your days and evenings doing whatever it is you like to do, and the holiday season—like all the other seasons—is a good time not only to tell stories of miracles, but to think about the miracles in your own life, and to be grateful for them. — Lemony Snicket, *The Lump of Coal*

It is when we are most lost that we sometimes find our truest friends. — *Snow White* movie

A little space encloses a huge void. There, those great whorls, the stars hang. Who can get outside the universe? But the poem was born elsewhere, and need

not stay. Like the wild geese of the Arctic, it heads home, far above the borders, where most things cannot cross. — Gary Snyder, poet

Practically speaking, a life that is vowed to simplicity, appropriate boldness, good humor, gratitude, unstinting work and play, and lots of walking brings us close to the actual existing world and its wholeness. — Gary Snyder, poet

Become one with the knot itself, til it dissolves away. sweep the garden. any size. — Gary Snyder, poet

Walking is the great adventure, the first meditation, a practice of heartiness and soul primary to humankind. Walking is the exact balance of spirit and humility. Out walking, one notices ecology on the level where it counts. — Gary Snyder, poet

Kindness gives birth to kindness. — Sophocles, poet

Do what it takes to win, within the borders of good spirits. And reason. — Angelo Sotira, CEO, DeviantArt.com

If you're going to do a thing, do it thoroughly. — Murial Spark, novelist

In a nutshell, loving someone is about giving, not receiving. — Nicholas Sparks, novelist

When you read and understand a poem, comprehending its rich and formal meanings, then you master chaos a little. — Stephen Spender, poet

I think of those who were truly great. The names of those who in their lives fought for life, who wore at their hearts the fire's center. — Stephen Spender, poet

There is a certain justice in criticism. The critic is like a midwife—a tyrannical midwife. — Stephen Spender, poet

The greatest poets are those with memories so great that they extend beyond their strongest experiences to their minutest observations of people and things far outside their own self-centeredness. — Stephen Spender, poet

Great poetry is always written by somebody straining to go beyond what he can do. — Stephen Spender, poet

People sometimes divide others into those you laugh at and those you laugh with. The young Auden was someone you could laugh-at-with. — Stephen Spender, poet

Words are what sticks to the real. We use them to push the real, to drag the real into the poem. They are what we hold on with, nothing else. They are as valuable in themselves as rope with nothing to be tied to. — Jack Spicer, poet

Will you ever bring a better gift for the world than the breathing respect that you carry wherever you go right now? Are you waiting for time to show you some better thoughts?  
— William Stafford, poet, *You Reading This, Be Ready*

What can anyone give you greater than now, starting here, right in this room, when you turn around?  
— William Stafford, poet, *You Reading This, Be Ready*

To awaken quite alone in a strange town is one of the most pleasant sensations in the world. You are surrounded by adventure. — Freya Stark, novelist

Travel does what good novelists also do to the life of everyday, placing it like a picture in a frame or a gem in its setting, so that the intrinsic qualities are made more clear. Travel does this with the very stuff that everyday life is made of, giving to it the sharp contour and meaning of art. — Freya Stark, novelist

I think the one recurring theme that I didn't used to be aware of is that I try to give people hope. Love is wonderful, but hope is more important. Without hope you can't live. — Danielle Steel, novelist

It takes a lot of time to be a genius, you have to sit around so much doing nothing really doing nothing. — Gertrude Stein, novelist

Fiction is not an excuse for getting something off the writer's chest. It is creating strong, memorable experiences for the reader. — Sol Stein, playwright, poet, and novelist

Writers are a little below clowns and a little above trained seals. God help the world if writers ever took control. — John Steinbeck, novelist

A writer lives in awe of words, for they can be cruel or kind, and they can change their meanings right in front of you. They pick up flavors and odors like butter in a refrigerator. — John Steinbeck, novelist

It is the nature of man to rise to greatness if greatness is expected of him. — John Steinbeck, novelist

It is the nature of a man as he grows older, a small bridge in time, to protest against change, particularly change for the better. — John Steinbeck, novelist

I have no bent toward gods. But I have a new love for that glittering instrument, the human soul. It is a lovely and unique thing in the universe. It is always attacked and never destroyed—because "Thou mayest." — John Steinbeck, novelist, *East of Eden*

Writing is the only thing that, when I do it, I don't feel as if I should be doing something else. — Gloria Steinem, editor and feminist

The poet is the priest of the invisible. — Wallace Stevens, poet

Reality is a cliché from which we escape by metaphor. — Wallace Stevens, poet

Don't borrow trouble. — Robert Louis Stevenson, novelist

It is perhaps a more fortunate destiny to have a taste for collecting shells than to be born a millionaire. — Robert Louis Stevenson, novelist

Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant. — Robert Louis Stevenson, novelist

Art is a staple, like bread or wine or a warm coat in winter. Man's spirit grows hungry for art in the same way his stomach growls for food. — Irving Stone, novelist, *Depths of Glory*

Skill without imagination is craftsmanship and gives us many useful objects such as wickerwork picnic baskets. Imagination without skill gives us modern art. — Tom Stoppard, screenwriter

To be an artist at all is like living in Switzerland during a world war. — Tom Stoppard, screenwriter

One has a nose. The nose scents and it chooses. An artist is simply a kind of pig snouting truffles. — Igor Stravinsky, musician



Kindnesses are easily forgotten; but injured—what worthy man does not keep those in mind? — William Makepeace Thackeray, novelist

Art is a vast democracy of habit. — Twyla Tharp, dancer, *The Creative Habit*

I have never thought the arts should be unattainable for a wide audience. If something is too abstract or too arrogant, then what's the point? — Twyla Tharp, dancer, *The Creative Habit*

Why is it old age always catches up with you but never passes you by? — Tom Thaves, cartoonist (Frank of *Frank & Ernest*)

If I had my life to live over, I'd probably still make the same mistakes—but I'd start a lot earlier. — Tom Thaves, cartoonist (Frank of *Frank & Ernest*)

You're only young once, but it makes you tired for the rest of your life. — Tom Thaves, cartoonist (Ernest of *Frank & Ernest*)

The question is not what you look at, but what you see. — Henry David Thoreau, author

Human Dignity has gleamed only now and then and here and there, in lonely splendor, throughout the ages, a hope of the better men, never an achievement of the majority. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

I hate women because they always know where things are. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

I used to wake up at 4 A.M. and start sneezing, sometimes for five hours. I tried to find out what sort of allergy I had but finally came to the conclusion that it must be an allergy to consciousness. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

Nowadays men lead lives of noisy desperation. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

A husband should not insult his wife publicly, at parties. He should insult her in the privacy of the home. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

It had only one fault. It was kind of lousy. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

I loathe the expression "What makes him tick." It is the American mind, looking for simple and singular solution, that uses the foolish expression. A person not only ticks, he also chimes and strikes the hour, falls and breaks and has to be put together again, and sometimes stops like an electric clock in a thunderstorm. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

A woman's place is in the wrong. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

The only rules comedy can tolerate are those of taste, and the only limitations those of libel. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

He who hesitates is sometimes saved. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

I think that maybe if women and children were in charge we would get somewhere. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

He knows all about art, but he doesn't know what he likes. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

I do not have a psychiatrist and I do not want one, for the simple reason that if he listened to me long enough, he might become disturbed. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

It is better to know some of the questions than all of the answers. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

All human beings should try to learn before they die what they are running from, and to, and why. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

You can fool too many of the people too much of the time. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

There is no safety in numbers, or in anything else. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

Humor is emotional chaos remembered in tranquility. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

The wit makes fun of other persons; the satirist makes fun of the world; the humorist makes fun of himself, but in so doing, he identifies himself with people—that is, people everywhere, not for the purpose of taking them apart, but simply revealing their true nature. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

Love is what you've been through with somebody. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

It is better to know some of the questions than all of the answers. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

Early to rise and early to bed  
makes a male healthy and wealthy and dead.  
— James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

You might as well fall flat on your face as lean over too far backward. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

Well, if I called the wrong number, why did you answer the phone? — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

If I have any beliefs about immortality, it is that certain dogs I have known will go to heaven, and very, very few persons. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

There are two kinds of light—the glow that illuminates, and the glare that obscures. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

Why do you have to be a nonconformist like everybody else? — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

He wondered if he would kiss her and when he would kiss her and if she wanted to be kissed and if she were

thinking of it, but she asked him what he would have to eat tonight at his hotel. He said clam chowder. Thursday, he said, they always have clam chowder. Is that the way you know it's Thursday, she said, or is that the way you know it's clam chowder? — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist, *The Evenings at Seven*

Let us not look back in anger, nor forward in fear, but around in awareness. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist

Her own mother lived the latter years of her life in the horrible suspicion that electricity was dripping invisibly all over the house. — James Thurber, humorist and cartoonist, *My Life and Hard Times*

Truly great madness cannot be achieved without significant intelligence. — Henrik Tikkanen, novelist

If more of us valued food and cheer and song above hoarded gold, it would be a merrier world. — J. R. R. Tolkien, novelist

Little by little, one travels far. — J. R. R. Tolkien, novelist

It's a dangerous business going out your door. You step onto the road, and if you don't keep your feet, there's no knowing where you might be swept off to. — J. R. R. Tolkien, novelist, *The Lord of the Rings*

We are plain quiet folk and have no use for adventures. Nasty disturbing uncomfortable things! Make you late for dinner! — J. R. R. Tolkien, novelist, *The Hobbit*

The strongest of all warriors are these two—Time and Patience. — Leo Tolstoy, novelist

Art is not a handicraft, it is the transmission of feeling the artist has experienced. — Leo Tolstoy, novelist

Historians are like deaf people who go on answering questions that no one has asked them. — Leo Tolstoy, novelist

Painting is an attempt to come to terms with life. There are as many solutions as there are human beings. — George Tooker, painter

I've been trying for some time to develop a lifestyle that doesn't require my presence. — Gary Trudeau, cartoonist, *Doonesbury*

There are only two industries that refer to their customers as users. — Edward Tufte, graphic designer

Keep away from 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. — Mark Twain, novelist and humorist

A banker is a fellow who lends you his umbrella when the sun is shining, but wants it back the minute it begins to rain. — Mark Twain, humorist and novelist

The public is the only critic whose opinion is worth anything at all. — Mark Twain, humorist and novelist

Don't go around saying the world owes you a living. The world owes you nothing. It was here first. — Mark Twain, humorist and novelist

Make it a point to do something every day that you don't want to do. This is the golden rule for acquiring the habit

of doing your duty without pain. — Mark Twain,  
humorist and novelist

Too much of anything is bad. But too much champagne  
is just right. — Mark Twain, humorist and novelist

In certain trying circumstances, urgent circumstances,  
desperate circumstances, profanity furnishes a relief  
denied even to prayer. — Mark Twain, novelist and  
humorist

All you need in this life is ignorance and confidence;  
then success is sure. — Mark Twain, humorist and  
novelist

Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a  
misprint. — Mark Twain, novelist and humorist

Humor is the great thing, the saving thing. The minute it  
crops up, all our irritations and resentments slip away,  
and a sunny spirit takes their place. — Mark Twain,  
novelist and humorist

The only difference between reality and fiction is that  
fiction has to be credible. — Mark Twain, novelist and  
humorist

Many a small thing has been made large by the right  
kind of advertising. — Mark Twain, humorist and novelist

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, humorist and novelist

Be good and you will be lonesome. — Mark Twain,  
humorist and novelist

Not all horses were born equal. A few were born to win.  
— Mark Twain, humorist and novelist

Part of the secret of success in life is to eat what you  
like and let the food fight it out inside. — Mark Twain,  
humorist and novelist

The man with a new idea is a crank until the idea  
succeeds. — Mark Twain, humorist and novelist

The acts of life have neither beginning nor end.  
Everything happens in a very idiotic fashion. That's why  
everything is the same. — Tristan Tzara, Dadaist



Art is a deliberate recreation of a new and special reality that grows from your response to life. It cannot be copied; it must be created. — unknown

Any activity becomes creative when the doer cares about doing it right, or doing it better. — John Updike, novelist

You cannot help but learn more as you take the world into your hands. Take it up reverently, for it is an old piece of clay, with millions of thumbprints on it. — John Updike, novelist

Dreams come true; without that possibility, nature would not incite us to have them. — John Updike, novelist

The artist brings something into the world that did not exist before, and he does it without destroying something else. — John Updike, novelist

Nobody belongs to us, except in memory. — John Updike, novelist, *The Afterlife*

# V

A painter should not paint what he sees but what should be seen. — Paul Valery, poet and critic

Man is only man at the surface. Remove the skin, dissect, and immediately you come to machinery. — Paul Valery, poet and critic

A work is never completed except by some accident such as weariness, satisfaction, the need to deliver, or death. — Paul Valery, poet and critic

Our most important thoughts are those which contradict our emotions. — Paul Valery, poet and critic

What modern man wants is the grin without the cat, the sensation without the boredom of its conveyance. — Paul Valéry, poet and critic

Books have the same enemies as people: fire, humidity, animals, weather, and their own content. — Paul Valery, poet and critic

Serious-minded people have few ideas. People with ideas are never serious. — Paul Valery, poet and critic

The folly of mistaking a paradox for a discovery, a metaphor for a proof, a torrent of verbiage for a spring

of capital truths, and oneself for an oracle, is inborn in us. — Paul Valery, critic and poet

The best way to make your dreams come true is to wake up. — Paul Valery, poet and critic

God made everything out of nothing, but the nothingness shows through. — Paul Valery, poet and critic

That which has always been accepted by everyone, everywhere, is almost certain to be false. — Paul Valery, poet and critic

Latent in every man is a venom of amazing bitterness, a black resentment; something that curses and loathes life, a feeling of being trapped, of having trusted and been fooled, of being the helpless prey of impotent rage, blind surrender, the victim of a savage, ruthless power that gives and takes away, enlists a man, and—crowning injury—inflicts upon him the humiliation of feeling sorry for himself. — Paul Valery, poet and critic

Two dangers constantly threaten the world: order and disorder. — Paul Valery, poet and critic

The world acquires value only through its extremes and endures only through moderation; extremists make the world great, the moderates give it stability. — Paul Valery, poet and critic

A man who is of sound mind is one who keeps the inner madman under lock and key. — Paul Valery, poet and critic

A poem is never finished, only abandoned. — Paul Valery, poet and critic

We are wont to condemn self-love; but what we really mean to condemn is contrary to self-love. It is that mixture of selfishness and self-hate that permanently pursues us, that prevents us from loving others, and that prohibits us from losing ourselves in the love with which we are loved eternally. He who is able to love himself is able to love others also; he who has learned to overcome self-contempt has overcome his contempt for others. — Paul Valery, poet and critic

A man is infinitely more complicated than his thoughts.  
— Paul Valery, poet and critic

Books have the same enemies as people: fire, humidity, animals, weather, and their own content. — Paul Valery, poet and critic

Words do not cover up mysteries, some hidden realm of thought. Words cover up coincidences. — Paul Valery, poet and critic, *Cahiers*

Inspiration is an hypothesis that reduces the author to the role of an observer. — Paul Valery, poet and critic, *Odds and Ends in Analects*

A great man is one who leaves others at a loss after he is gone. — Paul Valery, poet and critic, *Odds and Ends in Analects*

The greatest men are men who have had the courage of their own convictions—and this goes also for the stupidest. — Paul Valery, poet and critic, *Odds and Ends in Analects*

An artist wants to inspire jealousy till the end of time. — Paul Valery, poet and critic, *Odds and Ends in Analects*

Everyone has seen things that nobody else has seen.  
And the sum of all these things is ... zero. What counts  
is what all men have seen, together. — Paul Valery, poet  
and critic, *Odds and Ends in Analects*

Only the perfectly happy man has the right to kill  
himself. — Paul Valery, poet and critic, *Odds and Ends in  
Analects*

Anyone who has never tried to make himself like the  
gods is less than a man. — Paul Valery, poet and critic,  
*Odds and Ends in Analects*

All a man knows of himself is what circumstances have  
enabled him to know (there are many things about  
myself I used not to know). All the rest is induction,  
probability. — Paul Valery, poet and critic, *Odds and  
Ends in Analects*

Knowing oneself doesn't mean reforming oneself.  
Knowing oneself is a roundabout way of finding excuses  
for oneself. — Paul Valery, poet and critic, *Odds and  
Ends in Analects*

A man is more complex, infinitely more so, than his  
thoughts. — Paul Valery, poet and critic, *Odds and Ends  
in Analects*

“Love” consists in feeling that, against one's will, one  
has made over to another what was intended only for  
oneself. — Paul Valery, poet and critic, *Odds and Ends in  
Analects*

A man's true secrets are more secret to himself than  
they are to others. — Paul Valery, poet and critic, *Odds  
and Ends in Analects*

What we write to amuse ourselves is read by someone else with passion, at high tension. What we write with passion, at high tension, is read by someone else for his amusement. — Paul Valery, poet and critic, *Odds and Ends in Analects*

More is less. — Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, architect

Architecture is the will of an epoch translated into space.  
— Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, architect

A classic is a book that doesn't have to be written again.  
— Carl van Doren

My brush stroke has no system at all. I hit the canvas with irregular touches of the brush, which I leave as they are. Patches of thickly laid-on color, spots of canvas left bare, here and there portions are left absolutely unfinished, repetitions, savageries; in short, I am inclined to think that result is so disquieting and irritating as to be a godsend to those people who have fixed conceptions about technique. — Vincent van Gogh, painter

Great things are not done by impulse, but by a series of small things brought together. — Vincent van Gogh, painter

I am seeking. I am striving. I am in it with all my heart.  
— Vincent van Gogh, painter

The fishermen know that the sea is dangerous and the storm terrible, but they have never found these dangers sufficient reason for remaining ashore. — Vincent van Gogh, painter

Do not quench your inspiration and your imagination. Do not become a slave of your model. — Vincent van Gogh, painter

Love always brings difficulties, that is true, but the good side of it is that it gives energy. — Vincent Van Gogh, painter

The key to success is for you to make a habit throughout your life of doing the things you fear. — Vincent van Gogh, painter

What is done in love is done well. — Vincent van Gogh, painter

The more I become decomposed, the more sick and fragile I am, the more I become an artist. — Vincent van Gogh, painter

If one is the master of one thing and understands one thing well, one has at the same time insight into and understanding of many things. — Vincent van Gogh, painter

I like to dress egos. If you haven't got an ego today, you can forget it. — Gianni Versace, fashion designer

When in doubt, laugh. You can put an end to a lot of little things that are going to go where you don't want them to by laughing at the right moment. — Judith Viorst, novelist

Appreciation is a wonderful thing: It makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well. — Francois-Marie Arouet de Voltaire, philosopher and historian

You are the one that possesses the keys to your being. You carry the passport to your own happiness. — Diane von Furstenberg, fashion designer

It is just an illusion we have here on earth that one moment follows another one, like beads on a string, and that once a moment is gone it is gone forever. — Kurt Vonnegut Jr., novelist

Be soft. Do not let the world make you hard. Do not let the pain make you hate. Do not let the bitterness steal your sweetness. Take pride that even though the rest of the world may disagree, you still believe it to be a beautiful place. — Kurt Vonnegut Jr., novelist

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 Jr., novelist

Starting right now, do art and do it for the rest of your lives. Draw a funny or nice picture of Ms. Lockwood, and give it to her. Dance home after school, and sing in the shower and on and on. Make a face in your mashed potatoes. Pretend you're Count Dracula. — Kurt Vonnegut Jr., novelist

The primary benefit of practicing any art, whether well or badly, is that it enables one's soul to grow. — Kurt Vonnegut Jr., novelist

True terror is to wake up one morning and discover that your high school class is running the country. — Kurt Vonnegut Jr., novelist

We are what we pretend to be. So we must be careful what we pretend to be. — Kurt Vonnegut Jr., novelist

I say in speeches that a plausible mission of artists is to make people appreciate being alive at least a little bit. I am then asked if I know of any artists who pulled that off. I reply, "The Beatles did." — Kurt Vonnegut Jr., novelist

Notice when you are happy, and exclaim or murmur or think at some point, "If this isn't nice, I don't know what is." — Kurt Vonnegut Jr., novelist

I tell you, we are here on earth to fart around, and don't let anybody tell you different. — Kurt Vonnegut Jr., novelist

Practice any art, music, singing, dancing, acting, drawing, painting, sculpting, poetry, fiction, essays, reportage, no matter how well or badly, not to get money and fame, but to experience becoming, to find out what's inside you, to make your soul grow. — Kurt Vonnegut Jr., novelist

If you really want to hurt your parents and you don't have nerve enough to be homosexual, the least you can do is go into the arts. — Kurt Vonnegut Jr., novelist

Write a six line poem, about anything, but rhymed. No fair tennis without a net. Make it as good as you possibly can. But don't tell anybody what you're doing. Don't show it or recite it to anybody, not even your girlfriend or parents or whatever. OK? Tear it up into teeny-weeny pieces, and discard them into widely separated trash receptacles. You will find that you have already been gloriously rewarded for your poem. You have experienced becoming, learned a lot more about what's inside you, and you have made your soul grow. — Kurt Vonnegut Jr., novelist

Here's what I think the truth is: We are all addicts of fossil fuels in a state of denial, about to face cold turkey. — Kurt Vonnegut Jr., novelist, *Cold Turkey*

Just because some of us can read and write and do a little math, that doesn't mean we deserve to conquer the Universe. — Kurt Vonnegut Jr., novelist, *Hocus Pocus*

During my three years in Vietnam, I certainly heard plenty of last words by dying American foot soldiers. Not one of them, however, had illusions that he had somehow accomplished something worthwhile in the process of making the Supreme Sacrifice. — Kurt Vonnegut Jr., novelist, *Hocus Pocus*

Another flaw in the human character is that everybody wants to build and nobody wants to do maintenance. — Kurt Vonnegut Jr., novelist, *Hocus Pocus*

# W

Stand still. The trees ahead and  
the bushes beside you  
Are not lost. Wherever you are is  
called HERE.  
— David Wagoner, poet

It's so clear that you have to cherish everyone. I think that's what I get from these older black women, that every soul is to be cherished, that every flower is to bloom. — Alice Walker, novelist and poet

Seven days without laughter makes one weak. — Mort Walker, comic strip creator

If you're more interested in what you're saying than the person listening to you is, you're the definition of a boring person. — David Foster Wallace, novelist

The human male, if presented with a possibility for sexual liaison, will go to the most ridiculous lengths to follow up on it, regardless of technical viability or social consequence. — F. C. Ware, cartoonist

If someone breaks your heart, you will love them until the day you die. — F. C. Ware, cartoonist

Regret is a great way to occupy yourself if you're looking for another reason to avoid work. — F. C. Ware, cartoonist

Never think that people die. They just go to department stores. — Andy Warhol, artist

In the future everyone will be famous for fifteen minutes. — Andy Warhol, artist

If there's ever a problem, I film it and it's no longer a problem. It's a film. — Andy Warhol, artist

I am a deeply superficial person. — Andy Warhol, artist

They always say time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself. — Andy Warhol, artist

Sex is the biggest nothing of all. — Andy Warhol, artist

I broke something today, and I realized I should break something once a week ... to remind me how fragile life is. — Andy Warhol, artist

Art is anything you can get away with. — Andy Warhol, artist

Making money is art and working is art and good business is the best art. — Andy Warhol, artist

One's company, two's a crowd, and three's a party. — Andy Warhol, artist

Two people kissing always look like fish. — Andy Warhol, artist

Everybody winds up kissing the wrong person good night. — Andy Warhol, artist

Put down your pen and dance. — Theresa Washburn's daughter

The more you know, the harder it is to take decisive action. Once you become informed, you start seeing complexities and shades of gray. You realize that nothing is as clear and simple as it first appears. Ultimately, knowledge is paralyzing. — Bill Watterson, cartoonist, *Calvin & Hobbes* comic strip

People who get nostalgic about childhood were obviously never children. — Bill Watterson, cartoonist, *Calvin & Hobbes* comic strip

Failures are very public, and successes are short lived. It's the pleasure of drawing funny pictures that makes up for it. — Bill Watterson, cartoonist (Calvin of *Calvin & Hobbes* comic strip)

Talking with you is sort of the conversational equivalent of an out of body experience. — Bill Watterson, cartoonist, *Calvin & Hobbes* comic strip

God put me on this earth to accomplish a certain number of things. Right now I am so far behind that I will never die. — Bill Watterson, cartoonist (Calvin of *Calvin & Hobbes* comic strip)

I think of football as a sport the way ducks think of hunting as a sport. — Bill Watterson, cartoonist (Calvin of *Calvin & Hobbes* comic strip)

Sometimes I think the surest sign that intelligent life exists elsewhere in the universe is that none of it has

tried to contact us. — Bill Watterson, cartoonist, *Calvin & Hobbes* comic strip

Reality continues to ruin my life. — Bill Watterson, cartoonist, *Calvin & Hobbes* comic strip

Failures are very public, and successes are short lived. It's the pleasure of drawing funny pictures that makes up for it. — Bill Watterson, cartoonist, *Calvin & Hobbes* comic strip

I have plenty of common sense! I just choose to ignore it. — Bill Watterson, cartoonist (Calvin of *Calvin & Hobbes* comic strip)

I think most of us would be horrified to meet ourselves and discover what everyone else already knows about us. — Bill Watterson, cartoonist (Calvin of *Calvin & Hobbes* comic strip)

If we're in each other's dreams, we can play together all night. — Bill Watterson, cartoonist (Calvin of *Calvin & Hobbes* comic strip)

Leave it to a girl to take the fun out of sex discrimination. — Bill Watterson, cartoonist (Calvin of *Calvin & Hobbes* comic strip)

If something is so complicated that you can't explain it in 10 seconds, then it's probably not worth knowing anyway. — Bill Watterson, cartoonist (Calvin of *Calvin & Hobbes* comic strip)

If your knees aren't green by the end of the day, you ought to seriously re-examine your life. — Bill Watterson, cartoonist (Calvin of *Calvin & Hobbes* comic strip)

I'm not dumb. I just have a command of thoroughly useless information. — Bill Watterson, cartoonist (Calvin of *Calvin & Hobbes* comic strip)

If we couldn't laugh at things that don't make sense, we couldn't react to a lot of life. — Bill Watterson, cartoonist (Hobbes of *Calvin & Hobbes* comic strip)

Punctuality is the virtue of the bored. — Evelyn Waugh, novelist

Money is only useful when you get rid of it. — Evelyn Waugh, novelist

If you know much about your work—why you work, how you work, your aims—you are probably not a poet. — Mary Webb, poet

If you stop to be kind, you must swerve often from your path. — Mary Webb, poet

A true friend is someone who is there for you when he'd rather be anywhere else. — Len Wein, comic book creator

Most writing is as obvious as a ham sandwich, but not nearly as nourishing. — Alan Weiss

I passionately hate the idea of being with it. I think an artist has always to be out of step with his time. — Orson Welles, director and actor

It is the soul's duty to be loyal to its own desires. It must abandon itself to its master passion. — Rebecca West, novelist

Writing is like making love. You have to practice to be good at it. — Morris West, novelist

There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it. — Edith Wharton, novelist

I was a failure in Boston...because they thought I was too fashionable to be intelligent, and a failure in New York because they thought I was too intelligent to be fashionable. — Edith Wharton, novelist

If only we'd stop trying to be happy, we could have a pretty good time. — Edith Wharton, novelist

Art flourishes where there is a sense of adventure. — Alfred North Whitehead, mathematician and philosopher

Art is the imposing of a pattern on experience, and our aesthetic enjoyment is recognition of the pattern. — Alfred North Whitehead, mathematician and philosopher

Let the cracks between things widen until they are no longer cracks but the new places for things. — Colson Whitehead, novelist, *Zone One*

The fine art of painting, which is the bastard of alchemy, always has been always will be, a game. The rules of the game are quite simple: in a given arena, on as many psychic fronts as the talent allows, one must visually describe, the centre of the meaning of existence. — Brett Whiteley

A great city is that which has the greatest men and women. — Walt Whitman, poet

Wisdom is not finally tested in the schools, Wisdom cannot be pass'd from one having it to another not having it, Wisdom is of the soul, is not susceptible of proof, is its own proof. — Walt Whitman, poet

To have great poets, there must be great audiences. — Walt Whitman, poet

You must not know too much or be too precise or scientific about birds and trees and flowers and watercraft; a certain free-margin, and even vagueness—ignorance, credulity—helps your enjoyment of these things. — Walt Whitman, poet

The habit of giving only enhances the desire to give. — Walt Whitman, poet

To the real artist in humanity, what are called bad manners are often the most picturesque and significant of all. — Walt Whitman, poet

Have you heard that it was good to gain the day? I also say it is good to fall, battles are lost in the same spirit in which they are won. — Walt Whitman, poet

A morning-glory at my window satisfies me more than the metaphysics of books. — Walt Whitman, poet

After you have exhausted what there is in business, politics, conviviality, and so on—have found that none of these finally satisfy, or permanently wear—what remains? Nature remains. — Walt Whitman, poet

The poet judges not as a judge judges but as the sun falling around a helpless thing. — Walt Whitman, poet

The genius of the United States is not best or most in its executives or legislatures, nor in its ambassadors or authors or colleges, or churches, or parlors, nor even in its newspapers or inventors, but always most in the common people. — Walt Whitman, poet

Either define the moment or the moment will define you.  
— Walt Whitman, poet

Now I see the secret of the making of the best persons.  
It is to grow in the open air and to eat and sleep with the earth.  
— Walt Whitman, poet, *Song of the Open Road*

The proof of a poet is that his country absorbs him as affectionately as he has absorbed it. — Walt Whitman, poet, *Leaves of Grass*

To me every hour of the light and dark is a miracle,  
every cubic inch of space is a miracle. — Walt Whitman, poet, *Leaves of Grass*

Has anyone supposed it lucky to be born? I hasten to inform him or her that it is just as lucky to die, and I know it. — Walt Whitman, poet, *Leaves of Grass*

If anything is sacred, the human body is sacred. — Walt Whitman, poet, *Leaves of Grass*

I say to mankind, Be not curious about God. For I, who am curious about each, am not curious about God—I hear and behold God in every object, yet understand God not in the least. — Walt Whitman, poet, *Leaves of Grass*

All things of the universe are perfect miracles, each as profound as any. — Walt Whitman, poet, *Leaves of Grass*

Do I contradict myself?  
Very well then I contradict myself,  
(I am large, I contain multitudes.)  
— Walt Whitman, poet, *Leaves of Grass*

I celebrate myself, and sing myself,  
And what I assume you shall assume,  
For every atom belonging to me as good belongs to you.  
— Walt Whitman, poet, *Leaves of Grass*

Seeing, hearing, feeling, are miracles, and each part and tag of me is a miracle. — Walt Whitman, poet, *Leaves of Grass*

And a mouse is miracle enough to stagger sextillions of infidels. — Walt Whitman, poet, *Leaves of Grass*

Why! Who makes much of a miracle?  
As to me, I know of nothing else but miracles.  
— Walt Whitman, poet, *Leaves of Grass*

The purpose of truly transcendent art is to express something you are not yet, but that you can become. — Ken Wilbur, philosopher

All great transcendental art, is not merely symbolic or imaginary: it is a direct invitation to recognize and realize a deeper dimension of our very own being. In the eternal trinity of the Good, the True, and the Beautiful, art, while it can be good and true, has always staked out the domain of the Beautiful. — Ken Wilbur, philosopher

It is through art, and through art only, that we can realize our perfection; through art and art only that we can shield ourselves from the sordid perils of actual existence. — Oscar Wilde, playwright

It is art, and art only, that reveals ourselves to ourselves. — Oscar Wilde, playwright

All art is at once surface and symbol. Those who go beneath the surface do so at their peril. Those who read the symbol do so at their peril. — Oscar Wilde, playwright

Bad artists always admire each others work. — Oscar Wilde, playwright

No great artist sees things as they really are. If he did, he would cease to be an artist. — Oscar Wilde, playwright

It is not the things you have that make you happy. It is love and kindness and helping each other and just plain being good. — Laura Ingalls Wilder, novelist

But all art is sensual and poetry particularly so. It is directly, that is, of the senses, and since the senses do not exist without an object for their employment all art is necessarily objective. It doesn't declaim or explain, it presents. — William Carlos Williams, poet

By listening to his language of his locality the poet begins to learn his craft. It is his function to lift, by use of imagination and the language he hears, the material conditions and appearances of his environment to the sphere of the intelligence where they will have new currency. — William Carlos Williams, poet

People don't choose to be writers. It's more like an addiction, and I've been addicted since the day I learned to read. — Connie Willis, novelist

We are all much better at believing than at seeing. In fact, we are seeing what we believe nearly all the time and only occasionally seeing what we can't believe. — Robert Anton Wilson, novelist

I've learned something about myself. I think you've got to paint—like you have to write—what you know. — Grant Wood, artist

When the shriveled skin of the ordinary is stuffed out with meaning, it satisfies the senses amazingly. — Virginia Woolf, novelist

Yet it is in our idleness, in our dreams, that the submerged truth sometimes comes to the top. — Virginia Woolf, novelist

The older one grows, the more one likes indecency. — Virginia Woolf, novelist

The best portion of a good man's life;  
His little, nameless, unremembered acts  
Of kindness and of love.  
— William Wordsworth, poet,  
"Lines Composed a Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey"

With an eye made quiet by the power of harmony, and the deep power of joy, we see into the life of things. — William Wordsworth, poet

Noble life demands a noble architecture for noble uses of noble men. Lack of culture means what it has always

meant: ignoble civilization and therefore imminent downfall. — Frank Lloyd Wright, architect

The space within becomes the reality of the building. — Frank Lloyd Wright, architect

I know the price of success: dedication, hard work and an unremitting devotion to the things you want to see happen. — Frank Lloyd Wright, architect

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

Organic buildings are the strength and lightness of the spiders' spinning, buildings qualified by light, bred by native character to environment, married to the ground. — Frank Lloyd Wright, architect

If you invest in beauty, it will remain with you all the days of your life. — Frank Lloyd Wright, architect

Simplicity and repose are the qualities that measure the true value of any work of art. — Frank Lloyd Wright, architect

The thing always happens that you really believe in; and the belief in a thing makes it happen. — Frank Lloyd Wright, architect

The longer I live the more beautiful life becomes. — Frank Lloyd Wright, architect

The physician can bury his mistakes, but the architect can only advise his client to plant vines—so they should go as far as possible from home to build their first buildings. — Frank Lloyd Wright, architect

It's a small world, but I wouldn't want to paint it. —  
Steven Wright, comedian



Do not wait to strike till the iron is hot; but make it hot by striking. — William Butler Yeats, poet

The world is full of magic things, patiently waiting for our senses to grow stronger. — William Butler Yeats, poet

Education is not the filling of a bucket, but the lighting of a fire. — William Butler Yeats, poet

Envy is an insult to oneself. — Yevgeny Alexandrovich Yevtushenko, poet



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

If you ask me what I came to do in this world, I, an  
artist, I will answer you: I am here to live out loud. —  
Emile Zola, novelist

# Epilog

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