

Dean's Quotes

*Being a selection of the wit and wisdom of the ages,
and the lack thereof.*

As originally presented over the years on the InterFace-book by

R. Dean Crocker

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PO Box 1866, Mountain View, CA 94042, USA



- Dean in Wien, 2006 — R Dean Crocker posted a photo to your Wall.



- Despite serious questions about Facebook’s lack of security, Dean has jumped in and barely joined the fun.
- If more of us valued food and cheer and song above hoarded gold, it would be a merrier world.
— J. R. R. Tolkien: *The Hobbit* (1937)
- The return of my birthday, if I remember it, fills me with thoughts which it seems to be the general care of humanity to escape.
— Samuel Johnson (1709–1784)
- The years between fifty and seventy are the hardest. You are always asked to do things, and you are not yet decrepit enough to turn them down.
— T. S. Eliot (1888-1965)
- Hain’t we got all the fools in town on our side? And ain’t that a big enough majority in any town?
— Mark Twain: *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (1884)
- Am I the only one to have made this association?



- Conductors must give unmistakable and suggestive signals to the orchestra—not choreography to the audience.
— George Szell (1897–1970)
- Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred. We must forever conduct our struggle on the high plane of dignity and discipline... Again and again, we must rise to the majestic heights of meeting physical force with soul force.
— Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929–1968): speech delivered 28 August 1963 at the Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C.
- The fact that an opinion has been widely held is no evidence whatever that it is not utterly absurd: indeed in view of the silliness of the majority of mankind, a widespread belief is more likely to be foolish than sensible.
— Bertrand Russell: *Marriage And Morals* (1929)
- What is written without effort is in general read without pleasure.
— Samuel Johnson (1709–1784)
- Mon métier et mon art c'est vivre.
[Living is my job and my art.]
— Michel Eyquem de Montaigne (1533–1592)
- To admire an artist, you should not know him personally.
— Jacinto Benavente [Spanish playwright, Nobel Prize in Literature] (1922)
- Dean finally finished a new edition of the Hummel Trio for Piano, Violin and Cello, Op. 83
CROCKER MUSIC: Hummel: Piano Trio no. 6 in E, Op. 83
http://www.crockermusic.com/HUMMEL_PianoTrio6.html
- You can't enjoy anything these days! :-)
Facebook criticised by Archbishop -
BBC NEWS | UK | Facebook criticised by Archbishop
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/8180115.stm
Social networking websites, texting and e-mails are undermining community life, the leader of the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales has warned.
- I love everything that's old — old friends, old times, old manners, old books, old wine.
— Oliver Goldsmith: *She Stoops To Conquer* (1773)

- The two oldest professions in the world—ruined by amateurs!
— Alexander Woolcott (1887-1943), on actors and prostitutes.
- The main point is that, for orchestral purposes, the Soprano [saxophone] in B-flat is useless.
— Cecil Forsyth: *Orchestration*, 2nd edition (1935)
- The individual whose literature is restricted to the daily newspaper may be satisfied musically by the radio alone, but for him whose cultural life is not complete without books, the theatre, and the concert hall, the phonograph is essential.
— *Music Lover's Encyclopedia* (1939)
- The more varied your precious possessions, the more help you need to protect them, and the old saying is proved correct, he who hath much, wants much. And the contrary is true as well, he needs least who measure wealth according to the needs of nature, and not the excesses of ostentation.
— Anicius Manlius Severinus Boethius (ca 480-525): *Consolation of Philosophy*
- Je n'ai fait celle-ci plus longue que parce que je n'ai pas eu le loisir de la faire plus courte. [I have made this (letter) longer than usual, only because I have not had the time to make it shorter.]
— Blaise Pascal (1623-1662)
- Cleaning out basement, found old, yellow newspaper clipping:
If you are one of the hundreds of parachuting enthusiasts who bought our *Easy Sky Diving* book, please make the following correction: On page 8, line 7, the words "state zip code" should have read "pull rip cord."
- Well, I just made it through another day without having the slightest idea what I was doing.
— *Ziggy* (1980)
- Effective health reform will unquestionably reduce the vast sums we now spend for health care and relieve businesses of a growing burden that is reducing their competitiveness in the world economy and making them less willing to hire new employees or pay decent wages.
—Edward M. Kennedy: *America Back On Track* (2006)
- Oh, life is a glorious cycle of song,
A medley of extemporanea;
And love is a thing that can never go wrong,
And I am Marie of Roumania.
— Dorothy Parker (1893-1967)

- Dean finished editing another Hummel Piano Trio — the 2nd one, in E-flat, Op.12, ca. 1803.
Could this be a trend?
CROCKER MUSIC: Hummel: Piano Trio no. 2 in E-flat, Op. 12
http://www.crockermusic.com/HUMMEL_PianoTrio2.html
- When people agree with me I always feel that I must be wrong.
— Oscar Wilde (1854-1900): *The Critic As Artist*
- A man travels the world over in search of what he needs and returns home to find it.
— George Augustus Moore (1852-1933): *The Brook Kerith*
- When a true genius appears in the world, you may know him by this sign, that the dunces are all in confederacy against him.
— Jonathan Swift (1667-1745): *Thoughts On Various Subjects*
- Cable 'News'/Talk Radio Formats May Be Far Older Than We Knew:
Where blind and naked Ignorance
Delivers brawling judgments, unashamed,
On all things all day long.
— Alfred, Lord Tennyson (1809-1892): *Merlin and Vivien*
- Aujourd'hui ce qui ne vaut pas la peine, d'être dit, on le chante.
[Today if something is not worth saying, people sing it.]
— Pierre-Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais (1732-1799): *Le barbier de Séville*
- Does Cable 'News' Programming Fulfill Prophecy?
I fear that the works of democratic poets will often offer immense and incoherent images, overloaded depictions, and bizarre composites, and that the fantastic beings issuing from their minds will sometimes make one long for the real world.
— Alexis de Tocqueville: *Democracy In America* (1835)
- When Wellington thrashed Bonaparte,
As every child can tell,
The House of Peers, throughout the war,
Did nothing in particular,
And did it very well:
— W. S. Gilbert: *Iolanthe* (1882)
- Sometimes when you can't hear, you just have to go with the stick.
— Carol Webb, violinist, NY Philharmonic (quoted in *The New York Times*, 2009-Sep-22)

- It is lucky that Handel and Bach were born in 1685 and not two hundred years later. Else the citizenship of the one might have been questioned, just as the music of the other might have been found “bolshevistic.”
— Alban Berg: from *Eine Wiener Musikzeitschrift* (1935-Mar)
- Great Moments In History?
Nec villa nec homo dstringatur facere pontes ad riparias, nisi ui ab antiquo et de jure facere debent.
[No village or individual shall be compelled to make bridges at river banks, except those who from of old were legally bound to do so.]
— Magna Carta (1215)
- Management that wants to change an institution must first show it loves that institution.
— John Tusa (managing director of the BBC World Service, 1986-1993), 1994
- I grow old ever learning many things.
— Solon (c. 630 BCE-c. 555 BCE)
- Write with the learned, pronounce with the vulgar.
— Benjamin Franklin: *Poor Richard's Almanac* (1738)
- Dogmatism shuts up all wisdom and intelligence.
— Liu Shaoqi, 1945
- We like to solve problems, but we don't want them all solved, not too quickly, anyway. We are more attached to the problems than to the solutions.
— Ray Kurzweil: *The Age Of Spiritual Machines* (1999)
- A bad singer can spoil only his own part in a musical composition, but a bad conductor can ruin everything.
— Hector Berlioz (1856)
- ...the person that had took a bull by the tail once had learnt sixty or seventy times as much as a person that hadn't, and said a person that started in to carry a cat home by the tail was getting knowledge that was always going to be useful to him, and warn't ever going to grow dim or doubtful.
— Mark Twain: *Tom Sawyer Abroad* (1894)
- Politicians are the same all over. They promise to build a bridge even when there's no river.
— Nikita Khrushchev (1894-1971)

- The offensive team's objective is to have its batter become a runner, and its runners advance.
— The Official Rules of Baseball: 5.04
- A professor is one who talks in someone else's sleep.
— W. H. Auden (1907-1973)
- Therefore the sage manages affairs without doing anything, and conveys his instructions without the use of speech.
— Lao-Tzu: Tao Te Ching (6th c. BCE) [?]
- The older I grow the more I distrust the familiar doctrine that age brings wisdom.
— H. L. Mencken (1880-1956)

- A comic gen(i)us...



BBC NEWS | Entertainment | US pie-splattered comedian dies

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/entertainment/8321711.stm>

US comedian Soupy Sales, who had some 20,000 pies thrown at him during a career spanning half a century, has died at the age of 83.

- Living in California can add ten year's to a man's life. Those extra ten years I'd like to spend in New York.
— Harry Ruby (1895-1974)
- It is a good thing for an uneducated man to read books of quotations.
— Winston Churchill: *My Early Life* (1930)
- The secret to eternal youth is arrested development.
— Alice Roosevelt Longworth (1884-1980)
- When I was born I was so surprised I didn't talk for a year and a half.
— Gracie Allen (1906-1964)
- I stay away from natural foods. At my age I need all the preservatives I can get.
— George Burns (1896-1996)

- I am long on ideas, but short on time. I expect to live to be only about a hundred.
— Thomas Alva Edison (1847-1931)
- 'Tis not the drinking that is to be blamed, but the excess.
— John Selden (1584-1654)
- Guilty pleasure: Willie Nelson and Asleep At The Wheel on Austin City Limits tonight. Once upon a time, could play that shit all night long but rarely got the chance to...
- As recently as 2001, the U.S. Mint produced over 40 million half-dollar coins a year. Last year, less than 10% that amount. But really now, when is the last time you saw one? And just why is that?
- ...to paint dreams and memories with words; to portray the purity of dawn, the intensity and glory of noon, the tenderness of twilight, the splendor and mystery of night, with sounds; to give the invisible to sight and touch, and to enrich the common things of earth with gems and jewels of the mind—this is Art.
— Robert G. Ingersoll (1833-1899)
- It is our earth, not yours or mine or his. We are meant to live on it, helping each other, not destroying each other.
— Jiddu Krishnamurti (1895-1986)
- If you were still wondering...



A Warming Arctic: Greenland's Ice Sheet Melting Faster than Ever - SPIEGEL ONLINE - News - International

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/0,1518,661192,00.html>

Everyone knows that the ice sheet on Greenland is melting. But new research shows it is disappearing much faster than previously thought. The findings could mean that ocean levels are also rising more quickly.

- Read over your compositions, and when you meet a passage which you think is particularly fine, strike it out.
— Samuel Johnson (1709-1784)
- With over 50 foreign cars already on sale here, the Japanese auto industry isn't likely to carve out a big slice of the U. S. market.
— Business Week (1979)

- Fascinating.



Creating Artificial Glaciers Is Simple, Easy and Replicable - IPS

<http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=49369>

His is a classic case of a man's fight against nature in this trans-Himalayan region of Ladakh, as he battles climate change.

- The greater the ignorance, the greater the dogmatism.
— Sir William Osler (1849-1919)
- That patient is not likely to recover who makes the doctor his heir.
— Thomas Fuller: *Gnomologia* (1732)
- To do two things at once is to do neither.
— Publilius Syrus (1st century BCE)
- There's a silver lining
Through the dark cloud shining;
Turn the dark cloud inside out,
Till the boys come Home.
— Lena Guilbert Ford (1870-1916): *Till The Boys Come Home* (1914) [music by Ivor Novello]
- No author is a man of genius to his publishers.
— attrib., Heinrich Heine (1797-1856)
- It is undesirable to believe a proposition when there is no ground whatever for supposing it true.
— Bertrand Russell: *Skeptical Essays* (1928)
- As you grow older, converse more frequently with scores than with virtuosi.
— Robert Schumann (1810-1856)
- As holiday parties proliferate, I offer this: If one hears bad music it is one's duty to drown it by one's conversation.
— Oscar Wilde: *The Picture of Dorian Gray* (1891)
- Whatever their other contributions to our society, lawyers could be an important source of protein.
— Cartoon caption by Dick Guindon

- Citius, altius, fortius. [Faster, higher, stronger.]
 - Motto of the modern Olympics
- Citius, altius, clarius. [Faster, higher, louder(?)]
 - Motto of lead trumpet players?
- :-)
- Nothing is so firmly believed as that which least is known.
 - Michel de Montaigne (1533-1592)
- Wine is the most healthful and most hygenic of beverages.
 - Louis Pasteur (1822-1895)
- Publishing a volume of verse is like dropping a rose petal down the Grand Canyon and waiting for the echo.
 - Don Marquis (1878-1937): *The Sun Dial*
- [When to compose an overture:] Wait until the evening before opening night. Nothing primes inspiration more than necessity, whether it be the presence of a copyist waiting for your work or the prodding of an impresario tearing his hair. In my time, all the impresarios in Italy were bald at thirty.
 - Gioacchino Rossini (1792-1868)
- This probably never happened, but there is at least one report that the New York Daily News once ran a photo of the late Mr. Onassis touring Buster Keaton's home in Hollywood with the caption: ARISTOTLE CONTEMPLATING THE HOME OF BUSTER :-)
- My country is the world, and my religion is to do good.
 - Tom Paine: *The Rights of Man* (1791)
- Imagine all the people
Living life in peace
 - John Lennon (1940-1980)
- No matter what happens, the U. S. Navy is not going to be caught napping.
 - U.S. Secretary of the Navy, Frank Knox (1941-December-05)
- The excercise of singing is delightful to Nature, and good to preserve the health of man. It doth strengthen all parts of the breast, and doth open the pipes.
 - William Byrd (1543-1623)

- An accompanist must be careful to observe whether the high and low registers of the singer or instrumentalist whom he accompanies are equally loud, and whether his tones are just as clear from a distance as they are from near-by. If they are not, he must modify his playing in order not to cover the weak tones with a loud accompaniment.

— C. P. E. Bach (1714-1788)

- Interesting aspect -



The Green Dream: Can Obama Stop America's Gas-Guzzling Ways? - SPIEGEL ONLINE

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/spiegel/0,1518,666944,00.html>

Never before has a US government been as serious in its warnings against the dangers of climate change as the Obama administration. But Americans are divided: Half of them regard climate protection policies as socialist, and half want to save the world. Can Obama make America go green?

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

— Mark Twain: *Pudd'nhead Wilson's Calendar*

- Trust everyone, but brand your cattle.

— Hallie Stillwell (1898-1997)

- It was a dark and stormy night; the rain fell in torrents—except at occasional intervals, when it was checked by a violent gust of wind which swept up the streets (for it is in London that our scene lies), rattling along the housetops, and fiercely agitating the scanty flame of the lamps that struggled against the darkness.

— Edward George Earle Bulwer-Lytton: *Paul Clifford* (1830)

- “Exactly what is the Abbott touch?” an interviewer asked me the other day. “I make them say their final syllables,” I answered.

— George Abbott: *Mister Abbott* (1963)

- Without music life would be a mistake.

— Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche: *Götzen-Dämmerung, oder, Wie man mit dem Hammer philosophirt* [The Twilight of the Idols] (1888)

- When I play with my cat, who knows whether I do not make her more sport than she makes me?
— Michel de Montaigne (1533-1592)
- I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach. Oh, tell me that I may sponge away the writing on this stone!
— Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol* (1843)
- At Christmas play and make good cheer,
For Christmas comes but once a year.
— Thomas Tusser: *A Hundred Points of Good Husbandry* (1557)
- The closer the performing conditions for Sebastian Bach's concerted music are approximated to those of early eighteenth-century provincial Germany, the more the music sounds like twentieth-century American swing.
— Virgil Thomson: *The Art of Judging Music* (1940)
- Folks, take it from me — we couldn't live without a little swing now and then, mostly then.
— Louis Armstrong (1901-1971)
- Hain't we got all the fools in town on our side? And ain't that a big enough majority in any town?
— Mark Twain: *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (1884)
- If you really want to see an amazing thing in 3-D, go and see something — this is an incredible thing — go and see something called live theater.
— Craig Ferguson: *The Late Late Show*, broadcast 2009-December-18
- A good general not only sees the way to victory; he also knows when victory is impossible.
— Polybius: *Histories* (ca. 125 BCE)
- If you wish to be a writer, write.
— Epictetus: *Discourses* (ca. 110)
- The height of cleverness is being able to conceal it.
— François, Duc de la Rochefoucault (1613-1860)

- Interesting.



SPIEGEL Interview with General Stanley McChrystal: “Killing the Enemy Is Not The Best Route to Success”

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/0.1518.671267.00.html>

General Stanley McChrystal, the top US and NATO commander in Afghanistan, talks to SPIEGEL about his new approach to the war, negotiations with the Taliban and the hunt for Osama bin Laden.

- We never do anything well till we cease to think about the manner of doing it.
— William Hazlitt (1778-1830)
- The difference between a Miracle and a Fact is exactly the difference between a mermaid and a seal.
— Samuel L. Clemens [Mark Twain] (1835-1910)
- The last thing one knows in constructing a work is what to put first.
— Blaise Pascal (1623-1692)
- Whenever you sacrifice freedom for security, you get neither.
— Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)
- In the discovery of secret things and in the investigation of hidden causes, stronger reasons are obtained from sure experiments and demonstrated arguments than from probable conjectures and the opinions of philosophical speculators of the common sort.
— William Gilbert (1540-1603): *De Magnete*
- This song is ending, but the story never ends.
— Ood Sigma: The End of Time Part 2. *Doctor Who*, BBC America (2010-Jan-02)
- This is the first age that’s paid much attention to the future, which is a little ironic since we may not have one.
— Arthur C. Clarke (1917-2008)
- While composing music is not the time to recall the rules which might hold our genius in bondage. We must have recourse to the rules only when our genius and our ear seem to deny what we are seeking.
— Jean Philippe Rameau (1683-1764)

- Nunc est bibendum, nunc pede libero pulsanda tellus.
[Now is the time to drink, now the time to dance footloose upon the earth.]
— Quintus Horatius Flaccus [Horace] (65–8 BCE): *Carmina* I:37

- Oh my!



Easy Money: Got Change For A Million Silver Dollars? - SPIEGEL ONLINE

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,669480,00.html>

Two Germans were caught in an Austria mountain town with 500 million dollars in counterfeit banknotes. It's one of the biggest hauls of counterfeit dollars in Europe. But the culprits say they thought the 1 million dollar bills were real. Early next year an Austrian court must decide their fate.

- Music produces a kind of pleasure which human nature cannot do without.
— Confucius: *The Book of Rites* (ca. 500 BC)

- Good advice for everyone.



BBC News - German government warns against using MS Explorer

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/technology/8463516.stm>

The warning from the Federal Office for Information Security comes after Microsoft admitted IE was the weak link in recent attacks on Google's systems.

- Oh, my...



FBI admits Spanish politician was model for 'high-tech' Osama bin Laden photo-fit

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/7004715/FBI-admits-Spanish-politican-was-model-for-high-tech-Osama-bin-Laden-photo-fit.html>

The FBI has admitted using a photograph of a bearded Spanish politician as the basis for a mocked-up photofit image showing how Osama Bin Laden might look now.

- 's gibt nur a Kaiserstadt, 's gibt nur a Wien.
[There's only one imperial city, There's only one Vienna.]
— Karl von Holtei: *Die Wiener in Berlin* (1825)
- The further back you look, the further forward you can see.
— Winston Churchill (1874–1965)

- The play comes into being with the appearance of spectators.
— Martin Buber (1878-1965): *Drama And Theater*
- That so few now dare to be eccentric, marks the chief danger of the time.
— John Stuart Mill (1806-1873)



- **Hope-a-Looza: Barack Obama Musical to Kick off in Frankfurt - SPIEGEL ONLINE**
<http://www.spiegel.de/international/zeitgeist/0,1518,670866,00.html>
Barack Obama and his dramatic ascent to power has inspired a raft of books and articles. Now a German musical is set to pay an all-singing, all-dancing tribute to the world's most powerful man. *Hope!* will soon premiere in Frankfurt.

- Ale will make a cat speak.
— English proverb, familiar since the 16th century
- The only good is knowledge, and the only evil ignorance.
— Diogenes Lærtius: *Lives of the Philosophers* (ca. 150 BCE)
- I was brought up to believe that the only thing worth doing was to add to the sum of accurate information in the world.
— Margaret Mead (1901-1978)
- To be conscious that you are ignorant is a great step to knowledge.
— Benjamin Disraeli: *Sybil* (1845)
- What's all this Doppelgänger crap? George Carlin stole my look a long time ago :-)
- I hope we shall crush in its birth the aristocracy of our moneyed corporations, which dare already to challenge our government to a trial of strength and bid defiance to the laws of our country.
— Thomas Jefferson (1812)



Thomas Jefferson | The White House

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/presidents/thomasjefferson>

WhiteHouse.gov is the official web site for the White House and President Barack Obama, the 44th President of the United States. This site is a source for information about the President, White House news and policies, White House history, and the federal government.

- The most difficult character in comedy is that of a fool, and he must be no simpleton who plays the part.
— Cervantes: *Don Quixote* (1605)
- (The waiter) presents the check and we pay him promptly. He returns the change on a small silver tray or a folded napkin. Perhaps we leave one or two coins as a “tip” for the waiter; in some States, however, “tipping” is prohibited by law.
— Jesse W. Harris & Elisabeth V. Lacey: *Everyday Foods* [A Home Economics Textook] (1927)
- Amateurs are less likely to be hidebound by tradition, and less likely to be hampered by facts in the pursuit of new ideas.
— Manfred F. Bukofzer: *Music in the Baroque Era* (1947)
- It shall be unlawful for any national bank, or any corporation organized by authority of any laws of Congress, to make a money contribution in connection with any election to any political office...
— Act of Congress approved 1907 January 26 (and you know what happened...)
- Your manuscript is both good and original, but the part that is good is not original and the part that is original is not good.
— Samuel Johnson (1709-1784)
- Infidelity does not consist in believing, or in disbelieving: it consists in professing to believe what one does not believe.
— Tom Paine: *The Age of Reason* (1794)
- Is it possible that Wisconsin’s “beer-cheese” smells even worse than German bierkäse? (Tasty though it is...) It permeates the house. I need to wash my hands. It is chasing me around the room. It smells like something died. How can something that good be so disgusting? And I want more!
- In order to mitigate unemployment attending business depression, we urge the enactment of legislation authorizing that construction and repair of public works be initiated in periods of acute unemployment. — Democratic Party National Platform, 1924
- Perhaps in time the so-called Dark Ages will be thought of as including our own.
— Georg Christoph Lichtenberg (1742-1799)
- There is no music worth hearing save only in the last forty years.
— Johannes Tinctoris (1477)

- Oh, no...



Spice Girls: The Musical planned by creator of Mamma Mia!

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstoppers/celebritynews/7046966/Spice-Girls-The-Musical-planned-by-creator-of-Mamma-Mia.html>

The creator of Mamma Mia! is developing a new musical based on the songs of the Spice Girls.

- It's not illegal for people who have concealed handgun licenses to carry in the Capitol.
— Tele Mange, Texas Department of Public Safety spokeswoman (2010-01-21)

Wow...

- “The world’s most popular smartphone operating system,” indeed. And if you try really, really hard, you can sometimes find a phone in the US that uses it! We are so odd...



BBC News - Symbian phone operating system goes open source

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/technology/8496263.stm>

The group behind the world’s most popular smartphone operating system - Symbian - is giving away “billions of dollars” worth of code for free.

- The price one pays for pursuing any profession or calling is an intimate knowledge of its ugly side.
— James Baldwin (1924-1987)
- History is full of people who out of fear, or ignorance, or lust for power have destroyed knowledge of immeasurable value which truly belongs to us all. We must not let it happen again.
— Carl Sagan (1934-1996)
- Talking during the progress of a play, concert, or opera, is very bad manners and usually brings down well-deserved shushing from neighboring seats.
— Amy Vanderbilt: *Complete Book of Etiquette* (1958)
- The man who can't dance thinks the band is no good.
— Polish proverb
- A good editor could have turned that into a really interesting movie.
— me, leaving a screening of *Avitar*

- Progress needs the brakeman, but the brakeman should not spend all his time putting on the brakes.
— Elbert Hubbard: *Roycroft Dictionary and Book of Epigrams* (1923)
- Another point of view...
[A “center-right” nation again? | SocialistWorker.org](http://socialistworker.org/2010/02/10/center-right-nation-again)
<http://socialistworker.org/2010/02/10/center-right-nation-again>
The Obama administration went too far to the left, alienating America’s...
- One should have an easy manner at the harpsichord and avoid either staring fixedly at any object, or looking too vague; in short, one should look at the audience, if there is any, as if one were occupied with nothing else. This advice is only for those who play without the help of their scores.
— François Couperin (1668–1733): *The Art of Playing the Harpsichord*
- On every still suburban street The gatekeepers are shoveling snow.
— Osip Mandelstam [Осип Эмильевич Мандельштам]: *On Every Still Suburban Street* (1916).
- Banking establishments are more dangerous than standing armies.
— Thomas Jefferson: *Letter to Elbridge Gerry* (1799)
- The artist who is not a craftsman is no good; but, alas, most of our artists are nothing else.
— Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749–1834)
- The man who ventures to write contemporary history must expect to be attacked both for everything he has said and everything he has not said.
— Voltaire: letter to Bertin de Rocheret (1732)
- I am supposing, or perhaps only hoping, that our future may be found in the past’s fugitive moments of compassion rather than in its solid centuries of warfare.
— Howard Zinn: *A People’s History Of The United States 1492–Present* (rev. ed., 1995)
- Standing in the grocery check-out, looking at the pop culture magazines, wondering just who the hell these people are and why would anyone care anyway is more evidence that I am gradually turning into my parents...
- All free governments are managed by the combined wisdom and folly of the people.
— James A. Garfield (1831–1881)
- The first law of repartee: Better never than late.
— Anonymous

- I might say, in default of a better expression, that music ought always to be playable and audible. The composer will understand this only when he lives constantly in the actual presence of music. On this point the case of Bach is profoundly illustrative.
— Carlos Chavez: *Toward A New Music* (1937)
- The Master said, At fifteen, I had the will to learn; at thirty, I could stand; at forty, I had no doubts; at fifty, I understood the heavenly Bidding; at sixty, my ears were opened; at seventy, I could do as my heart lusted without trespassing from the square.
— Confucius [孔子 (or 孔丘 or 孔夫子 ?)] (551 BCE–479 BCE)
- At twenty a man is full of fight and hope. He wants to reform the world. When he's seventy he still wants to reform the world, but he knows he can't.
— Clarence Darrow, 1936
- Sometimes we forget that music is not something fixed by the written note but something to be re-created rather than reproduced.
— Bruno Turner: album notes on an old LP [MHS4608] (1978)
- Corruptissima republica plurimae leges.
[When the republic is at its most corrupt the laws are most numerous.] — Publius Cornelius Tacitus (ca. 56–ca. 117)
- Let schoolmasters puzzle their brain,
With grammar, and nonsense, and learning.
Good liquor, I stoutly maintain,
Gives genius a better discerning.
— Oliver Goldsmith: *She Stoops To Conquer* (1773)
- The older dramatists found their fun in obscenity; the modern employ innuendo, which marks a great advance in decorum.
— Aristotle: *The Nicomachean Ethics* (340 BCE)
- Two and two the mathematician continues to make four, in spite of the whine of the amateur for three, or the cry of the critic for five.
— James McNeill Whistler (1834–1903)
- The government of the world is carried on by sovereigns and statesmen, and not by anonymous paragraph writers or the hairbrained chatter of irresponsible frivolity.
— Benjamin Disraeli (1878)

- Bet nobody mentioned this in history class...



[United States Postal Savings System - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Postal_Savings_System)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Postal_Savings_System

The United States Postal Savings System was a postal savings system operated by the United States Postal Service from January 1, 1911 until July 1, 1967. The system paid depositors 2 percent annual interest...

- The next places that are filled, after the playhouses be emptied, are, or ought to be, taverns.

— Thomas Dekker: *The Gull's Hornbook* (1609)

- The performer who... works contrary to the composer's intentions, ought to contemplate the fact that the author of the work... has probably devoted considerably more attention to the place and duration of certain effects, to the design of his melody and rhythm, to the choice of chords and instruments, than the performer has in taking his own peculiar liberties.

— Hector Berlioz (1803-1869): *Treatise On Instrumentation*

- The haft of the arrow had been feathered with one of the eagle's own plumes. We often give our enemies the means of our own destruction.

— Aesop, c. 550 BCE

- If she can strike a low G or F like a death-rattle and a high F like the shriek of a little dog when you step on its tail, the house will resound with acclamations.

— Hector Berlioz: *À travers chants* (1862)

- A painter paints his pictures on canvas. But musicians paint their pictures on silence. We provide the music and you provide the silence.

— Leopold Stokowski (1882-1977)

- Life on the road can be a bitch.



[Moscow State Radio Symphony - On the Bus or on the Stage - NYTimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/04/arts/music/04symphony.html?hpw)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/04/arts/music/04symphony.html?hpw>

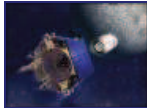
During its tours, the Moscow State Radio Symphony Orchestra endures conditions more typical for a low-level minor league baseball team than a group of highly trained classical musicians.

- I have a strong feeling that we are at the end of a civilization. Decadence lies in wait for us, it already has a hold on us. Our arts are on the decline; they are disappearing...
— Arthur Honegger: *Je suis compositeur* (1951)

- ...General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, who, having overturned the constitution of his country, now offers us the cruel alternative either to abandon our homes, acquired by so many privations, or submit to the most intolerable of all tyranny, the combined despotism of the sword and the priesthood.
— Declaration of Independence of the Republic of Texas, adopted March 2, 1836.

- What will a child learn sooner than a song?
— Alexander Pope: *The First Epistle Of The Second Book Of Horace* (1737)

- Wow - to both statements in that lead sentence...



BBC News - Ice deposits found at Moon's pole

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/8544635.stm>

A radar experiment aboard India's Chandrayaan-1 lunar spacecraft has identified thick deposits of water ice near the Moon's north pole.

- It definitely helps him. It gets him a lot more support from people who may not have heard of him.
— Kaylie Chriss (a registered Republican who says she is undecided on who to vote for), on Sarah Palin's recent campaign appearance in Tucson for John McCain, former Presidential candidate and U. S. Senator from Arizona since 1987
<http://www.reuters.com/assets/print?aid=USTRE62P57W20100327>
- List the differences if Helen had been carried off to Paris instead of by Paris.
— Richard Armour: *The Classics Reclassified* (1960)
- A doctor can bury his mistakes but an architect can only advise his client to plant vines.
— Frank Lloyd Wright (1867–1959)
- The two parties which divide the state, the party of conservatism and that of innovation, are very old, and have disputed the possession of the world ever since it was made. This quarrel is the subject of civil history.
— Ralph Waldo Emerson: *The Conservative* (1841)

- By our Apostolic authority we define and proclaim that the Indians, or any other peoples who may be hereafter discovered by Catholics, although they be not Christian, must in no way be deprived of their liberty or their possessions.
— Pope Paul III: Letter to the Archbishop of Toledo (1537)

- Pre-FDA, you know...



The little blue pills that sent Abraham Lincoln into a rage

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/science/science-news/7498117/The-little-blue-pills-that-sent-Abraham-Lincoln-into-a-rage.html>

The Blue Mass pills taken as antidepressants by Abraham Lincoln contained dangerously high levels of mercury likely to have caused his notoriously wild temper, scientists have found.

- Actors are carnies with good teeth. Craig Ferguson: *The Late Show with Craig Ferguson* (aired on CBS, 2010-Feb-12)
- When logic and proportion have fallen sloppy dead
And the white knight is talking backwards
And the red queen's "Off with her head"
Remember what the dormouse said...
— Grace Slick: *White Rabbit* (1966)
- A musical score is a statement about organization; it is a set of devices for organizing behavior toward producing sounds.
— Brian Eno: *Generating And Organizing Variety In The Arts* (1976)
- You can't always get what you want
But if you try sometime, yeah,
You just might find you get what you need!
— Michael Phillip Jagger & Keith Richard (1968)
- ...for any Speech or Debate in either House, they [Senators and Representatives] shall not be questioned in any other Place.
— Constitution of the United States, Article I, section 6
- There are three difficulties in authorship: to write anything worth the publishing — to find honest men to publish it — and to get sensible men to read it.
— C. C. Colton: *Lacon* (1820)

- procrastination is the art of keeping up with yesterday
— Don Marquis (1878–1937): certain maxims of archy. *archy and mehitabel*
- I would be willing to set even a newspaper or a letter, etc. to music, but in the theater the public will stand for anything except boredom. — Giuseppe Verdi: letter to Antonio Somma (1854)
- You raise your voice when you should reinforce your argument.
— Samuel Johnson (1709–1784)
- Wise men, if they try to speak their language to the common herd instead of its own, cannot possibly make themselves understood.
— Jean-Jacques Rousseau: *On The Social Contract* (1762)
- It is possible to spell a word correctly by chance, or because someone prompts you, but you are a scholar only if you spell it correctly because you know how.
— Aristotle: *Nicomachean Ethics* (ca. 340 BCE)
- We must teach music in schools; a schoolmaster ought to have skill in music, or I would not regard him; neither should we ordain young men as preachers unless they have been well exercised in music.
— Martin Luther: *Table-Talk* (1569)
- Do not believe what your teacher tells you merely out of respect for the teacher. — Siddhārtha Gautama [सिद्धार्थ गौतम], generally called Buddha (ca. 563 BCE ?–ca. 483 BCE ?)
- It is common sense to take a method and try it. If it fails, admit it frankly and try another. But above all, try something.
— Franklin Delano Roosevelt: speech at Oglethorpe University (1932)
- Dancing is the loftiest, the most moving, the most beautiful of the arts, because it is no mere translation or abstraction from life; it is life itself.
— Havelock Ellis: *The Dance of Life* (1923)
- an optimist is a guy that has never had much experience
— Don Marquis (1878–1937): certain maxims of archy. *archy and mehitabel*
- I have wasted an hour of your time.
— Glenn Beck: broadcast, Fox News Channel (2010–March–9)

- People generally overrate a fine actor's genius, and underrate his trained skill. They are apt to credit him with a power of intellectual conception and poetic creation to which he has really a slight claim, and fail to recognize all the difficulties which his artistic training has enabled him to master.
— G. H. Lewes: *On Actors and the Art of Acting* (1875)
- Each of us is aware, if he looks back upon his own history, that he was a theologian in his childhood, a metaphysician in his youth, and a natural philosopher in his manhood.
— Auguste Comte: *Cours de philosophie positive* (1830)
- I, too, played the organ frequently in my youth, but my nerves could not withstand the power of this gigantic instrument. I should place an organist who is master of his instrument at the very head of all virtuosi.
— Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)
- Teachers are greater benefactors than parents.
— Pope Saint Sixtus [Xystus] I: *The Ring* (ca. 125?)
- What nobler employment, or more valuable to the state, than that of the man who instructs the rising generation?
— Cicero: *De devinatione* (ca. 78 BCE)
- 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 (1888-1965)
- Good pitching will always stop good hitting and vice-versa.
— Casey Stengel (1890-1975)
- We think our civilization near its meridian, but we are yet only at the cock-crowing and the morning star.
— Ralph Waldo Emerson: *Self-Reliance* (1841)
- You need three things in the theater—the play, the actors and the audience,—and each must give something.
— Kenneth Haigh (1931–)
- Nicely put—
[The Daily Star - Lebanon News - 'Yes' to secularism, 'Yes' to Lebanon](http://www.dailystar.com.lb/article.asp?edition_id=1&categ_id=1&article_id=114286#axzz0mLx2ggoq)
http://www.dailystar.com.lb/article.asp?edition_id=1&categ_id=1&article_id=114286#axzz0mLx2ggoq
The Leading English Language Newspaper in the Middle-East

- I never learned to verbalize an abstract musical concept. No thank you. The whole point of being a serious musician is to avoid verbalization whenever you can.
— Virgil Thomson (1896–1989)
- IT'S A TWO-FER!
I know of no pursuit in which more real and important services can be rendered to any country than by improving its agriculture, its breed of useful animals, and other branches of a husbandman's cares.
— George Washington: letter to John Sinclair (1794)
-AND-
With the introduction of agriculture mankind entered upon a long period of meanness, misery, and madness, from which they are only now being freed by the beneficent operation of the machine.
— Bertrand Russell: *The Conquest Of Happiness* (1930)
- Miles couldn't play like Louis because the sound would interfere with his thoughts. Miles had to start with almost no sound and then develop one as he went along, a sound suitable for the ideas he wanted to express. He couldn't afford to trust those thoughts to an old means of expression. If you remember, his sound now is much more highly developed than it was at first.
— Gil Evans (1912–1988)
- She was not quite what you would call refined. She was not quite what you would call unrefined. She was the kind of person that keeps a parrot.
— Mark Twain [Samuel L. Clemens]: *Following the Equator* (1897)
- The gambling known as business looks with austere disfavor on the business known as gambling.
— Ambrose Bierce (1842–1914?)
- The fundamental cause of trouble in the world today is that the stupid are cocksure while the intelligent are full of doubt.
— Bertrand Russell: Christian Ethics. *Marriage and Morals* (1950)
- In music, as I find myself forever saying, things don't get better or worse: they evolve and transform themselves.
— Luciano Berio (1925–2003)

- A man may devote himself to death and destruction to save a nation; but no nation will devote itself to death and destruction to save mankind.
— Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772–1834)
- The truest expression of a people is in its dances and its music. Bodies never lie.
— Agnes de Mille: in *New York Times Magazine* (1975-May-11)
- The applause of the crowd makes the head giddy, but the attestation of a reasonable man makes the heart glad.
— Richard Steele: *The Spectator* (1712-Oct-5)
- The height of art is to conceal art.
— Quintilian: *De institutione oratoria* (ca. 90)
- To desire to have many books, and never use them, is like the child that will have a candle burning by him all the while he is sleeping.
— Henry Peacham: *The Compleat Gentleman* (1622)
- We know the crimes that fanaticism in religion has caused; let us be careful not to introduce fanaticism in philosophy.
— Frederick the Great: Letter to Voltaire (ca. 1775)
- Every reform movement has a lunatic fringe.
— Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919)
- Modern art is what happens when painters stop looking at pretty girls and persuade themselves that they have a better idea.
— John Anthony Ciardi (1916-1986)
- The objective of each team is to win by scoring more runs than the opponent.
— The Official Rules of Baseball 1.02
- The mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation.
— Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862)
- What is not good for the hive is not good for the bees.
— Marcus Aurelius (121-180)

- Do you see that kitten chasing so prettily her own tail? If you could look with her eyes, you might see her surrounded with hundreds of figures performing complex dramas, with tragic and comic issues, long conversations, many characters, many ups and downs of fate.
— Ralph Waldo Emerson: *Experience* (1841)
- The prima-donna, though a little old, And haggard with a dissipated life, And subject, when the house is thin, by cold, Has some good notes.
— Byron: *Don Juan* (1821)
- Errare humanum est, sed perseverare diabolicum.
[To err is human, but to persist (in the mistake) is diabolical.]
— Seneca the Younger (ca. 4 BCE–65 CE)
- The challenge of the next half century is whether we have the wisdom to use [our] wealth to enrich and elevate our national life—and to advance the quality of American civilization—for in your time we have the opportunity to move not only toward the rich society and the powerful society but upward to the Great Society.
— Lyndon B. Johnson: speech at University of Michigan (May 22, 1964)

- An excellent explanation of Facebook’s privacy problems.




[The Price of Facebook Privacy? Start Clicking - NYTimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/13/technology/personaltech/13basics.html?scp=1&sq=facebook)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/13/technology/personaltech/13basics.html?scp=1&sq=facebook>

Facebook’s new privacy policy requires users to go through a complex opt-out procedure if they wish to keep their information private.

- The secret of health for both mind and body is not to mourn for the past, worry about the future, or anticipate troubles, but to live in the present moment wisely and earnestly.
— Siddhārtha Gautama [सिद्धार्थ गौतम], generally called Buddha (ca. 563 BCE ?–ca. 483 BCE ?)
- Exaggeration of every kind is as essential to journalism as it is to the dramatic art, for the object of journalism is to make events go as far as possible.
— Arthur Schopenhauer: *On Some Forms Of Literature* (1851)
- There is nothing in the essence of man which makes his existence necessary; it may equally well happen that this or that man does or does not exist.
— Baruch Spinoza: *Ethica* (1677)

- It is the freeman who must win freedom for the slave; it is the wise man who must think for the fool; it is the happy who must serve the unhappy.
— Jean Paul Richter: *Hesperus* (1795)
- Heredity is an omnibus in which all our ancestors ride, and every now and then one of them puts his head out and embarrasses us.
— Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809–1894)
- No man will ever bring out of the Presidency the reputation which carries him into it.
— Thomas Jefferson: letter to Edward Rutledge (1796)
- Art in the native American mind enjoys the dubious importance attached to the Devil in the medieval mind.
— Alexander Harvey: William Dean Howells (1917)
- A Conservative government is an organized hypocrisy.
— Benjamin Disraeli (1804–1881)
- My nomination for unintentionally hilarious quote of the year:
GOP gubernatorial candidate Tim James said, “This is Alabama. We speak English.”
Who could tell?
- News?


[Facebook hit by security breach | The Sun | News](http://www.thescottishsun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/2961727/Facebook-hit-by-security-breach.html)
<http://www.thescottishsun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/2961727/Facebook-hit-by-security-breach.html>

She said users would have been performing a specific action with their privacy setting to be exposed and that hackers could only see pending friend requests they could not accept them.
- I am mortified to be told that, in the United States of America, the sale of a book can become the subject of inquiry, and of criminal inquiry too, as an offense against religion; that a question like this can be carried before the civil magistrate. Is this then our freedom of religion?
— Thomas Jefferson: letter to M. Dufief (1814)
- If you treat your beta-testers as if they’re your most valuable resource, they will respond by becoming your most valuable resource.
— Eric Steven Raymond: *The Cathedral and the Bazaar* (2000)

- No man, being forbidden to do so, shall converse with the wife of another man. But this shall not apply to the wives of actors.
— The Code of Manu, or Manusmriti (मनुस्मृति) (c. 100)
- Traveling makes men wiser, but less happy. When men of sober age travel, they gather knowledge which they may apply usefully for their country; but they are subject ever after to recollections mixed with regret; their affections are weakened by being extended over more objects; and they learn new habits which cannot be gratified when they return home.
— Thomas Jefferson: letter to Peter Carr (1787)
- Prejudice, not being founded on reason, cannot be removed by argument.
— Samuel Johnson (1709-1784)
- The sage sees difficulty even in what seems easy, and so never has any difficulties.
— Lao-tzu: *The Tao-te Ching* (c. 6th century BCE)
- Where there are many men together, and each one is looking after his own interest, the group would be broken up and scattered unless there were also someone to take care of what appertains to the common weal.
— Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274)
- Emily once again has the opportunity to do what she does better than anyone I know...



Chi la Galiarda + Concert Intro

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U5xuSJfsRc>

- I breathed a song into the air,
It fell to earth, I knew not where;
For who has sight so keen and strong,
That it can follow the flight of song?
— Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882): *The Arrow and the Song*
- The great revolution of the future will be nature's revolt against man.
— Holbrook Jackson (1874-1948)
- Some people have just enough religion to make them uncomfortable.
— John Wesley (1703-1791)
- There are two times in a man's life when he should not speculate: when he can't afford it, and when he can.
— Mark Twain: *Pudd'nhead Wilson's Calendar* (1897)



• ['It Doesn't Want to Be Kicked': Players Unhappy With Adidas World Cup Ball - SPIEGEL ONLINE - News -](http://www.spiegel.de/international/0,1518,698078,00.html#ref=nlint)

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/0,1518,698078,00.html#ref=nlint>

Players have been especially harsh in their assessments of this year's World Cup ball, designed as usual by Adidas. This time it's just not the usual gang of goalkeepers crying foul — some strikers from favored nations talk as if the ball is possessed.

- In matters of principle, stand like a rock; in matters of taste, swim with the current.
— Thomas Jefferson (1743–1826)
- The art of drawing is of more real importance to the human race than that of writing, because people can hardly draw anything without being of some use both to themselves and others, and can hardly write anything without wasting their own time and that of others.
— John Ruskin: *Modern Painters* (1856)
- oh, yeah...




• [Symphonic Sewage: Waste-Treatment Plant Plays Mozart to Microbes - SPIEGEL ONLINE - News - Internati](http://www.spiegel.de/international/zeitgeist/0,1518,698040,00.html)

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/zeitgeist/0,1518,698040,00.html>

A sewage plant near Berlin is playing Mozart to its biomass-eating microbes, hoping the sweet sounds will make them work harder. The Austrian composer may save the facility as much as 1,000 euros a month.

- Aiphrades ridiculed the tragedians for using phrases which no one would employ in ordinary speech: for example, $\delta\omega\mu\alpha\tau\omega\nu$ $\alpha\pi\omicron$ instead of $\alpha\pi\omicron$ $\delta\omega\mu\alpha\tau\omega\nu$, ... Αχιλλεως περι instead of περι Αχιλλεως , and the like. It is precisely because such phrases are not part of the current idiom that they give distinction to the style. This, however, he failed to see.
— Aristotle: *Poetics* [trans. by Samuel Henry Butcher (1850–1910)]
- It is difficult to be quiet if you have nothing to do.
— Arthur Schopenhauer (1788–1860)
- Many sweating, ploughing, thrashing, and then the chaff for payment receiving,
A few idly owning, and they the wheat continually claiming.
— Walt Whitman: *Song Of Myself* (first of many differing editions, published in 1855)
<http://rpo.library.utoronto.ca/poem/2288.html>
- Patriotism is your conviction that this country is superior to all others countries because you were born in it.
— George Bernard Shaw (1856–1950)
- It isn't what people think that is important, but the reason they think what they think.
— Eugène Ionesco (1909–1994)

- Mammon led them on —
Mammon, the least erected spirit that fell
From Heaven; for even in Heaven his looks and thoughts
Were always downward bent: admiring more
The riches of Heaven's pavement, trodden gold,
... Than aught divine or holy else enjoyed
In beatific vision.
— John Milton: *Paradise Lost* (1667)
- Bigotry may be roughly defined as the anger of men who have no opinions.
— G. K. Chesterton (1874–1936)
- If you cannot answer a man's argument, all it not lost; you can still call him vile names.
— Elbert Hubbard (1856–1915)
- The conspicuously wealthy turn up urging the character-building value of privation for the poor.
— John K. Galbraith (1908–2006)
- Beggars do not envy millionaires, though of course they will envy other beggars who are more successful.
— Bertrand Russell (1872–1970)
- Il faut cultiver notre jardin.
[We must cultivate our garden.]
— Voltaire: *Candide* (1759)
- Saw the latest Shrek installment tonight. Not a bad flick, but why are all movies so damned loud these days? Or do I just need a different cinemaplex?
- There is danger in reckless change; but greater danger in blind conservation.
— Henry George (1839–1897)
- Iron rusts from disuse; stagnant water loses its purity, and in cold weather becomes frozen; even so does inaction sap the vigours of the mind.
— Leonardo da Vinci (1425–1519)
- 

[Why Facebook is losing its friends - thestar.com](http://www.thestar.com/news/gta/article/811880—why-facebook-is-losing-its-friends)
http://www.thestar.com/news/gta/article/811880—why-facebook-is-losing-its-friends
That's because they're concerned not only about privacy and protecting their online identities, but also because Facebook is attempting profit from their personal data.
- Pasteurization consists of heating the milk to 145°F for thirty minutes. This heating changes the taste of milk very little, and is therefore preferred to boiling. It does not destroy all bacteria, but it does destroy the disease bacteria which are sometimes found in milk—typhoid, diphtheria, tuberculosis.
— Jessie W. Harris and Elisabeth V. Lacey: *Everyday Foods* (1927)

- possibly of interest to some of you...



[ReclaimPrivacy.org Helps Solve Facebook Privacy Issues - by PC Magazine](http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2363922,00.asp)

<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2363922,00.asp>

It's difficult to keep track of Facebook's well-over-a-dozen privacy settings, menus, and options, many of which are in difficult to find places and named such that it's difficult to tell what they really do. Enter ReclaimPrivacy.org's Facebook Privacy Scanner...

- All my life, I always wanted to be somebody. Now I see that I should have been more specific.
— Jane Wagner: *The Search For Intelligent Life In The Universe* (1993)
- Men never do evil so completely and cheerfully as when they do it from religious conviction.
— Blaise Pascal 1623–1662)
- The true Southern watermelon is a boon apart, and not to be mentioned with commoner things. It is chief of the world's luxuries, king by the grace of God over all the fruits of the earth. When one has tasted it, he knows what the angels eat. It was not a Southern watermelon that Eve took; we know it because she repented.
— Mark Twain: *Pudd'nhead Wilson's Calendar* (ca. 1895)
- If I always told you the truth, I wouldn't need you to trust me.
— Steven Moffat: *Flesh and Stone. Doctor Who*, episode no. 206 (2010)
- As recently as 1932, Chinese were couldn't vote in California, Idaho, Nevada, and Oregon. Paupers couldn't vote in 10 states. Florida and Michigan held the franchise from duelists. In Arkansas, Indiana, Montana, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, and West Virginia, those disenfranchised included U.S. soldiers, sailors and Marines.
— data collected from *The Volume Library* (1932), p. 366-369
- O, it is excellent
To have a giant's strength; but it is tyrannous
To use it like a giant.
— William Shakespeare: *Measure for Measure* (1604)
- Yee-haw!
[The Daily Star - Lebanon News - Rodeo show to give Lebanon a taste of Wild West](http://www.dailystar.com.lb/article.asp?edition_id=1&categ_id=1&article_id=116536)
http://www.dailystar.com.lb/article.asp?edition_id=1&categ_id=1&article_id=116536
The Leading English Language Newspaper in the Middle-East
- We should realize in a vivid and revolutionary sense that we are not in our bodies but our bodies are in us.
— Ruth St. Denis (1879–1968)
- I don't want any yes-men around me. I want everybody to tell me the truth even if it costs them their .
— Samuel Goldwyn (1879–1974)

- “Red” professors are frequently distinguished from the old reactionary professors, not by a firmer backbone, but by a profounder illiteracy.
— Leon Trotsky: *The Permanent Revolution* (1930)
- No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.
— Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 5 (1948)
- The indefatigable pursuit of an unattainable perfection, even though it consist in nothing more than in the pounding of an old piano, is what alone gives a meaning to our life on this unavailing star.
— Logan Pearsall Smith: *Afterthoughts* (1931)
- Q: Hey, old man! How was life different way back when?
A: My first year at North Texas, my apartment cost \$35.00 / month...
- Everything happens to everybody sooner or later if there is time enough.
— George Bernard Shaw: *Back to Methuselah* (1921)
- There's only two possibilities: There is life out there in the universe which is smarter than we are, or we're the most intelligent life in the universe. Either way, it's a mighty sobering thought.
— Walt Kelly (1913–1973): *Pogo* [comic strip]
- After the kiss comes the impulse to throttle,
Break the embraces, dance while you can.
— W. H. Auden: *O Who Can Ever Gaze His Fill* (1937)
- The lunatic, the lover, and the poet,
Are of imagination all compact.
— William Shakespeare: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (1594?)
- Happy Midsummer!



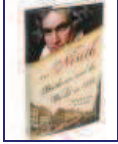
[BBC News - Revellers at Stonehenge to celebrate Summer Solstice](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/england/wiltshire/10362534.stm)

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/england/wiltshire/10362534.stm>

Revellers are at Stonehenge to mark the Summer Solstice, each hoping to catch a glimpse of the sunrise.

- In this world the wise one holds onto confidence and wisdom. Those are the greatest treasures; all other riches are pushed aside.
— Siddhārtha Gautama [सिद्धार्थ गौतम], generally called Buddha (ca. 563 BCE ?–ca. 483 BCE ?)
- ...a system on a public network that runs an authentication service modified to allow passwordless and unsecured logins for root will most likely get hacked and compromised within less than 42 seconds.
— Klaus Knopper (creator of the Knoppix distribution of Linux): interview in *Linux Pro* magazine (October, 2009)

- Possibly of great interest to some of you



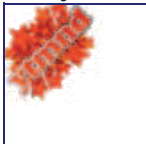
[Books of The Times - Harvey Sachs's 'Ninth - Beethoven and the World in 1824' -](#)

[NYTimes.com](#)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/06/18/books/18book.html>

Harvey Sachs's book puts Beethoven's Ninth Symphony in historical context and analyzes it in detail.

- All of Jefferson is humanism, writ large in his own marvelous prose.
— Gore Vidal, interview published in *The Humanist*, Jan/Feb 2010
- Pile up gold, heap up silver, build covered walks, fill your house with slaves and the town with debtors; unless you lay to rest the passions of the soul and put a curb on your insatiable desires and rid yourself of fear and anxiety, you are but pouring out wine for a man in a fever, and giving honey to a man who is bilious...
— Plutarch [Πλούταρχος] (ca.46–120): *Moralia*
- Ninety-nine per cent of the people in the world are fools and the rest of us are in great danger of contagion.
— Thornton Wilder: *The Matchmaker* (1954)
- well done. really, really well done...
sorry about the attempted ads.



[YTMND - Carmina Burana, alternate lyrics](#)

<http://carmina.ytmnd.com/>

- It is by the fortune of God that, in this country, we have three benefits: freedom of speech, freedom of thought, and the wisdom never to use either.
— Samuel L. Clemens [Mark Twain] (1835–1910)
- A scientific truth does not triumph by convincing its opponents and making them see the light, but rather because its opponents eventually die and a new generation grows up that is familiar with it.
— Max Planck (1858–1947)
- I always like to say that watching the Tony Awards reminds me why I'm not in the business anymore. :-)
Quote of the day: Everything Angela Lansbury said tonight, bold-faced and in caps!
- Ships are safe in harbor, but they were never meant to stay there.
— unknown

- In that same year [1850] Chicago heard its first opera at Rice's Theatre, or a part of its first opera, for the season was only half an hour in length. The opera was *Sonnambula*, and at the close of the first act the audience was dismissed because the theatre was on fire.
— Louis C. Elson: *The History Of American Music* (1904)
- Viler than unbelievers are those cruel ones who make the law that teaches killing.
— Acharya Hemacandra: *The Yogasastra* 2,37 (12th century)
- We would worry less about what others think of us if we realized how seldom they do.
— Ethel Barrett (1914–)
- I told my kids, "Someday, you'll have kids of your own." One of them said, "So will you."
— Rodney Dangerfield (1921–2004)
- We should therefore claim, in the name of tolerance, the right not to tolerate the intolerant.
— Karl Popper: *The Open Society and Its Enemies* (1945)



• [A Secretive Family's Success: What Makes the Aldi Discount Empire Tick - SPIEGEL ONLINE - News - Int](http://www.spiegel.de/international/business/0,1518,709937,00.html)

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/business/0,1518,709937,00.html>

The death of Aldi co-founder Theo Albrecht marked the end of an era for Germany's largest discounter. The company has found success as it expands into foreign markets, including other European countries and the United States, but what does the future hold for the ultra-secretive grocery chain?

- The grim fact is that we prepare for war like precocious giants and for peace like retarded pygmies.
— Lester Pearson: speech in Toronto (1955)
- That's because they're farther north than we are, latitude-wise.
— overheard in airport terminal (2010)
- I have often regretted my speech, never my silence.
— Publilius Syrus (1st century BCE)
- Any tool should be useful in the expected way, but a truly great tool lends itself to uses you never expected.
— Eric Steven Raymond: *The Cathedral and the Bazaar*, v. 3.0 (2000)
- There is no great genius without a touch of dementia.
— Seneca: *De tranquillitate animi* (ca. 62)
- I'll tell you, son, the minority got us out-numbered!
— Walt Kelly (1913–1973): *Pogo* [comic strip]
- Freedom of the press, freedom of association, the inviolability of the domicile, and all the rest of the rights of man are respected only so long as no one tries to use them against the privileged classes. On the day they are launched against privilege they are thrown overboard.
— P. A. Kropotkin [Пётр Алексеевич Кропоткин]: *Paroles d'un révolté* (1884)

- A householder, by giving alms, gains the same reward in Heaven as a student who presents a cow to his teacher.
— The Code of Manu [मनुस्मृति] (ca. 100)
- It is better to make a piece of music than to perform one, better to perform one than to listen to one, better to listen to one than to misuse it as a means of distraction, entertainment, or acquisition of “culture.”
— John Cage (1912–1992)
- Those who come into a court of justice to seek redress must come with clean hands.
— Lord Kenyon: Judgment in *Petrie v. Hannay* (1789)
- Man is the Only Animal that Blushes. Or needs to.
— Mark Twain: *Pudd'nhead Wilson's Calendar* (1897)
- Men talk of killing time, while time quietly kills them.
— Dion Boucicault [Dionysius Lardner Boursiquot]: *London Assurance* (1841)
- A new race of men is springing up to govern the nation; they are the hunters after popularity, men ambitious, not of the honor so much as of the profits of office — the demagogues, whose principles hang laxly upon them, and who follow not so much what is right as what leads to a temporary vulgar applause.
— Joseph Story: *Commentaries on the Constitution of the United States* (1833)
- True patriotism does not exclude an understanding of the patriotism of others.
— Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom, etc., etc. (1926-)
- When the Napa Valley tour bus breaks down, do you call the AAA or AA?
- When you are deluded and full of doubt, even a thousand books of scripture are not enough. When you have realized understanding, even one word is too much.
— Fen Wang (9471024) [or T. S. Elliot, depending on which web site you view!]
- How can the bird that is born for joy
Sit in a cage and sing?
— William Blake (17571827)
- When two do the same thing it is never quite the same thing.
— Publius Syrus: *Sententiæ* (ca. 50 BCE)
- In order to see birds it is necessary to become a part of the silence.
— Robert Wilson Lynd (18791949)
- So the Sony laptop cost \$1200 two years ago.
The video 'card' died.
Sony's estimate to fix it? \$1100.
I don't think so, honey!
- There is always an easy solution to every human problem—neat, plausible, and wrong.
— H. L. Mencken (1880–1956)
- The hardest job kids face today is learning good manners without seeing any.
— Fred Astaire (1899–1987)

- Now this religion happens to prevail
Until by that religion overthrown,
Because men dare not live with men alone,
But always with another fairy-tale.
— Quatrain XXXVI from *The Diwan of Abu al-'Alā al-Ma'arri*
[بو العلاء أحمد بن عبد الله بن سليمان التنوخي المعري]
(973-1057) translated and compiled by Henry Baerlein [1909]
- The best system is to have one party govern and the other party watch.
— Thomas B. Reed: speech in the U. S. House of Representatives (1880, several years before he became Speaker)
- The world doesn't stop when you lose. I suffer over a loss like everyone else, but it's how soon you forget it and get going again that's important.
— Tom Landry (1924–2000)
- The spread of education adds to the writer's burdens by multiplying that pestilent fellow the critical reader.
— H. W. Fowler: *A Dictionary Of Modern English Usage* (1926, 1965)
- Revolutions in democracies are mainly the work of demagogues. Partly by persecuting men of property and partly by arousing the masses against them, they induce them to unite, for a common fear brings even enemies together.
— Aristotle: *Politics* (before 322 BCE)
- The young fellows of this age profit no more by their going abroad than they do by their going to church.
— John Vanbrugh: *The Relapse* (1696)
- Sony recently announced its PCM-1 to the consumer market. Designed for audiophile and semi-professional use, the PCM-1 uses pulse-code modulation technology to produce high-quality audio tapes. The device digitally encodes a sound source and writes onto a standard Betamax video recorder, U-matic, or other (NTSC) video recorder... Suggested retail price is \$4000.
— *Computer Music Journal*, Vol. II no. 4 (1978)
- Always nice when someone has a clue...
<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/05/opinion/05krugman.html>
- We, like parted drops or rain,
Swelling till they meet and run,
Shall be all absorbed again,
Melting, flowing into one.
— Christopher Pearse Cranch (1813–1892): *Gnosis*
- I feel much alarmed at the prospect of seeing General Jackson President. He is one of the most unfit men I know of for such a place.
— Thomas Jefferson: to Daniel Webster (1824)

- Be ours the task ambitious to restrain,
And this great lesson teach—that kings are vain;
That warring realms to certain ruin haste,
That kings subsist by war, and wars are waste:
So shall our nation, form'd on Virtue's plan
... Remain the guardian of the Rights of Man,
A vast Republic, famed through every clime,
Without a king, to see the end of time.
—Philip Freneau (1752–1832): On Mr. Paine's *Rights Of Man*
- The ships hung in the sky in much the same way that bricks don't.
— Douglas Adams (1952–2001): *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* [radio and TV scripts, books, movies, etc.]
- ...even if we ourselves do not learn in time the knack of living together in large numbers, and solving the problems that our best gifts create, at least the future archaeologist will find it written that our century, coming after a time of systematic mechanism, proclaimed in a hundred ways that men have minds, and that purposeless work is not for the sane.
— Jacques Barzun: *Darwin, Marx, Wagner* (1941)
- The only difference between comedy and tragedy is the point of view.
— Howard Hawks (1896–1977)

- Very cool...



[National Jazz Museum Acquires Savory Collection - NYTimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/17/arts/music/17jazz.html)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/17/arts/music/17jazz.html>

An audio engineer's pioneering recordings of live radio broadcasts, all but unheard for decades, include inspired performances by the most honored names in swing.

- Pretentious quotations being the surest road to tedium.
— H. W. Fowler & F. G. Fowler: *The King's English* (1906)
- One should as a rule respect public opinion in so far as is necessary to avoid starvation and to keep out of prison, but anything that goes beyond this is voluntary submission to an unnecessary tyranny.
— Bertrand Russell: *The Conquest of Happiness* (1930)
- I do not like that man. I must get to know him better.
— Abraham Lincoln, quoted by Alfred Fletcher Conard: *Costs of Administering Reparation for Work Injuries in Illinois* (1952)
- Saw *Annie Get Your Gun* at Ravinia tonight, starring Patti LuPone, Patrick Cassidy, and George Hearn as Buffalo Bill. No matter how small the role, it is always a pleasure and an artistic joy to see a talented, experienced gentleman like George perform. Mr. Cassidy was also quite good.

- Technology is just a tool. In terms of getting the kids working together and motivating them, the teacher is the most important.

— Bill Gates: For The Record in *The Independent* (1997-Oct-12)

- Dogs have owners. Cats have staff.

— unknown

- At last! I've been doing *something* right...

:-)



Beer-like pour best for champagne

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-10953131>

Study shows it is best to pour champagne down the inside of the glass “like beer” to maximise its flavour.

- For years a secret shame destroyed my peace—

I'd not read Eliot, Auden or MacNeice.

But then I had a thought that brought me hope—

Neither had Chaucer, Shakespeare, Milton, Pope.

— Justin Richardson: *Take Heart, Illiterates* (1966)

- The man who leaves money to charity in his will is only giving away what no longer belongs to him.

— Voltaire (1694–1778)

- Freiheit ist immer nur Freiheit des anders Denkenden.

[Freedom is always and exclusively freedom for the one who thinks differently.]

— Rosa Luxemburg: *Die Russische Revolution* (1918)

- You campaign in poetry. You govern in prose.

— Mario Cuomo: in *New Republic* magazine (1985 April 8)

- Suppose...that Lenin had died of typhus in Siberia in 1895 and Hitler had been killed on the western front in 1916. What would the twentieth century have looked like now?

— Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr.: *The Cycles of American History* (1986)

- Someone else finally noticed...

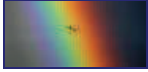


Op-Ed Columnist - The Flimflam Man - NYTimes.com

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/06/opinion/06krugman.html>

The Beltway crowd gets fooled again, this time by Representative Paul Ryan's plan for a major overhaul of federal spending and taxes.

- Airplane in front of a rainbow. Nice.



Picture This: Over the Rainbow - SPIEGEL ONLINE - News - International

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/0,1518,710595,00.html>

Daily news, analysis and opinion from Europe's leading newsmagazine and Germany's top news Web site.

- Take away from English authors their copyrights, and you would very soon take away from England her authors.

— Anthony Trollope: *Autobiography* (1883)

[The U. S. did not grant English authors copyright protection until 1891—and then only if the work was physically published in America, not in Britain. This restriction was finally removed in 1986. Yep. Twenty-four years ago!]

- Nulla placere diu nec vivere carmina possunt

Quae scribuntur aquae potoribus.

[No verse can give pleasure for long, nor last, that is written by drinkers of water.]

— Horace (65–8 BCE): *Epistles* I:19

- Worthwhile information. Always good to listen to those who have a clue...

Social Security is sustainable

http://www.epi.org/analysis_and_opinion/entry/social_security_is_sustainable/

On May 26, 2010, economist Monique Morrissey attested to the sustainability of Social Security at the House Democratic Caucus' Seniors Task Force Roundtable. Her full prepared remarks are below.

- The Master said, When not in office discuss not policy.

— Confucius [孔子] (551 BCE?–479 BCE?): *Analects*

- It is wonderful and gratifying to know that touring companies are still doing this sort of charitable work 25 years after I last participated in this kind of thing.

It is depressing and terrifying to realize that touring companies still need to do this sort of charitable work 25 years after I last participated in this kind of thing.

<sigh>



Witches' Night Off | ThirdCoast Digest

<http://thirdcoastdigest.com/2010/08/witches-night-off/>

The cast of *Wicked* stripped the stage bare to sing and dance through standards and raise money for the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin.

- Facts are more interesting when you make them up.

— Jerry Scott & Rick Kirkman: *Baby Blues* [comic strip] (2010-Mar-16)

- Manicheans tended to see good and evil as equal opposed forces, while Chalcedonian Christianity asserted the omnipotence of the good God and the ultimate subordination of evil; Nestorians believed that Christ had two separate natures, human and divine, while Chalcedonian Christianity argued that the two natures were distinct but mystically combined...

— Susan Wise Bauer: *The History of the Medieval World* (2010)

- Paranoia strikes deep

Into your life it will creep

— Stephen A. Stills: *For What It's Worth* (1967)



[Web users in the United Arab Emirates have more to worry about than having just their BlackBerries cracked](http://www.slate.com/id/2265204/)

<http://www.slate.com/id/2265204/>

The United Arab Emirates continues to wrestle with Research in Motion over government access to BlackBerry messages, threatening to ban the company's services if it doesn't severely weaken the anti-snooping protections on its smartphones. But years before...

- The government of the United States of America is not in any sense founded on the Christian Religion...

— Treaty of Tripoli, ratified by the United States Senate on June 10, 1797, and signed by President John Adams



[Trademark deception deployed on behalf of tax cuts - The Irish Times - Sat, Aug 28, 2010](http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/finance/2010/0828/122427775456.html?sms_ss=facebook)

http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/finance/2010/0828/122427775456.html?sms_ss=facebook

OPINION: How can a giveaway to America's richest be justified at a time when budget deficits prevail?

- He harms himself who does harm to another, and the evil plan is most harmful to the planner.

— Hesiod [Ἡσίοδος]: *Works and Days* (ca. 700 BCE)

- Just a thought: If *South Pacific* had been written in the 70s, ships carrying Nellie Forbush and Emile de Becque would have passed each other in the night and the finale would have been "This Nearly Was Mine."

- If I were an American, as I am Englishman, while a foreign troop was landed in my country, I never would lay down my arms—never, never, never!

— William Penn, speech to the House of Commons (1777)

- I...was brought into...direct contact with all the executives under whom I had the honor of... serving—Presidents Hayes, Garfield, Arthur, Cleveland and Harrison. They were all very appreciative of music, and in this respect were quite unlike General Grant, of whom it is said that he knew only two tunes, one of which was “Yankee Doodle” and the other wasn’t!
— John Philip Sousa (1854–1932): *The Experiences of a Bandmaster*
- Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred. We must forever conduct our struggle on the high plane of dignity and discipline... Again and again, we must rise to the majestic heights of meeting physical force with soul force.
— Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929–1968): speech delivered 28 August 1963 at the Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C.
- 1900—Total vote in Presidential election, Texas: 423,716.
1903—Poll tax instituted, Texas.
1904—Total vote in Presidential election, Texas: 281,188.
— data from *Texas Almanac*, 1998/1999 edition
- There is no more miserable human being than one in whom nothing is habitual but indecision.
— William James: *The Principles of Psychology* (1890)
- Conductors must give unmistakable and suggestive signals to the orchestra—not choreography to the audience.
— George Szell (1897–1970)
- Excellent, wide-ranging interview...
[SPIEGEL Interview with Günter Grass: The Nobel Prize Doesn't Inhibit Me in My Writing - SPIEGEL ONLINE](http://www.spiegel.de/international/zeitgeist/0,1518,712715,00.html)
<http://www.spiegel.de/international/zeitgeist/0,1518,712715,00.html>
In a SPIEGEL interview, Nobel Prize-winning German author Günter Grass talks about why he doesn't fear death, the missed opportunities of German reunification and why he thinks the Brothers Grimm had “oral sex with vowels.”
- Reviewers are like sextons, who, in a charnel-house, can tell you to what John Thompson or to what Tom Matthews such a skull or such belonged—but who wishes to know?
— Horace Walpole: letter to William Cole (1778)
- ah, those clever Brits :-)
[What are the Republicans trying to hide behind the Ground Zero Mosque? | Tom Mendelsohn | Independent](http://blogs.independent.co.uk/2010/08/20/what-are-the-republicans-trying-to-hide-behind-the-ground-zero-mosque/)
<http://blogs.independent.co.uk/2010/08/20/what-are-the-republicans-trying-to-hide-behind-the-ground-zero-mosque/>
North America has been consumed by one story and one story alone these past few weeks: the so-called - and mis-named - 'Ground Zero Mosque'. On the other...
- Much learning does not teach a man to have intelligence.
— Heraclitus (ca 540–ca 480 BCE)

- Interesting.



[German Climatologist on Criticism of IPCC: We Received a Kick in the Pants - SPIEGEL](#)

ONLINE - News

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/0,1518,712113,00.html#ref=rss>

German physicist Hans Joachim Schellnhuber is one of Angela Merkel's advisers on climate change. In an interview with SPIEGEL, he discusses extreme weather events, global warming's winners and losers, and the effects of the crisis of confidence in climate research.

- Why waste money on psychotherapy when you can listen to the B Minor Mass?
— Michael Torke (1990)
- The early days in Paris, when I was still on stage. The complete (i.e., old) overture with the BIG orchestration. Absolute luxury. Stephen Bates conducting. Courtesy of Karen Prunzik...



[Karen Prunzik \(Prunzik\) 42nd St AUDITION DANCE](#)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hRT9-23Fj64>

Karen Prunzik performs as "Anytime Annie," the role she originated in Gower Champion's Broadway production of *42nd Street*. This opening number clip is from the first European tour where Karen was the only original Broadway cast member. The performance takes place at the Chatelet Theater in Paris ...

- Writing music is my one and only passion and joy.
— Wolfgang A. Mozart: letter to his father (1777)
- What I did in the 90s...



[42nd Street ~ Ballet ~ European Tour](#)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZlz9aZCfp4>

Amsterdam pt. 1



[In The Know: Are Tests Biased Against Students Who Don't Give A Shit?](#)

<http://www.theonion.com/video/in-the-know-are-tests-biased-against-students-who,17966/>

Panelists discuss the many ways in which our educational system caters to students who try, care, are awake.

- Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel.
— Samuel Johnson (1709–1784)
- What??? He thought he was in Paris???



[Sveriges Radio - Discretion The Key When Having A Pee | Sveriges Radio](http://sverigesradio.se/cgi-bin/isidorpub/PrinterFriendlyArticle.asp?ProgramID=2054&Format=1&artikel=4048241)

<http://sverigesradio.se/cgi-bin/isidorpub/PrinterFriendlyArticle.asp?ProgramID=2054&Format=1&artikel=4048241>

A man caught urinating by a roadside has been freed by a Swedish court, in a case that could mean that the 5000 Swedes caught annually for relieving themselves outside may not be taken to court, according to newspaper Metro.

- And I scored 100%.
Hmmm...

<http://features.pewforum.org/quiz/us-religious-knowledge/>

- Interesting...

[The Associated Press: Survey: Americans don't know much about religion](http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jhxJz5nrEDuOII9AR5QUtnImO44AD9IGMHQO3?docId=D9IGMHQO3)

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jhxJz5nrEDuOII9AR5QUtnImO44AD9IGMHQO3?docId=D9IGMHQO3>

A new survey of Americans' knowledge of religion found that atheists, agnostics, Jews and Mormons outperformed Protestants and Roman Catholics in answering questions about major religions, while many respondents could not correctly give the most basic tenets of their own faiths.

- Don't join the book burners. Don't think you are going to conceal thoughts by concealing evidence that they ever existed.
— Dwight D. Eisenhower: speech at Dartmouth College (1953 June 14)

- Oh, my! Such a relief!



[Emergency bra - Hindustan Times](http://www.hindustantimes.com/Emergency-bra/Article1-604171.aspx)

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/Emergency-bra/Article1-604171.aspx>

In 2009, Dr Elena Bodnar won the Ig Nobel Public Health Prize for her then-prototype invention, the 'Emergency Bra.'

- After a man passes sixty, his mischief is mainly in his head.
— E. W. Howe: *Sinner Sermons* (1926)
- A composer is a guy who goes around forcing his will on unsuspecting air molecules, often with the assistance of unsuspecting musicians.
— Frank Zappa (1940–1993): *The Real Frank Zappa Book* [co-written by Peter Occhiogrosso, 1989]

- When I put Campobello in Nova Scotia instead of New Brunswick, a Canadian commented that geography was not my province.

— Edwin Newman (1919–2010): *A Civil Tongue*

- Let's bring all the unspent stimulus money back. You know, the stimulus was supposed to create jobs in America and it hasn't.

— House Minority Leader John Boehner: Interview with CNN (September 23, 2010)

[R Dean Crocker](#) Actually, the CBO report last month estimated the 2nd quarter, 2010, effects of the ARRA: 1) raised real GDP 1.7–4.5%; 2) lowered unemployment rate 0.7–1.8%; 3) Increased number of employed by 1.4–3.3 million; 4) Increased number of “full-time-equivalent” jobs by 2.0–4.8 million, compared with what would have occurred otherwise.

[R Dean Crocker](#) IGNORANCE IS STRENGTH

— George Orwell: *Nineteen Eighty-four* (1949)

- This is OK, too...



[Eric Clapton, Steve Winwood - Crossroads](#)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TMR_3BJCmh8

Eric Clapton and Steve Winwood at the Crossroads Guitar Festival 2007, with Derek Trucks and Doyle Bramhall

- This is how it goes, Tom Jones!



[Robert Johnson- Crossroad](#)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yd60nl4sa9A>

delta blues music

- Some things are just WRONG. For example, Tom Jones singing “Crossroad” on Letterman tonight. Eeeeew!
- Thousands of candles can be lit from a single candle, and the life of the candle will not be shortened. Happiness never decreases by being shared.
 - Siddhārtha Gautama [सिद्धार्थ गौतम], generally called Buddha (ca. 563 BCE ?–ca. 483 BCE ?)
- I'm frankly sick and tired of the political preachers across this country telling me as a citizen that if I want to be a moral person, I must believe in 'A,' 'B,' 'C,' and 'D'... I am warning them today: I will fight them every step of the way if they try to dictate their moral convictions to all Americans in the name of conservatism.
 - Sen. Barry M. Goldwater: Congressional Record, September 16, 1961

- No guest is so welcome in a friend's house that he will not become a nuisance after three days.
 - Titus Maccius Plautus (254–184 BCE)
 Guests, like fish, begin to smell after three days.
 - Benjamin Franklin (1705–1790)
- Ignorance is the parent of fear.
 - Herman Melville: *Moby-Dick* (1851)
- In science it often happens that scientists say, “You know that’s a really good argument: my position is mistaken,” and then they actually change their minds and you never hear that old view from them again. They really do it. It doesn’t happen as often as it should,... (b)ut it happens every day. I cannot recall the last time something like that happened in politics or religion.
 - Carl Sagan: CSICOP address (1987)
- Somehow, this feels familiar...



[Aug 27, 2010 3:35am](https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=148981611798356)

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=148981611798356>

- Leave the matter of religion to the family altar, the church, and the private school, supported entirely by private contributions. Keep the church and the State forever separate.
 - Ulysses S. Grant (1875)
- An utterly fearless man is a far more dangerous comrade than a coward.
 - Herman Melville: *Moby-Dick* (1851)
- The best performance is one in which the conductor must do the least.
 - me, often
- Delaware will probably remain what it ever has been, a mere county of England, conquered indeed, and held under by force, but always disposed to counter-revolution.
 - Thomas Jefferson: letter to Bidwell (1806)
- ...people have always frightened and bored me, consequently I have been within my own shell.
 - Jackson Pollock (1929), as quoted in David Anfam: *Abstract Expressionism* (1990)
- Nemo enim fere saltat sobrius, nisi forte insanit...

[No one dances sober, unless he is insane.]

 - Marcus Tullius Cicero (106–43 BCE): *Pro Murena*
- When all men speak, no man hears.
 - James Kelly: *Complete Collection of Scottish Proverbs* (1721)
- Competitions are for horses, not artists.
 - Béla Bartók (1881–1945)

- Das war ein Vorspiel nur, dort wo man Bücher verbrennt, verbrennt man am Ende auch Menschen.
[That was only a prelude: where they burn books, they will ultimately also burn people.]
— Heinrich Heine: *Almansor* (1821)
- Books won't stay banned. They won't burn. Ideas won't go to jail. In the long run of history, the censor and the inquisitor have always lost. The only sure way against bad ideas is better ideas. The source of better ideas is freedom. The surest path to wisdom is liberal education.
— Alfred Whitney Griswold (1906–1963): *Essays On Education*
- Ich würde nur an einen Gott glauben, der zu tanzen verstünde.
[I would only believe in a God that knows how to dance.]
— Friedrich Nietzsche: *Also sprach Zarathustra* (1885)
- The story of the labor movement needs to be taught in every school in this land... America is a living testimonial to what free men and women, organized in free democratic trade unions can do to make a better life... we ought to be proud of it!
— Hubert Humphrey (1911–1978)
- Interesting article...
[Labor Day 2010: Obama Returns to Milwaukee to Make Case to Working Families - Working In These Times](#)
http://www.inthesetimes.com/working/entry/6397/labor_day_2010_huge_challenges_for_obama_labor/
In These Times features award-winning investigative reporting about corporate malfeasance and government wrongdoing, insightful analysis of national and international affairs, and sharp cultural criticism about events and ideas that matter.
- Only a fool would try to deprive working men and women of the right to join the union of their choice.
— Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890–1969)
- Art is never chaste. It ought to be forbidden to ignorant innocents, never allowed into contact with those not sufficiently prepared. Yes, art is dangerous. Where it is chaste, it is not art.
— Pablo Picasso (1881–1973)
- ...unless a people are educated and enlightened it is idle to expect the continuance of civil liberty, or the capacity for self-government.
— Texas Declaration of Independence (1836-March-02)
- It's so rare to get good news these days...



[Alcohol and Health: Why the Sober Die Sooner](#)

<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/Wellness/alcohol-abstainers-die-sooner/story?id=11524962>

While the debate over the possible health benefits of alcohol continues to rage, new research sheds light on why, and to what extent those who drink, live longer than their sober peers.

- It is fighting at a great disadvantage to fight those who have nothing to lose.
— Francesco Guicciardini: *Storia d'Italia* (1564)
- Foreign immigration, which in the past has added so much to the wealth, development of resources, and increase of power to the nation—the asylum of the oppressed of all nations—should be fostered and encouraged by a liberal and just policy.
— Republican National Platform (1864)
- I suppose some editors are failed writers; but so are most writers.
— T. S. Eliot (1888–1965)
- Yes. You need to read this. All of it. Really.

[t r u t h o u t | Bill Moyers: “Welcome to the Plutocracy!”](http://www.truth-out.org/bill-moyers-money-fights-hard-and-it-fights-dirty64766?print)

<http://www.truth-out.org/bill-moyers-money-fights-hard-and-it-fights-dirty64766?print>

I was honored when you asked me to join in celebrating Howard Zinn’s life and legacy. I was also surprised. I am a journalist, not a historian. The difference between a journalist and an historian is that the historian knows the difference. George Bernard Shaw once complained that journalists are...

- What is the matter with Kansas?
— W.A. White: Editorial in the *Emporia Gazette* (1896-Aug-15)

[For Kansas GOP, sweep presents opportunities and challenges - KansasCity.com](http://www.kansascity.com/2010/11/03/2390976/for-kansas-gop-sweep-presents.html)

<http://www.kansascity.com/2010/11/03/2390976/for-kansas-gop-sweep-presents.html>

TOPEKA — It was a slaughter, and that red you see is the lifeblood of the Kansas Democratic Party. On Election Day, Republicans won all four of the state’s U.S. House seats and the second U.S. Senate seat. All six statewide offices. And they ousted 16 Democratic state lawmakers, including five of...

- Harummp!

[Daily Kos: Surprise! Tea Party dumps Constitution to fight culture wars](http://shar.es/0QyVp)

<http://shar.es/0QyVp>

It’s a new day in America, where the teaheadist wing of the Republican Party has taken over the House of Representatives, so of course in the coming months we can expect a speedy return to “fiscal responsibility, constitutionally limited government and free markets,” right?



- **[Photographer sues state of Texas over use of cowboy image on millions of vehicle inspection stickers](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1326217/Photographer-sues-state-Texas-use-cowboy-image-millions-vehicle-inspection-stickers.html)**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1326217/Photographer-sues-state-Texas-use-cowboy-image-millions-vehicle-inspection-stickers.html>

David K. Langford says he took the image of a saddle-toting cowboy in 1984 and subsequently owns the copyright.

- \$167,500,000—Total 2010 Appropriations, National Endowment for the Arts.
\$163,000,000—Total expenditures (as of Thursday, Oct. 21, 2010), Meg Whitman’s California GOP gubernatorial campaign.

Ever wonder what’s wrong with us?

(Sources: www.nea.gov/about/budget/AppropriationsHistory.html and www.politico.com/news/stories/1010/44014.html)

- It’s not the voting that’s democracy, it’s the counting.
— Tom Stoppard: *Jumpers* (1972)
- How to recognize biased reporting:
Age of consent in Italy is 14. How is this girl “underage” and “a minor?”



This Week’s Berlusconi Sex Scandal : The Two-Way : NPR

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=130998469>

The Italian Prime Minister says he did nothing wrong when he had police free a 17-year-old who had been arrested for theft. The girl had attended parties with sex games at his villa.

- Same crap 42 years ago?




George Wallace '68 Presidential TV Ad

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4RZ4G251WR4&feature=share>

The only remotely interesting thing about this spot is that the Key Bridge might be in it. What do you think?

- I’m not a member of any organized political party. I’m a Democrat!
— Will Rogers (1879-1935)
- Probably about 20 to 25 percent of the adult American population is so right-wing authoritarian, so scared, so self-righteous, so ill-informed, and so dogmatic that nothing you can say or do will change their minds... They will believe and do virtually anything they are told. They are not going to let up and they are not going to go away.
— Bob Altemeyer, quoted in John W. Dean: *Conservatives Without Conscience* (2006)
- Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality.
— Article 22, Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)
- Nec audiendi qui solent dicere, Vox populi, vox Dei, quum tumultuositas vulgi semper insaniae proxima sit.
[And those people should not be listened to who keep saying the voice of the people is the voice of God, since the riotousness of the crowd is always very close to madness.]
— Alcuin of York (c. 735-804)

- This year's mix for the trick-or-treaters:
Berio: *Visage*
Xenakis: *Polla ta dhina*
Stockhausen: *Gesang der Jünglinge*
- The flood of money that gushes into politics today is a pollution of democracy.
— Theodore H. White, quoted in *Time* magazine (1984–Nov–19)
- The umpire is the sole judge of play, and is entitled to the respect of the spectators, and any person hissing or booing at, or offering any insult or indignity to him, must be promptly ejected from the grounds.
— National League Constitution (1876)
- [We are] drawn to single-issue groups and special interest organizations to ensure that whatever else happens our own personal views and our own private interests are protected. This... tends to distort our purposes because the national interest is not always the sum of all our single or special interests. ...the common good is our common interest and our individual responsibility.
— Jimmy Carter: (1981-January-14)
- Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow-mindedness.
— Mark Twain (1835-1910)
- Yes. Please.

- [Is it OK to laugh at Ibsen? | Mark Fisher | Culture | guardian.co.uk](http://www.guardian.co.uk/culture/theatreblog/2010/oct/25/ibsen-laughing-funny-seriously)
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/culture/theatreblog/2010/oct/25/ibsen-laughing-funny-seriously>
Mark Fisher: We have tended to treat the Norwegian master's plays as solemn dramas, but have we been taking him too seriously?
- Finding good players is easy. Getting them to play as a team is another story.
— Casey Stengel (1890-1975)
- What is objectionable, what is dangerous about extremists is not that they are extreme, but that they are intolerant. The evil is not what they say about their cause, but what they say about their opponents.
— Robert F. Kennedy: *The Pursuit of Justice* (1964)
- We are confronted with insurmountable opportunities.
- Walt Kelly (1913 - 1973): *Pogo* (comic strip)
- Applause is the spur of noble minds, the end and aim of weak ones.
— Charles Caleb Colton: *Lacon* (1825)
- So Kim Jong-un has been named the next magical leader of the North Korean mysteries. Why have I heard no comedian refer to him as Kim "Young-'un?"
- I think for my part one half of the nation is mad — And the other not very sound.
— Tobias Smollett: *The Adventures Of Sir Launcelot Greaves* (1762)

- You can safely assume that you've created God in your own image when it turns out that God hates all the same people you do.
— Anne Lamott (1954–)
- Always remember, however, that there's usually a simpler and better way to do something than the first way that pops into your head.
— Donald E. Knuth: *TeXbook* (1984/1991)
- The penalty that good men pay for not being interested in politics is to be governed by men worse than themselves.
[OR — The chief penalty is to be governed by someone worse if a man will not himself hold office and rule.]
— Plato [Πλάτων] (c. 427 BCE–c. 347 BCE): *Republic*
- Oh — yeah...!



Neolithic Immigration: How Middle Eastern Milk Drinkers Conquered Europe - SPIEGEL ONLINE - News - I

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/zeitgeist/0,1518,723310,00.html>

New research has revealed that agriculture came to Europe amid a wave of immigration from the Middle East during the Neolithic period. The newcomers won out over the locals because of their sophisticated culture, mastery of agriculture — and their miracle food, milk.

- Never put off until run time what you can do at compile time.
— David Gries: *Compiler Construction for Digital Computers* (ca. 1969)
- Deism teaches us, without the possibility of being deceived, all that is necessary or proper to be known. The creation is the Bible of the Deist. He there reads, in the handwriting of the Creator Himself, the certainty of His existence, and the immutability of His power, and all other Bibles and Testaments are to him forgeries.
— Thomas Paine: *The Age Of Reason* (1794)
- People get the government their behavior deserves. People deserve better than that.
— Richard Stallman (1953–)
- To be willing to die for an idea is to set a rather high price on conjecture.
— Anatole France (1844–1924)
- And what is better than wisdom? Woman.
And what is better than a good woman? Nothing.
— Geoffrey Chaucer (ca 1343–1400): Tale Of Meliboeus [or Melibee]. *The Canterbury Tales*,
- The subject of every state ought to contribute toward the support of the government, as nearly as possible, in proportion to their respective abilities; that is, in proportion to the revenue which they respectively enjoy under the protection of the state.
— Adam Smith: *The Wealth Of Nations* (1776)

- When logic and proportion
Have fallen sloppy dead
And the White Knight is talking backwards
And the Red Queen's off with her head
Remember what the dormouse said
Feed your head
— Anyone? Quick now! Be the first! Reply off the top of your head!
- The noise of New Yorkers going about their business is a hell of a shock to the uninitiated. To this day when I visit New York City it seems to me that half the people on the street are overacting for an unseen audience or they've just seen one too many musicals.
— Craig Ferguson: *American On Purpose* (2009)
- Wie viele Freuden und Leiden in diesem kleinen Häuflein Noten zusammen begraben liegen, Ihr mitfühlendes Herz wird das herausfinden.
[How much joy and pain are buried in this small handful of notes will be discovered by your sympathetic heart.]
— Robert Schumann (1810–1856)
- ..the more intelligible a thing is, the more easily is it remembered, and the less intelligible it is, the more easily do we forget it.
— Baruch Spinoza (1632–1677): *On The Improvement Of The Understanding*
- The race is not always to the swift, not the battle to the strong, but that's the way to bet.
— Damon Runyon (1880–1946)
- ..any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved with Mankind; And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.
— John Donne: *Devotions Upon Emergent Occasions* (1624)
- That's all marriage is—accepting the annoying crap your partner makes you put up with.
— Ralph Greene: *Girl Earl. My Name Is Earl* (season 3, episode 20: original air date, 2008-May-08)
- He that is of the opinion money will do everything may well be suspected of doing everything for money.
— Benjamin Franklin (1705–1790)
- If there had never been war there could never had been tyranny in the world.
— Percy Bysshe Shelley: *A Philosophical View Of Reform* (1819)
- The government of the world is carried on by sovereigns and statesmen, and not by anonymous paragraph writers or the hairbrained chatter of irresponsible frivolity.
— Benjamin Disraeli: speech in London (1878-Nov-09)
- The Academy thinks. The bourgeoisie believes. The proletariat feels.
— French proverb

- Been there. Did that.



In Irish Bank Crisis, a Texas-Style Solution Is Unlikely

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/19/business/19norris.html?_r=1&ref=floyd_norris

In the 1980s, regulators dealt with the crisis in Texas banking by letting financial institutions go bankrupt. That solution is unlikely to work in Ireland.

- Singing extempore upon a plainsong is in deede a peece of cunning, and very necessarie to be perfectly practiced by him who meaneth to be a composer.
— Thomas Morley (1557–1603): *A Plaine and Easie Introduction to Practicall Musicke*
- Aristotle taught that the brain exists merely to cool the blood and is not involved in the process of thinking. This is true only of certain persons.
— Will Cuppy: *The Decline and Fall of Practically Everybody* (1950)
- And what 1979 AC/DC song does this bring to mind? :-)
In subway shocker, Mike eyes extending No. 7 train to New Jersey
<http://www.amny.com/urbanite-1.812039/in-subway-shocker-mike-eyes-extending-no-7-train-to-new-jersey-1.2467664>
In what would be a historic move, the Bloomberg administration wants to extend the No. 7 train into New Jersey, a direct response to New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie's decision to kill an underground commuter tunnel from Jersey.
- The two-party system has given this country the war of Lyndon Johnson, the Watergate of Nixon and the incompetence of Carter. Saying we should keep the two-party system simply because it is working is like saying the Titanic voyage was a success because a few people survived on life rafts.
—Eugene J. McCarthy, quoted in the *Chicago Tribune* (10 September 1978)
- One of the commonest forms of madness is the desire to be noticed, the pleasure derived from being noticed.
— Samuel L. Clemens [Mark Twain]: *The Memorable Assassination* (1898)
- The administration of the schools, the making of the course of study, the selection of texts, the prescription of methods of teaching, these are matters with which the people, or their representatives upon boards of education, cannot deal save with danger of becoming mere meddlers.
- John Dewey: *Moral Principals In Education* (1909)

- Mehhh. New Jersey contractors strike again...



Power Outages Disrupt Giants-Cowboys Game

<http://fifthdown.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/11/14/power-outages-disrupt-giants-cowboys-game/>

Two separate power outages darkened the New Meadowlands Stadium during the third quarter of Sunday’s game interrupting play and disrupting the Fox television broadcast of the game.

- As a nation, we began by declaring that “all men are created equal.” We now practically read it “all men are created equal, except negroes.” When the Know-Nothings get control, it will read “all men are created equal, except negroes, and foreigners, and catholics.”
— Abraham Lincoln: Letter to Joshua F. Speed (1855–Aug–24)

- In general terms, this still sounds about right...



Democratic Party Platforms: Democratic Party Platform of 1932 - June 27, 1932

<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/index.php?pid=29595>

The American Presidency Project contains the most comprehensive collection of resources pertaining to the study of the President of the United States. Compiled by John Woolley and Gerhard Peters

- You just can't make this crap up:
“Murkowski mocks the very write-in process she invoked by now claiming it is not a spelling or penmanship test,” said Miller in the release, which spelled the senator’s name incorrectly.



Lisa Murkowski keeps lead in vote count - Shira Toeplitz

<http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1110/45070.html>

Officials finish counting more than two-thirds of the write-in ballots in the Alaska Senate race.

- L’écivain original n’est pas celui qui n’imite personne, mais celui que personne ne peut imiter.

[The original writer is not he who refrains from imitating others, but he who can be imitated by none.]

— François-René Chateaubriand (1768–1848): *Le Génie du Christianisme*

- There are two major products that come out of Berkeley: LSD and BSD UNIX. We don't believe this to be a coincidence.
 - possibly Terry Pratchett [Sir Terence David John Pratchett, OBE] (born 1948), quoted at <http://www.ubiquit.us/retrohomepage/jsq.html>
- If the automobile had followed the same development cycle as the computer, a Rolls-Royce would today cost \$100, get a million miles per gallon, and explode once a year, killing everyone inside.
 - “Robert X. Cringely” [pseudonym for several columnists in Infoworld magazine]: quoted on <http://www.ubiquit.us/retrohomepage/jsq.html>
- A tax is a payment exacted by authority from part of the community for the benefit of the whole.
 - Samuel Johnson: *Taxation No Tyranny* (1775)
- It's all about perceptions. TCU beat Utah 47-7 and all the commentators could talk about was how good TCU was. Green Bay beat Dallas 45-7 and all the commentators could talk about was how bad Dallas was. <shrug>
- Wem Gott will rechte Gunst erweisen,
Den schickt er in die weite Welt.
[Those whom God wishes to show true favor
He sends out into the great wide world.]
 - Joseph von Eichendorff (1788–1857): *Der frohe Wandersmann*
- I find that I miss Clint Murchison, Jr. these days...
- The key to building a superstar is to keep their mouth shut. To reveal an artist to the people can be to destroy him. It isn't to anyone's advantage to see the truth.
 - Robert Alan “Bob” Ezrin, rock music producer (1949–) [known for his work with such artists as Alice Cooper, Kiss and Pink Floyd]
- Back in the early 1900s, General Arthur MacArthur, military governor of the Philippines [and father of... Douglas MacArthur], made the stupid mistake of not recognizing the superior authority of the civilian governor, William Howard Taft... Years later, when MacArthur's turn came to be promoted to army chief of staff, [President] Taft blackballed him.
 - Seymour Morris, Jr.: *American History Revisited* (2010)
- Are you more interested in Snooki or Suu Kyi?

- What next?



[Classical Musicians Search for Work](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/12/05/arts/music/05musicians.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=musicians&st=cse)

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/12/05/arts/music/05musicians.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=musicians&st=cse

Freelance classical musicians in New York are finding their livelihoods in decline.

- Goin' for tenure, ya' think???



[Snails on crystal meth: The facts • The Register](http://reg.cx/1J7B)

<http://reg.cx/1J7B>

In a development whose importance it would be difficult to exaggerate, scientists have produced research answering one of the great questions facing humanity in the 21st century: what happens if you get snails hopped up on crystal meth and poke them with sticks?

- The North is determined to preserve this Union. They are not a fiery, impulsive people as you are, for they live in colder climates. But when they begin to move in a given direction... they move with the steady momentum and perseverance of a mighty avalanche.
— Sam Houston, the only person in U.S. history to serve as governor of two states, as well as the only governor to have also been a foreign head of state. (1861)
- To know and yet [think] we do not know is the highest [attainment]; not to know [and yet think] we do not know is a disease.
— Lao-tzu[?]: *Tao-te Ching* (6th century BCE)
- [R Dean Crocker](#) added a new photo.



[Wall Photos](#)

- An odd article for a right-wing newspaper...

[Big Bang\(s\): Universe dies and is reborn endlessly: theory](http://www.nationalpost.com/Bang+Universe+dies+reborn+endlessly+theory/3926408/story.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+NP_Top_Stories+(National+Post+-+Top+Stories&utm_content=Google+International)

[http://www.nationalpost.com/Bang+Universe+dies+reborn+endlessly+theory/3926408/story.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+NP_Top_Stories+\(National+Post+-+Top+Stories&utm_content=Google+International](http://www.nationalpost.com/Bang+Universe+dies+reborn+endlessly+theory/3926408/story.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+NP_Top_Stories+(National+Post+-+Top+Stories&utm_content=Google+International)

Ripples of radiation in the sky have all but convinced a famous British physicist that the Big Bang

- I grow old... I grow old...
I shall wear the bottoms of my trousers rolled.
— T. S. Eliot: *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock* (1915)
- Here's a rule I recommend: Never practice two vices at once.
— Tallulah Bankhead (1903–1968)

- The average Ph.D. thesis is nothing but the transference of bones from one graveyard to another.
— J. Frank Dobie: *A Texan in England* (1945)

- Bernie does good...



[Sen Bernie Sanders Amazing Speech DEC 02 2010 .flv](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tq1zpHF0J04)
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tq1zpHF0J04

- Flesh is merely a lesson.
We learn it
& pass on.
— Erica Jong: *The Buddha In The Womb* (1979?)
- You won the elections, but I won the count.
— Anastasio Somoza Debayle (1925–1980), quoted in the *Guardian* (1977-June-17)
- There are, however, some potentates I would kill by any and all means at my disposal. They are Ignorance, Superstition, and Bigotry — the most sinister and tyrannical rulers on earth.
— Emma Goldman, responding to audience questions during a speech in Detroit (1898); recounted in *Living My Life* (1931)
- The very purpose of existence is to reconcile the glowing opinion we have of ourselves with the appalling things that other people think about us.
— Quintin Crisp (1908–1999)
- well, we will see...



[The Hindu : News / International : WikiLeaks to cause red faces at worst, New Zealand premier says](http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/article921157.ece)

http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/article921157.ece

New Zealand Prime Minister John Key said on Monday he had been briefed on the contents of some of the cables released by whistleblower website WikiLeaks that had been sent to Washington by the U.S. embassy in Wellington, but declined to reveal what they said.

- worth thinking about...

[You Think You Are Protected? - Better Think Twice!](http://www.wienerzeitung.at/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabID=4293&Alias=wzo&cob=307339)

<http://www.wienerzeitung.at/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabID=4293&Alias=wzo&cob=307339>

How To's

- There is serenity in Chaos.

Seek ye the Eye of the Hurricane.

— Greg Hill [Malaclypse The Younger] and Kerry Thornley [Omar Khayyam Ravenhurst]:
Principia Discordia (1965; fifth edition, 1979)

- [R Dean Crocker](#) shared [a link](#).



[SPIEGEL Central Asia Special: The New Great Game - SPIEGEL ONLINE - News - International](http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/0,1518,722173,00.html)

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/0,1518,722173,00.html>

In a special series, SPIEGEL explores Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. These countries, once the center of the “Great Game,” a bitter struggle over natural resources and strategic bases between the British and Russian colonial powers, are seeing history repeat itself.

- When the chill Charoko blows,
And Winter tells a heavy tale,
And pyes and daws and rooks and crows
Do sit and curse the frosts and snows;
Then give me ale.
— Anonymous (England, 17th century)

- Soldiers have rarely won wars. They more often mop up after the barrage of epidemics. And typhus, with its brothers and sisters—plague, cholera, typhoid, dysentery—has decided more campaigns than Caesar, Hannibal, Napoleon, and all the inspector generals of history.
— Hans Zinsser: *Rats, Lice and History* (1934)

- If you're experimenting with your solos, some nights you're not going to be able to invent and we're going to have a sad show. But if you play the same thing all of the time it will always sound right.
— Louis Prima (1947), quoted by Terry Teachout: *Pops: A Life of Louis Armstrong* (2009)

- I think that people want peace so much that one of these days governments had better get out of the way and let them have it.
— Dwight D. Eisenhower (1959)

- hmmm.



Capitalism, but not as you know it

<http://www.presseurop.eu/en/content/article/401451-capitalism-not-you-know-it>

Today the market economy holds sway over the entire continent. But can we be sure that it is really the same everywhere? In Eastern Europe, capitalists who prospered in a feudal post-communist environment have created a very particular system.

- I watch Letterman. I discover Jerry Seinfeld is now doing early Carlin.
- A well-trained man knows how to answer questions; an educated man knows what questions are worth asking.
— E. Digby Baltzell (1955)
- I didn't watch the American Music Awards. There were just other things on TV Sunday night that I was more interested in watching, like static.
— Erik Maza: *Midnight Sun*, a so-called blog from the *Baltimore Sun*, 2010–Nov–22
- Texas Gov. Rick Perry on *Fox News Sunday*.
Wow, what an ignoramus...
- The fact that an opinion has been widely held is no evidence whatever that it is not utterly absurd; indeed in view of the silliness of the majority of mankind, a widespread belief is more likely to be foolish than sensible.
— Bertrand Russell: *Marriage And Morals* (1929)
- Ah, gentle, tender lady mine!
The winter wind blows cold and shrill;
Come, fill me one more glass of wine,
And give the silly fools their will.
— William Makepeace Thackeray (1811–1863): *The Chronicle Of The Dawn*
- War is the parent of armies; from these proceed debts and taxes, the known instruments for bringing the many under the domination of the few. In war, too, the discretionary power of the executive is extended... No nation could preserve its freedom in the midst of continual warfare.
— James Madison: *Universal Peace* (1792)

- Advice to writers: Sometimes you just have to stop writing. Even before you begin.
— Stanislaw J. Lec (1909–1966): *Unkempt Thoughts*
- Demonstrating neither party quite understands the concept...
[Scalia to talk about Constitution to House members](http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-scalia-20110105,0,6424868.story)
<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-scalia-20110105,0,6424868.story>
The decision by Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia to accept an invitation from Rep. Michele Bachmann (R-Minn.), the founder of the House’s Tea Party Caucus, to speak to incoming House members about the Constitution is drawing fire from some who worry the court is injecting itself into partisan...
- Expedit esse deos, et, ut expedit, esse putemus.
[It is convenient that there be gods, and, as it is convenient, let us believe that there are.]
— Publius Ovidius Naso [Ovid] (43 BCE–17 CE): *Ars Amatoria*
- There are people who, instead of listening to what is being said to them, are already listening to what they are going to say themselves.
— Albert Guinon (1863–1923)
- You know you’re getting old when you stoop to tie your shoelaces and wonder what else you could do while you’re down there.
— George Burns (1896–1996)
- The conventional view serves to protect us from the painful job of thinking.
— John Kenneth Galbraith (1908–2006)
- If one morning I walked on top of the water across the Potomac River, the headline that afternoon would read “President Can’t Swim.”
— Lyndon B. Johnson (1908–1973)
- If you don’t know what a book is, it’s like a blog but interesting.
— Craig Ferguson: *The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson* (2010–Dec–07)
- I didn’t cook anything. I was too tired this morning when I woke up.
— unidentified person: overheard in Chicago Union Station (Christmas, 2010)
- There is no time to waste if the United States and other major energy-consuming countries are to adjust to the changed situation that lies ahead. Government leadership will be essential in setting goals and policies. In the United States a start on an energy program has been made.
— from an 8-page Exxon advertisement in *National Geographic*, 1973–June

- Klaatu barada nikto.
— Edward H. North: *The Day The Earth Stood Still* (1951 film)

- Pathetic.



[Off The Rails: The Year In Fox News Misinformation | Media Matters for America](http://mediamatters.org/research/201012210005)

<http://mediamatters.org/research/201012210005>

As the year comes to a close, Media Matters offers a month-by-month look back at Fox News' most outrageous and factually challenged moments of 2010.

- I'll raise your salary, and endeavour to assist your struggling family, and we will discuss your affairs this very afternoon, over a Christmas bowl of smoking bishop, Bob.
— Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol* (1843)

- SMOKING BISHOP RECIPE



[SMOKING BISHOP](http://www.stormfax.com/bishop.htm)

<http://www.stormfax.com/bishop.htm>

Charles Dickens' *A CHRISTMAS CAROL* - Recipe for Smoking Bishop

- Of course...



[Why we track Santa](http://www.noradsanta.org/en/whytrack.html)

<http://www.noradsanta.org/en/whytrack.html>

Follow Santa as he makes his magical journey!

- A fellow of mediocre talent will remain a mediocrity, whether he travels or not; but one of superior talent (which without impiety I cannot deny that I possess) will go to seed if he always remains in the same place.
— Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: letter to Leopold Mozart (1778-09-11)

- Woo, hoo!

[Vienna Philharmonic ladies get new outfits](http://www.wienerzeitung.at/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabID=4082&Alias=wzo&cob=532690)

<http://www.wienerzeitung.at/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabID=4082&Alias=wzo&cob=532690>

English News from Austria

- Tap + apache. Just unbelievable!



Bill Bojangles Robinson Deleted Scene #2

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ufop72Q74fA>

Bill “Bojangles” Robinson dances in a deleted scene from the movie *Cafe Metropole* (1937).

This is one of the few times Robinson is seen dancing with a partner besides Shirley Temple.

- Green’s Law of Debate: Anything is possible if you don’t know what you’re talking about.
— unknown
- A great empire, like a great cake, is most easily diminished at the edges.
— Benjamin Franklin (1705–1790)
- The instinct of nearly all societies is to lock up anybody who is truly free. First, society begins by trying to beat you up. If this fails, they try to poison you. If this fails too, they finish by loading honors on your head.
— Jean Cocteau (1889–1963), as quoted in *Moments of Clarity* (2002) by Thomas L. Jackson
- Ah, South Carolina! The boil on America’s butt since 1729...



The Government Disintegrates as the Union Dissolves

<http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/12/19/the-government-disintegrates-as-the-union-dissolves/>

The Buchanan presidency unravels, and South Carolina detaches.

- ...the waging of peace is the hardest form of leadership of all. [O]ver the years I have observed that some attributes of leadership are universal, and are often about finding ways of encouraging people to combine their efforts, their talents, their insights, their enthusiasm and their inspiration, to work together.
— Her Majesty Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom, etc., etc. (2010 July 6)
- Most Gods have the manners and morals of a spoiled child.
— Greg Hill [Malaclypse The Younger] and Kerry Thornley [Omar Khayyam Ravenhurst]: *Principia Discordia* (1965; fifth edition, 1979)

- A true original: Don Van Vliet, ‘Captain Beefheart,’ Dies at 69 - <http://feeds.nytimes.com/click.phdo?i=2bde8ad473278a4abdd99704355f6cc2> (posted with puggleware news app)
- If you want to annoy your neighbors, tell the truth about them.
— Pietro Aretino (1492–1556)
- New states, of convenient size, not exceeding four in number, and having sufficient population, may hereafter, by the consent of said state, be formed out of the territory thereof, which shall be entitled to admission under the provisions of the Federal Constitution.
— Joint resolution of Congress for the Annexation of Texas (March 1, 1845)
- If you took all the students that fell asleep in class and laid them end to end, they’d be a lot more comfortable.
— Marina N. Haan, Richard B. Hammerstrom: *Graffiti in the Big Ten* (1980)
- Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man’s character, give him power.
— Abraham Lincoln (1809–1865)
- Yeah. But “moronic, defective economic program” lacks all those lovely fricatives that he does so well...



George W. Bush: Stop Calling Them “Bush Tax Cuts” - Political Hotsheet - CBS News

http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-503544_162-20025590-503544.html

Former President Suggests Extending Tax Cuts Might be Less Controversial if They Were Referred to By Another Name

- If I had only known this before I quit...

:-)



The Chosun Ilbo (English Edition): Daily News from Korea - To remove the smell of stale cigarette smoke

http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2010/12/14/2010121400850.html

Digital Chosun Ilbo

- I count religion but a childish toy,
And hold there is no sin but ignorance.
— Christopher Marlowe: *The Jew of Malta* (c. 1589)
There is no sin except stupidity.
— Oscar Wilde: *The Critic as Artist* (1891)
... There is no sin, only mistakes.
— Swami Vivekananda (1863-1902)
The only sin is mediocrity.
— Martha Graham (1894–1991)
- The I.S.O. standard unit of female pulchritude is the milli-helen. This is the amount of beauty capable of causing the launching of a single ship.
— possibly Terry Pratchett [Sir Terence David John Pratchett, OBE] (born 1948)
- And when the Foreign Office find a Treaty's gone astray,
Or the Admiralty lose some plans and drawings by the way,
There may be a scrap of paper in the hall or on the stairs—
But when a crime's discovered, then Macavity's not there!
— T. S. Eliot (1888–1965): *Macavity: The Mystery Cat* (1939)
- So, how's that orchestra sound???
- **[Texas Ballet Theater's *Nutcracker* is a frantic delight](http://www.dfw.com/2010/12/10/377407/texas-ballet-theaters-nutcracker.html)**
<http://www.dfw.com/2010/12/10/377407/texas-ballet-theaters-nutcracker.html>
This version of the classic dance taps the holiday craziness we love.
- The emphasis of study upon a particular aspect of music is in itself ideological because it contains implications about the music's value.
— Lucy Green: *Ideology - Key Terms in Popular Music and Culture* (1999)
- We lie loudest when we lie to ourselves.
— Eric Hoffer (1902–1983)
- There's a good reason why nobody studies history. It just teaches you too much.
— Noam Chomsky (b. 1928-Dec-07): KGNU benefit at the University of Colorado at Boulder, April 5, 2003
- People everywhere confuse what they read in newspapers with news.
— A. J. Liebling (1904–1963)

- Older, experienced voices in the mix, please!

Ex-National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski: Spokespersons of US Right 'In Most Cases Stunningly Ignorant'

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/0,1518,733079,00.html>

Former US National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski says that US diplomacy will continue as before despite the leak of diplomatic dispatches by WikiLeaks. He spoke with SPIEGEL about how US President Obama should react and how the American right sees the world.

- So long as the mother, Ignorance, lives, it is not safe for Science, the offspring, to divulge the hidden causes of things.

— Johannes Kepler: *Somnium* [The Dream] (1620–1630)

- Amazing story — and such photos!



High-Speed Geology: Violent Seismic Activity Tearing Africa in Two - SPIEGEL ONLINE - News - Interna

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/0,1518,740641,00.html>

The fissures began appearing years ago. But in recent months, seismic activity has accelerated in northeastern Africa as the continent breaks apart in slow motion. Researchers say that lava in the region is consistent with magma normally seen on the sea floor — and that water will ultimately cover...

- He found a formula for drawing comic rabbits:

This formula for drawing comic rabbits paid,
So in the end he could not change the tragic habits
This formula for drawing comic rabbits made.

— Robert Graves (1895-1985): *Epitaph on an Unfortunate Artist*

- Hmm...



Blame the billionaires, not government workers

<http://socialistworker.org/2011/01/12/dont-blame-government-workers>

After looting the Treasury to bail out the banks, Corporate America and the politicians want to blame the budget deficit on public-sector workers.

- It is a great ability to be able to conceal one's ability.

- Francois de La Rochefoucauld: *Maxims* (1665)

- Where a calculator on the ENIAC is equipped with 18,000 vacuum tubes and weighs 30 tons, computers in the future may have only 1,000 vacuum tubes and perhaps weigh $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons.
— *Popular Mechanics* magazine (March, 1949)
- You cannot propel yourself forward by patting yourself on the back.
— unknown
- Some men look at constitutions with sanctimonious reverence, and deem them like the Ark of the Covenant, too sacred to be touched. They ascribe to the men of the preceding age a wisdom more than human, and suppose what they did to be beyond amendment... forty years of experience in government is worth a century of book-reading.
— Thomas Jefferson: letter to Samuel Kercheval (1816-Jul-12)
- A democracy, when put to the strain, grows weak, and is supplanted by oligarchy.
— Aristotle: *Rhetoric* (ca. 322 BCE)
- The magic of film is doing something that's not real and making it look like it is. The magic of theater is doing something that's not real and making the audience believe that it is.
Do not confuse the two.
- One girl can be pretty—but a dozen are only a chorus.
— F. Scott Fitzgerald (1896–1940): *The Last Tycoon* (finished by Edmund Wilson, 1941)
- “not a recognised flotation device” — Right.



Australia floods: teenagers use blow-up doll as flotation device

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/australiaandthepacific/australia/8266015/Australia-floods-teenagers-use-blow-up-doll-as-flotation-device.html>

Two teenagers were rescued from the Australian flood waters after they tried to use a blow-up doll as a flotation device.

- Almost lost in the news recently was a very significant report from Haiti, doorknob of democracy in the Caribbean. Jean-Claude Duvalier, son of Haiti's president “Papa Doc” Duvalier, won election as his father's successor by an impressive two million vote margin. His opponent waged a low-key campaign from an unmarked grave in the cellar of the Presidential Palace.
— National Lampoon magazine (ca. 1971)

- We wait with baited breath...

<http://www.mg.co.za/printformat/single/2011-01-17-walmart-bid-for-massmart-approved-boycott-looms>

South African retailer Massmart's shareholders have accepted a takeover by United States group Wal-Mart, setting up the world's largest retailer for a potential battle with local unions. Massmart shareholders met on Monday to vote on the \$2,3-billion offer. More than 97% of those present approved the...

- The nakedness and asperity of the wintry world always fill the beholder with pensive and profound astonishment.

— Samuel Johnson: *The Rambler* (Dec. 22, 1750)

- When machines and computers, profit motives and property rights are considered more important than people, the giant triplets of racism, materialism, and militarism are incapable of being conquered.

— Martin Luther King: Speech at Riverside Church, New York City (1967-04-04)

- Hope springs eternal. <sigh>

[Daily Times - Site Edition \[Printer Friendly Version\]](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/print.asp?page=2011\01\17\story_17-1-2011_pg3_6)

http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/print.asp?page=2011\01\17\story_17-1-2011_pg3_6

What matters for the religious right is obviously not the rightfulness or justice of its cause, be it substantial or procedural, it is naked power. And there are few things like the blasphemy law to give the appearance of power The aftermath of Salmaan Taseers shooting is so very depressing. In a...

- Do not try to live forever. You will not succeed.

— George Bernard Shaw: *The Doctor's Dilemma* [preface] (1906)

- You can take all the sincerity in Hollywood, place it in the navel of a firefly and still have room enough for three caraway seeds and a producer's heart.

- Fred Allen (1894-1956)

- I did not CHOOSE the new profile, yet here it is.

Why did they offer the option if only to cram it down our throats a week later?

Corporate philosophy at Facebook sucks.

Hey, Zuckerberg! LEAVE ME ALONE!!!

:-)

- The only certainty is that nothing is certain.

— Gaius Plinius Secundus (23-79) better known as Pliny the Elder: *Naturalis Historia*

- Here's a horrible thought: You know how dumb the average person is? Well, half the human race is even dumber than that.
— possibly Terry Pratchett [Sir Terence David John Pratchett, OBE] (born 1948), quoted at <http://www.ubiquit.us/retrohomepage/jsq.html>
- In religion and politics, people's beliefs and convictions are in almost every case gotten at secondhand, and without examination.
— Samuel L. Clemens [Mark Twain] (1835–1910)
- Because a coin can last four decades while a note lasts only a few years, replacing the dollar bill with the coin could save the US \$500m to \$700m per year in printing and paper costs.
— Daniel Nasaw: *Why the US keeps minting coins people hate and won't use*

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-10783019>
The Federal Reserve's \$1.1bn coin chest: People hate the \$1 coin but the US mints them anyway and stores them in vaults across the country.
- When the long, long day is over, and the Big Boss give me my pay,
I hope that it won't be hell-fire, as some of the parsons say,
And I hope that it won't be heaven, with some of the parsons I've met
All I want is just quiet, just to rest and forget.
— Robert Service: *The Song Of The Wage-Slave* (1907)
- It was on my fifth birthday that Papa put his hand on my shoulder and said, “Remember, my son, if you ever need a helping hand, you'll find one at the end of your arm.”
— Sam Levenson (1911–1980)
- The entire overture, long as it was, was played to a dark house with the curtain down. It was exquisite; it was delicious. But straightway thereafter, of course, came the singing, and it does seem to me that nothing can make a Wagner opera absolutely perfect and satisfactory to the untutored but to leave out the vocal parts.
— Mark Twain [Samuel L. Clemens]: *At The Shrine Of St. Wagner* (1891)
- It shall not be lawful for any woman who is either in full communion or a probationer for baptism to marry or entertain any comedians or actors; whoever takes this liberty shall be excommunicated.
— Decree of the Council of Illiberis [Synod of Elvira] (ca. 305)

- Aping Urbanity, Oozing with Vanity
Plump as a Manatee, Faking Humanity
Journalistic Calamity, Intellectual Inanity
Fox News Insanity, You're a profanity
Hannity
— John Cleese: *Ode To Sean Hannity* (2009)
- I don't even like my OLD profile. I should want a NEW one?
- The morning after



Wall Photos

- Let us walk in the white snow
In a soundless space;
With footsteps quiet and slow,
At a tranquil pace,
Under veils of white lace.
— Elinor Wylie (1885-1928)
- There's no music like snow music...
Jarre: Lara's Theme from *Doctor Zhivago*
Prokofiev: Troika from *Lieutenant Kijé*
Prokofiev: The Battle on the Ice from *Alexander Nevsky*
Anderson: Sleigh Ride
Add to the list! Everyone can play!
- History teaches us that men and nations behave wisely once they have exhausted all other alternatives.
— Abba Eban (1915-2002): Speech in London (16 December 1970)
- If I could tell you what it meant, there would be no point in dancing it.
— Isadora Duncan (1877-1927)

- Facebook Adds HTTPS Protocol Security Across Site — good news, but opt-in only!



[Techtree.com](http://archive.techtree.com/techtree/jsp/article.jsp?article_id=114302&cat_id=643)

http://archive.techtree.com/techtree/jsp/article.jsp?article_id=114302&cat_id=643

- The most difficult character in comedy is that of a fool, and he must be no simpleton who plays the part.
— Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra (1547–1616): *Don Quixote*
- Remember, Information is not knowledge; Knowledge is not Wisdom; Wisdom is not truth; Truth is not beauty; Beauty is not love; Love is not music; Music is the best.
— Frank Zappa: Packard Goose. *Joe's Garage: Act III* (1979)
- The passive voice should never be used.
— William Safire (1929–2009): *Fumblerules*
- No single institution, individual, or organized viewpoint should be in a position to make a credible threat to substantially disrupt traffic.
— Stephen D. Crocker: *The Political And Social Implications Of The Net* (1992)
- I am shocked. Shocked!



[Bush White House Broke Elections Law, Report Says](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/01/25/us/politics/25ethics.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=Bush+White+House+broke+election+law&st=cse)

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/01/25/us/politics/25ethics.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=Bush+White+House+broke+election+law&st=cse

The Bush White House, particularly before the 2006 midterm elections, routinely violated a federal law that prohibits use of federal tax dollars to pay for political activities, a report issued Monday by an independent federal agency concludes.

- No comment...



[Wall Photos](#)

- 10. Labor Power is Suppressed - Because the organizing power of labor is the only real threat to a fascist government, labor unions are either eliminated entirely, or are severely suppressed.

— Lawrence Britt: Fourteen Defining Characteristics Of Fascism. *Free Inquiry* magazine (Spring, 2003)

- Nerd heaven



[How to build your own Watson Jeopardy! supermachine • The Register](http://reg.cx/1MTH)

<http://reg.cx/1MTH>

If you don't want your own Watson question-and-answer machine after watching the supercomputer whup the human race on Jeopardy! last week, you must be a lawyer. Only lawyers think they already have all the answers.

- We are the music makers,
We are the dreamers of dreams...
We are the movers and shakers
Of the world for ever, it seems.
— Arthur O'Shaughnessy: *Ode* (1874)

- Internet's a-come-and-a-go tonight. Maybe we ARE in Libya... :-)

- Great photo!



[Wall Photos](#)

Well, solidarity always was supposed to be international, after all. Glenn Beck is probably going to explode on his television show now.

- Only the mediocre are always at their best.
- Jean Giraudoux (1882-1944)

- This bill authorizes a state agency to discharge any state employee... who participates in a strike, work stoppage, sit-down, stay-in, slowdown, or other concerted activities...
— Senate Bill 11, 2011-2012 Wisconsin Legislature, introduced 2011-Feb-14: Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau
- If you are wondering what the hell is going on in Wisconsin, this is an excellent explanation of the situation.



Walker's Renewed War on Workers

<http://www.expressmilwaukee.com/article-13897-walkerrss-renewed-war-on-workers.html>

Just as he did as Milwaukee County executive, Scott Walker, now the governor, has chosen to bypass labor negotiations and include major wage and benefits concessions—and a drastic attack on long-standing principles of employee relations—in his...

- Milwaukee is generally considered to be one of the best-governed cities in America. It has the lowest crime rate of any metropolitan city. This is due partly to the separation of the police department from city politics.
— Milwaukee—government. *The World Book Encyclopedia* (1954)
- Employees shall have the right to self-organization, to form, join, or assist labor organizations, to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing, and to engage in other concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection...
— National Labor Relations Act, 29 U.S.C. §§ 151-169: Sect. 7
- What nobler employment, or more valuable to the state, than that of the man who instructs the rising generation?
— Marcus Tullius Cicero (106 BCE-43 BCE): *Da divinatione*
- Imagine how many would show up if they built that darn train!



Public Workers in Wisconsin Protest Plan to Cut Benefits

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/17/us/17wisconsin.html>

Thousands of public workers, at a hearing that lasted 17 hours, lobbied against a proposal to cut benefits and limit unions' bargaining ability.

- You can loathe and fear war without opposing capitalist society. But you cannot end it. War is the inevitable product of the division of society into classes. The threat of it will never be ended by begging existing rulers to make peace. The armaments have to be wrested from their hands by a movement fighting to overturn class society once and for all.

— Chris Harman: *How Marxism Works* (1979/2000)

- Music is spiritual. The music business is not.

— Van Morrison, quoted in *The Times* (1990-Jul-06)

- Sir George Shearing, OBE (August 13, 1919 – February 14, 2011)



GEORGE SHEARING :mack the knife

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eB-XryJRBo0>

george shearing solo piano, playing “Mack the Knife”.....possibly the saddest yet the most beautiful version ever.... from the album *grand piano*....

- It often has been remarked that only in politics and the “arts” does the layman regard himself as an expert, with the right to have his opinion heard.

— Milton Babbitt (1916-2011): *The Composer As Specialist*

- The tax which will be paid for the purpose of education is not more than the thousandth part of what will be paid to kings, priests and nobles who will rise up among us if we leave the people in ignorance.

— Thomas Jefferson: letter to George Wylie (1786)

- I strove with none, for none was worth my strife:

Nature I loved, and, next to Nature, Art:

I warmed both hands before the fire of Life;

It sinks; and I am ready to depart.

— Walter Savage Landor: *Dying Speech of an Old Philosopher* (1849)

- When you go to an inn let it not be with the feeling that you must have whatever you ask for.

— Kǒng Fūzǐ, called Confucius [孔子] (551-479 BCE): *Book of Rites* [礼记], I

- I used to drive a Heisenberg Uncertainty car, but I could never read the speedometer without getting lost.

— possibly Terry Pratchett [Sir Terence David John Pratchett, OBE] (born 1948)

- just lovely...



[30,000 Pigs Didn't Float Down River According To Hilarious Newspaper Correction \(PICTURE\)](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/02/09/best-newspaper-correction-ever_n_820783.html?view=print)

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/02/09/best-newspaper-correction-ever_n_820783.html?view=print

If anything, this just goes to show the importance of enunciation.

- We are all agreed as to our own liberty; we would have as much of it as we can get; but we are not agreed as to the liberty of others; for in proportion as we take it, others must lose.
— Samuel Johnson (1779–April-8)
- Art is a jealous mistress, and, if a man have a genius for painting, poetry, music, architecture, or philosophy, he makes a bad husband, and an ill provider, and should be wise in season, and not fetter himself with duties which will embitter his days, and spoil him for his proper work.
— Ralph Waldo Emerson: *The Conduct Of Life* (1860)
- [R Dean Crocker](#) likes a [link](#).
[Daily Kos: Remembering the Real Reagan](http://www.dailykos.com/story/2011/02/07/941875/-Remembering-the-Real-Reagan)
<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2011/02/07/941875/-Remembering-the-Real-Reagan>
As we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of our 40th president amid glowing plaudits, folksy reminiscence, and an abundance of praise, it's important to remember one thing: the election of Ronald Reagan is the central and enduring tragedy of our age.
- Now winter nights enlarge
The number of their hours,
And clouds their storms discharge
Upon the airy towers.
Let now the chimneys blaze,
... And cups o'erflow with wine;
Let well-tuned words amaze
With harmony divine...
— Thomas Campion (1567-1620): *Winter Nights*
- I assert... that the long-sought missing link between animal and the really humane being is ourselves.
— Konrad Lorenz (1903-1989): *On Aggression* (1963)
- Cast performance of a song from the Spidey-show on Letterman this evening.
It would seem they should take some of that 65 million and hire a song writer.

- Of no import, but I'm old and confused:
When did blue screens turn into green screens?
And why?
- Books, nowadays, are printed by people who do not understand them, sold by people who do not understand them, read and reviewed by people who do not understand them, and even written by people who do not understand them.
— Georg Christoph Lichtenberg (1742–1799): Reflections, or Aphorisms [„Sudelbücher”]
- γνῶθι σεαυτόν
[Know thyself].
— Inscribed at the Temple of Apollo in Delphi, according to Pausanias (fl. 2nd century)
- The notion that the colonel need be a better man than the private is as confused as the notion that the keystone need be stronger than the coping stone.
— George Bernard Shaw: *Maxims for Revolutionists* (1903)
- When I get ready to explain homemade fascism in America, I can take my example from the state capitol of Texas.
— J. Frank Dobie (1888-1964)

- No comment...



[Wall Photos](#)

- O body swayed to music, O brightening glance,
How can we know the dancer from the dance?
— William Butler Yeats: Among School Children. *The Tower* (1928)
- In the current heated discussion about public-sector employees, I keep seeing statements like this: “They need to remember their employers are the taxpayers.” Well, what the hell do you think government employees are if not taxpayers?

- If you want to be adored by your peers and have standing ovations wherever you go — live to be over ninety.
— George Abbott (1887-1995), quoted in *The Times*' obituary (1995-Feb-02)

- One of the classics...



The Fugs - Wide Wide River

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=svPDzNO6GQk>

From The Fugs 1969 L.P., *it crawled into my hand, honest*

- idiot, dolt, dullard, mome, moron, imbecile, cretin, nitwit, dunce, fool, ignoramus, blockhead, bonehead, dork, dumbbell, jerk, kook, nincompoop, ninny, out to lunch, pinhead, simpleton, stupid, tomfool, twit, goof, ass, softhead, mooncalf, cretin, dimwit, muttonhead...



Reform Jews forgive Glenn Beck

<http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4034294,00.html>

Jewish Scene: Radio and TV host apologizes for saying Reform rabbis are “almost like radicalized Islam”

- Don't ever take a fence down until you know the reason it was put up.
- G. K. Chesterton (1874—1936)

- R Dean Crocker shared a link.




Wisconsin is making the battle lines clear in America's hidden class war

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/feb/27/republican-attack-unions-class-wisconsin>

Gary Younge: The brazen choices of the Republican governor shows the real ideology behind attacks on unions — in the US and beyond

- You've achieved success in your field when you don't know whether what you're doing is work or play.
- Warren Beatty (1937-)

- In the daytime,
The neighbor eats bread and onions with one hand
And copies music with the other.
He is fat and has a bald head,
So I do not look at him,
But run quickly past his window.
— Amy Lowell (1874-1925): *Music*
- [R Dean Crocker](#) recommends a [link](#).
[Voices from the massive pro-union rally in Wisconsin](#)
<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/02/27/us-wisconsin-protests-quotes-idUSTRE71Q01120110227>
MADISON, Wisc. (Reuters) - More than 70,000 people converged on the state Capitol on Saturday to protest Republican Gov. Scott Walker's plan to curb public sector union power in order to balance the budget.
- A bar in Milwaukee is advertising “beer-battered” burgers. Wouldn't that make it a chicken-fried steak sandwich?
- an interesting viewpoint

[As freedom blooms in the East, it's withering in the West](#)
<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/arts/elizabeth-renzetti/as-freedom-blooms-in-the-east-its-withering-in-the-west/article1921209/>
While people in Africa and the Arab world rise up to achieve basic human rights, hard-won liberties are shrinking in the U.S. and Britain
- Even agriculture falls increasingly under the dominion of the machine and of steam, which slowly but relentlessly put in the place of the small proprietors big capitalist, who with the aid of hired workers cultivate vast stretches of land.
— Frederick Engels: *On Authority* (1874)
- Give a man a fire and he's warm for the day. But set fire to him and he's warm for the rest of his life.
— Terry Pratchett [Sir Terence David John Pratchett, OBE] (born 1948): *Discworld*
- Funniest protest sign in Madison? —
“Union workers won the Super Bowl”

- [R Dean Crocker](#) recommends a [link](#).



[Michael Moore says 400 Americans have more wealth than half of all Americans combined](#)

<http://www.politifact.com/wisconsin/statements/2011/mar/10/michael-moore/michael-moore-says-400-americans-have-more-wealth/>

Documentary filmmaker Michael Moore so admired the daily demonstrations against Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker that he traveled from New York to Madison for one on March 5, 2011. The liberal firebrand opened his speech by heaping praise on those fighting the Republican governor's efforts to take ...

- Galileo was inclined to be liberal in his religious views, more especially in the matter of the Scriptures, claiming that there were passages in the Bible which did not literally mean what the translator said they did.
— Edgar W. "Bill" Nye (1850-1896): *A Medieval Discoverer*

- Wisconsin begins its metamorphosis into Mississippi...



[Wisconsin Senate passes union limits despite Democratic walkout](#)

<http://www.cnn.com/2011/POLITICS/03/09/wisconsin.budget/?hpt=T1>

Wisconsin's Republican-led state Senate passed Gov. Scott Walker's proposed restrictions on collective bargaining for public employees Wednesday, getting around a Democratic walkout by stripping financial provisions from the bill.

- Passes the smell test, yes? Sad, really...



[The Hindu : Opinion / Op-Ed : Behind the no-fly zone push](#)

<http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/article1523487.ece>

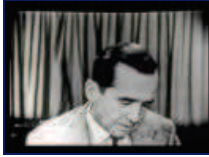
Faced with the prospect of a prolonged conflict, the opposition forces in Libya are seeking international facilitation to unseat Muammar Qadhafi. They are high on morale but low on resources. In the Benghazi court house, plastered with anti-Qadhafi graffiti and posters that have been imaginatively...

- Word to the wise:

When the concert publicity says, "You'll hear tunes like *Symphonic Dances*, *Scheherazade*... and many, many more!" you know the people in charge have no interest in music.

- [R Dean Crocker](#) via [Paula Foley Tillen](#)

57 years ago: the song's the same...



[Edward R. Murrow - See It Now \(March 9, 1954\)](#)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=anNEJJYLU8M>

- It's a good thing.



[Defying the odds: the seniors of dance](#)

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/arts/theatre/defying-the-odds-the-seniors-of-dance/article1934282/>

Age 40 used to mean the end of a dancer's career, but more and more are pushing the envelope

- Who draws his sword against his prince must throw away the scabbard.

— James Howell: *Proverbs* (1659)

- Basic info: worth knowing.

[Attacking Teachers Shows Cost Less Than in '81: Albert Hunt](#)

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-06/attacking-teachers-shows-cost-less-than-in-81-commentary-by-albert-hunt.html>

The political battles raging in states across America are cast as about whether big labor retains its considerable clout.

- Odd. Or funny. Or weird. Or something...

[tehran times : Thousands protest anti-labor bill in U.S.](#)

http://www.tehrantimes.com/index_View.asp?code=237044

Tehran Times Daily NewsPaper

- At the time set for beginning the game the umpire shall call "Play."

— Official Baseball Rules 5.01

- The real question is not whether machines think but whether men do.

— B. F. Skinner: *Contingencies of Reinforcement* (1969)

- I may disagree with what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to misattribute this quote to Voltaire.

— Avram Grumer, rec.arts.sf.written, May 2000

- No comment



Wall Photos

- Experience is the name everyone gives to their mistakes.
- Oscar Wilde: *Lady Windermere's Fan* (1892)
- You cannot shake hands with a clenched fist.
- Indira Gandhi (1917-1984): quoted by *Christian Science Monitor* (1982-May-17)
- Scandal at Kroger's?



Mobile Uploads

- The Constitution gives every American the inalienable right to make a damn fool of himself.
- John Ciardi (1916-1986)
- There is something about a Martini,
A tingle remarkably pleasant;
A yellow, a mellow Martini;
I wish that I had one at present...
— Ogden Nash: *A Drink With Something In It* (1938)

- Even the rich rednecks that run Texas have figured this out; will the rich bluenoses in Wisconsin ever catch on?
[Fort Worth officials demand more commuter rail | Your Commute | News from Fort Worth, Da...](http://www.star-telegram.com/2011/03/29/2958248/fort-worth-officials-demand-more.html)
<http://www.star-telegram.com/2011/03/29/2958248/fort-worth-officials-demand-more.html>
 Expressing shame that their city ranks among the lowest in the United States in public transit use, Fort Worth officials gathered Tuesday to call for faster action on developing new passenger rail lines on North Texas' fast-growing west side.
- After each war there is a little less democracy to save.
 — Brooks Atkinson (1894–1984): *Once Around the Sun*
- On a scale of 1 to 10, my attention span these days is about Zzz...
- ...on that day there were many, many heroes: pilots, flight attendants, air traffic controllers, firemen, policemen, crews of the ferry boats, EMTs... All those trained professionals put aside the fear for their own personal safety to get the job done. And every one of them was a union member.
 — Jeff Skiles ["Miracle on the Hudson" co-pilot]: speech in Madison, Wisconsin (2011-Feb-26)
- The way to write American music is simple. All you have to do is be an American and then write any kind of music you wish.
 — Virgil Thomson (1896–1989)
- What happens when you elect idiots...
<http://www.groundreport.com/US/Wisconsin-Republicans-Ignore-Court-Order/2937360>
- I do not mind what language an opera is sung in so long as it a language I don't understand.
 — Edward Appleton (1892–1965), quoted in the *Observer* (1955-Aug-28)
- Give me your tired, your poor,
 Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
 The wretched refuse of your teeming shore,
 Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me:
 I lift my lamp beside the golden door.
 — Emma Lazarus: *The New Colossus* (1883)
- Iam ver egelidos refert tepores.
 [Now Spring restores balmy warmth.]
 — Catullus (ca. 84–ca. 54 BCE): *Carmina 46*

- The liberals can understand everything but people who don't understand them.
— Lenny Bruce (1925–1966)
- <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/22/opinion/22cronon.html>
Wisconsin's Radical Break
- The Farmer will never be happy again;
He carries his heart in his boots;
For either the rain is destroying his grain
Or the drought is destroying his roots.
— A. P. Herbert: *The Farmer* (1922)
- Kinda cool with some great old photos
[A synthesised history - swissinfo](http://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/multimedia/slideshows/A_synthesised_history.html?cid=29662720)
http://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/multimedia/slideshows/A_synthesised_history.html?cid=29662720
Pioneering musician rewinds over 50 years of creating electronic sounds.
- It is illusory to believe that liberty can be added to a social system the way madeira can be added to a sauce, at the last minute and just before serving it up.
— Jean-François Revel: *Without Marx Or Jesus* (1970) [trans., J. F. Bernard (1971)]
- Many books require no thought from those who read them, and for a very simple reason;— they made no such demand upon those who wrote them.
— C. C. Colton: *Lacon* (1820)
- The Contracting Powers recognize that hostilities must not commence without previous and explicit warning, in the form either of a reasoned declaration of war or of an ultimatum with conditional declaration of war.
— The Hague Convention (1907)



Obama warns Libya, but attacks go on

<http://www.ndtv.com/article/world/obama-warns-libya-but-attacks-go-on-92691>

US President Barack Obama on Friday ordered Col. Muammar el-Gaddafi to carry out an immediate cease-fire, withdraw his forces from rebel-held cities and stop all attacks on Libyan civilians or face military action from the United States and its allies in Europe

- An army without culture is a dull-witted army, and a dull-witted army cannot defeat the enemy.
— Mao Zedong [毛泽东]: *The United Front in Cultural Work* (1944)

- All the trouble in the world is due to the fact that man cannot sit still in a room.
— Blaise Pascal (1623-1662)

- If it does, I assume the Legislature will simply vote to get rid of it...



Radiation from Japan not likely to reach Wis.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-wi-nowisconsinradiat,0,1268493.story>

Wisconsin health officials say they don't expect radiation from Japan to reach the Badger state anytime soon if at all.

- St. Bernie gets it...

A Time for Shared Sacrifice

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rep-bernie-sanders/a-time-for-shared-sacrifi_b_835166.html

The rich are getting richer. The middle class and poor are getting poorer.

- No grammar, no drama.

— Russell Sherman: *Piano Pieces* (1997)

- The only justification of rebellion is success.

— Thomas B. Reed: speech, US House of Representatives (1878-Apr-12)

- But it does violate right order when capital hires workers... under such terms that it directs business and even the whole economic system according to its own will and advantage, scorning the human dignity of the workers, the social character of economic activity and social justice itself, and the common good.

— Pius XI: *Quadragesimo anno* (1931-May-15)

- R Dean Crocker via Elizabeth McLane

I laughed out loud — more than once...



WI Repub lives outside district with mistress, says wife

<http://www.rawstory.com/rs/2011/03/13/wi-repub-lives-outside-district-with-mistress-says-wife/>

Protesters who marched at the home of Wisconsin state senator Randy Hopper (R-Fond du Lac) were met with something of a surprise on Saturday. Mrs. Hopper appeared at the door and informed them that Sen. Hopper was no longer in residence at this address, but now lives in Madison, WI with his 25-year...

- To those whom death again did wed
This grave's the second marriage-bed.
For though the hand of Fate could force
'Twixt soul and body a divorce,
It could not sever man and wife,
Because they both lived but one life...
— Richard Crashaw (?1612–1649): *An Epitaph upon Husband and Wife Who died and were buried together*

- *REAL* CULTURE SHOCK: interesting commentary about contemporary drama.



Theatre's regrettable new rule: keep it simple, stupid - The Irish Times - Sat, Mar 12, 2011
<http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/weekend/2011/0312/1224291937159.html>

CULTURE SHOCK: HERE IS A SWEEPING generalisation. Twenty years ago, if you went to a new play by an up-and-coming writer, you expected it to be all voice and no technique. Now if you go to see a new play by an up-and-coming writer you will probably find that it is all technique and no voice.

- Ah, parliamentary procedure...



The 'fabulous 14' return: Up to 100,000 protesters welcome home missing Wisconsin lawmakers

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1365769/The-fabulous-14-return-Up-100-000-protesters-welcome-home-missing-Wisconsin-lawmakers.html>

They may have failed to stop a controversial bill, that strips unions of their bargaining rights, getting passed, but were still given a hero's welcome

- All music is folk music. I ain't never heard no horse sing a song.
— Louis Armstrong (1901–1971), quoted in *The New York Times* (1971-Jan-07)
- Honesty may be the best policy, but it's important to remember that apparently, by elimination, dishonesty is the second-best policy.
— George Carlin (1937–2008)
- They remind us that where free unions and collective bargaining are forbidden, freedom is lost. They remind us that freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction.
— Ronald W. Reagan, speech at Liberty State Park, NY (1980-Sep-01)

- As with everything in Milwaukee, it was overshadowed by Chicago's Haymarket Massacre at the same time. (For my Texas friends: think of it as Wisconsin's Goliad.)

[Bay View Rolling Mills Massacre May 1886 Milwaukee County Wisconsin - Links To The Past Genealogy](http://www.linkstothepast.com/milwaukee/bayviewmassacre.php)

<http://www.linkstothepast.com/milwaukee/bayviewmassacre.php>

Bay View Rolling Mills Massacre May 1886 Milwaukee County Wisconsin

- Its not just about government employees, you know...



[Tractorcade moves farmers into budget debate](http://www.wisconsinfarmersunion.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=205%3Atractorcade-moves-farmers-into-budget-debate&catid=1%3Alatest-news&Itemid=324)

http://www.wisconsinfarmersunion.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=205%3Atractorcade-moves-farmers-into-budget-debate&catid=1%3Alatest-news&Itemid=324

Wisconsin Farmers Union

- Rich, crazy, needs new barber...



[Wall Photos](#)

- Horrible journalism; excellent story.

[Reaching for the heavens](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/usa/epaper/2011-04/08/content_12290716.htm)

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/usa/epaper/2011-04/08/content_12290716.htm

Choreographer Lin Hwai-min has taken Cloud Gate to unparalleled artistic heights in Asia.

- My country is the world, and my religion is to do good.

— Thomas Paine: *The Rights Of Man* (1792)

- I can not close this address without once more adverting to our political situation and inculcating the essential importance of uniting in the maintenance of our dearest interests; and I trust that by the temper and wisdom of your proceedings and by a harmony of measures we shall secure to our country that weight and respect to which it is so justly entitled.

— John Adams: State of the Union Address (1798–12–08)

- Congressional Budget Office looks at Paul Ryan's so-called budget proposal.



Ludicrous and Cruel

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/08/opinion/08krugman.html?_r=1&hp

Once you stop listening to all the swooning and read the numbers, the Republican budget proposal looks like more voodoo economics.

- The background info is ALWAYS worth reading!



Ballot error threatens to upend key Wisconsin supreme court election

[http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/americas/ballot-error-threatens-to-upend-key-wisconsin-supreme-court-election/article1975885/?](http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/americas/ballot-error-threatens-to-upend-key-wisconsin-supreme-court-election/article1975885/?utm_medium=feed&utm_source=feedburner&utm_content=Google+International&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+TheGlobeAndMail-Front+(The+Globe+and+Mail+-+Latest+News))

[utm_medium=feed&utm_source=feedburner&utm_content=Google+International&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+TheGlobeAndMail-Front+\(The+Globe+and+Mail+-+Latest+News\)](http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/americas/ballot-error-threatens-to-upend-key-wisconsin-supreme-court-election/article1975885/?utm_medium=feed&utm_source=feedburner&utm_content=Google+International&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+TheGlobeAndMail-Front+(The+Globe+and+Mail+-+Latest+News))

Outcome seen as referendum on Republican governor's anti-union legislation

- ...if the church put in half the time on covetousness that it does on lust, this would be a better world.

— Garrison Keillor: *Lake Wobegon Days* (1985)

- R Dean Crocker recommends a [link](#).



'Moo' Said the Horse: Meet Luna, the Jumping Cow - SPIEGEL ONLINE - News - International

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/zeitgeist/0,1518,755419,00.html>

Regina Mayer's parents refused to buy her a horse. So the Bavarian farmer's daughter turned to the next best thing: Luna the cow. Now, the two are inseparable, and Mayer has even taught her bovine friend to jump.

- I have not observed men's honesty to increase with their riches.


— Thomas Jefferson: letter to Jeremiah Moor (1800)

- Big whoops!

Mechanical problem closes Uihlein Hall - JSOnline

<http://www.jsonline.com/news/wisconsin/119290284.html>

All events scheduled to take place at Uihlein Hall in the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts have been suspended until a malfunction of the hall's acoustic shell can be corrected, the center announced Tuesday.

- looks forward to Tuesday's election. It will for a short time stop the ceaseless, annoying, rarely or barely truthful, misleading, privately funded campaign ads that come from no actual campaign and serve only to confuse and inflame the public. Bah!
- Quanto è bella giovinezza
Che si fugge tuttavia!
Chi vuol esser lieto sias
Di doman non ci è certezza.
[How beautiful is youth, that is always slipping away! Whoever wants to be happy, let him be so. Of tomorrow there's no knowing.]
— Lorenzo de' Medici (1449–1492): *Trionfo di Bacco e di Arianna*
- Of course, it is very important to be sober when you take an exam. Many worthwhile careers in the street-cleansing, fruit-picking and subway-guitar-playing industries have been founded on a lack of understanding of this simple fact.
— Terry Pratchett [Sir Terence David John Pratchett, OBE] (born 1948): *Moving Pictures*
- That comes to about \$ 7.26 a gallon, I believe...

[Gas seen topping 160 yen a liter / Distributors freeze wholesale prices, but cost of imported oil ri](http://www.yomiuri.co.jp/dy/business/T110325003524.htm)
<http://www.yomiuri.co.jp/dy/business/T110325003524.htm>
Daily Yomiuri News Site
- Hurrah for Old Kentuck! That's the way to do it. Give 'em hell, damn 'em.
— Zachary Taylor: shouted to the 2nd Kentucky Regiment at the Battle of Buena Vista, Mexico (1847–Feb–23)
- Ours is the age of substitutes: instead of language, we have jargon; instead of principles, slogans; and, instead of genuine ideas, Bright Ideas.
— Eric Bentley: in *The New Republic* magazine (1952–Dec–29)
- April is the cruelest month, breeding
Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing
Memory and desire, stirring
Dull roots with spring rain...
— T. S. Eliot: *The Waste Land* (1922)

- Dane County Circuit Judge Maryann Sumi reiterates her temporary restraining order, on Tuesday barring further implementation of 2011 Wisconsin Act 10 at the Dane County Courthouse in Madison.



Wall Photos

- Yo soy yo y mi circunstancia, y si no la salvo a ella no me salvo yo.
[I am I plus my surroundings, and if I do not preserve the latter I do not preserve myself.]
— José Ortega y Gasset: *Meditaciones del Quijote* (1914)

- Anyone?



Wall Photos

- If I'd known I was gonna live this long, I'd have taken better care of myself.
— Eubie Blake (1887–1983): quoted in the *Observer* (1983–Feb–13)
- When there is an income tax, the just man will pay more and the unjust less on the same amount of income.
— Plato: *Πολιτεία* [The Republic] (ca. 380 BCE)
- Labor is prior to, and independent of, capital. Capital is only the fruit of labor, and could never have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is the superior of capital, and deserves much the higher consideration.
— Abraham Lincoln: first annual message to Congress (1861–Dec–3)

- I like my congresswoman. Go, girl!



[Congresswoman Gwen Moore Questions Governor Scott Walker before Congressional Committee](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iywEUi9OYWU&feature=share)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iywEUi9OYWU&feature=share>

Congresswoman Gwen Moore Questions Governor Scott Walker before Congressional Committee

- Those who are in need are entitled to action rather than empty promises.
— Richard M. Nixon: Nationally broadcast speech (1960-Nov-06)

- Today's weather reminds us...



[Deanna Durbin - Spring Will Be a Little Late This Year \(Christmas Holiday\)](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QbwRgQ-l_ms&feature=share)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QbwRgQ-l_ms&feature=share

Here is Deanna Durbin singing Frank Loesser's song "Spring Will Be a Little Late This Year." The song comes from Robert Siodmak's rarely shown 1944 film *Christmas Holiday*. Also starring in the film are Gene Kelly, Gladys George, Gale Sondergaard, and Richard Whorf.

- A reasonable point of view...



[Paul Ryan's Plan Neither Serious Nor Courageous](http://www.expressmilwaukee.com/article-14464-paul-ryans-plan-neither-serious-nor-courageous.html)

<http://www.expressmilwaukee.com/article-14464-paul-ryans-plan-neither-serious-nor-courageous.html>

What the meteoric career of Paul Ryan demonstrates is how easily impressed we are whenever a politician purports to restore solvency by punishing the poor and the elderly (while coddling the rich). The Wisconsin Republican congressman's fiscal plan has...

- The responsibility of the great states is to serve and not to dominate the world.
— Harry S Truman: first message to Congress (1945-Apr-16)
- The secret to teaching is to appear to have known all your life what you learned this afternoon.
— Author unidentified

- Large corporation folds popular product line, lays off over 500 workers, watches their stock price go up. Who benefits? Guess.

Cisco closing Flip video business, cutting 550 jobs

<http://news.smh.com.au/breaking-news-technology/cisco-closing-flip-video-business-cutting-550-jobs-20110412-1dct2.html>

- We can no longer maintain any distinction between music and discourse about music, between the supposed object of analysis and the terms of analysis.
— Bruce Horner: Discourse. *Key Terms in Popular Music and Culture* (1999)

- Yup.



Five myths about why the South seceded - The Washington Post

http://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/five-myths-about-why-the-south-seceded/2011/01/03/ABHr6jD_story.html

- The best number for a dinner party is two — myself and a dam' good head waiter.
— Nubar Gulbenkian, in the *Daily Telegraph* (1965–Jan–14)

- Worth consideration?



University as a universal human right? Try the Dropout Gospel instead

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/arts/elizabeth-renzetti/university-as-a-universal-human-right-try-the-dropout-gospel-instead/article1977285/>

Spare a moment of sadness for little Lucia, who finds, at the age of 4, that life's golden pathways are shut to her. Recently, Lucia's mom, Nicole Imprescia, decided to sue a \$19,000-a-year Manhattan nursery school for failing to prepare her daughter adequately for entrance into a leading university

- We treat our people like royalty. If you honor and serve the people who work for you, they will honor and serve you.
— Mary Kay Ash (1918–2001)
- Before I go on to explain how a composer's chief income source affects his musical style...
— Virgil Thomson: *Why Composers Write How* (1939)
- Periodontal procedures produce painful pangs. Pity.

- It must be troubling to be so cynical that one could imagine such a thing! (I am admittedly troubled.)



OpEdNews - Article: How Wisconsin GOP and Kathy Nickolaus Could Have Stolen the Supreme Court Electi

<http://www.opednews.com/articles/How-Wisconsin-GOP-and-Kath-by-Eric-Nelson-110409-822.html?show=votes>

A spring statewide election in Wisconsin for a state supreme court justice position pits incumbent David Prosser, sympathetic to Governor Walker, against challenger Joanne Kloppenburg who is sympathetic to worker's rights and unions. After first appearing to have been won by Kloppenburg a late breaking...

- In those vernal seasons of the year, when the air is calm and pleasant, it were an injury and sullenness against Nature not to go out, and see her riches, and partake in her rejoicing with heaven and earth.

— John Milton: *Tractate of Education* (1644)

- Generations of grooming greatness...



Wall Photos

- I like long walks, especially when they are taken by people who annoy me.
- Noel Coward (1899-1973)

- The real one...



Royal Wedding

<http://youtu.be/q2WX3Cd-G94>

Two real-life events were incorporated into the plot of the 1951 MGM musical Royal Wedding. One, the marriage of Fred Astaire's sister Adele to a British nob...

- But you “have to be 13” to get a Facebook account...

Kids exposed as Facebook early birds

<http://www.wienerzeitung.at/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabID=4082&Alias=wzo&cob=554385&Page12989=4>

- We’re saving Medicare for the elderly.
 - Rep. Paul Ryan: quoted by CBS News (2011–Apr–26)
 - ...like burning down the barn to get rid of the rats.
 - Traditional American saying
- America’s present need is not heroics, but healing; not nostrums, but normalcy; not revolution, but restoration.
 - Warren G. Harding: speech at Boston (1920–May–14)
- An aged man is but a paltry thing,
A tattered coat upon a stick, unless
Soul clap its hands and sing, and louder sing
For every tatter in its mortal dress...
 - William Butler Yeats (1865–1939): *Sailing To Byzantium*
- He wrote the book. I still have it.



Max Mathews, Father of Computer Music, Dies at 84

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/24/arts/music/max-mathews-father-of-computer-music-dies-at-84.html>


As an engineer for Bell Laboratories in 1957, Mr. Mathews wrote the first program to make it possible for a computer to synthesize sound and play it back.

- This morning, greatly enjoyed watching a VERY old Perry Mason episode with a VERY young Ruta Lee in an important supporting role.
- Now THERE'S a blast from the past. I particularly like the description, “was not drunk at the moment.”

Attempt to hijack plane to Libya thwarted: report

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2011-04/25/c_13844023.htm

ROME, April 24 (Xinhua) — A man on a flight from Paris to Rome on Sunday night attacked a hostess and tried to divert the flight to Tripoli, but he was stopped thanks to the rapid reaction of some flight attendants and passengers on board, Italian media reported.

- By increasing the size of the keyhole, today's playwrights are in danger of doing away with the door.
— Peter Ustinov: in the *Christian Science Monitor* (1962)
- All around the world, church organists are taking naps...
- Intrigued that Dr. Who's President Nixon so strongly resembled LBJ...
- Dance is the only art of which we ourselves are the stuff of which it is made.
— Ted Shawn: quoted in *Time* (1955–Jul–25)
- Every citizen will make his own contribution to the activities of the community according to his strength, his talent, and his age; it is on this basis that his duties will be determined, conforming with the distributive laws.
— “Morelly”: *Code de la Nature* (1755)
- Las tropas Mejicanas evacuaran el territorio de Tejas, pasando al otro lado del Rio Grande del Norte.
The mexican troops will evacuate the Territory of Texas, passing to the other side of the Rio Grande del Norte.
— Treaty of Velasco (1836–May–14)
- All art constantly aspires towards the condition of music.
— Walter Pater: The School of Giorgione. *Studies In The History Of The Renaissance* (1873)
- A salute to one of the masters.

[Tom Lehrer: '60s Satirist Still Strikes A Chord : NPR](http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=126189232)
<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=126189232>
Lehrer, whose topical songs include *Pollution* and *The Vatican Rag*, is the subject of a new multimedia release called The Tom Lehrer Collection. David Bianculli reviews the two-disc set, which includes Lehrer's greatest hits and never-before-seen concert footage.
- There are two novels that can change a bookish fourteen-year old's life: *The Lord of the Rings* and *Atlas Shrugged*. One is a childish fantasy that often engenders a lifelong obsession with its unbelievable heroes, leading to an emotionally stunted, socially crippled adulthood, unable to deal with the real world. The other, of course, involves orcs.
— Uncredited: Kung Fu Monkey Blogspot (2009–Mar–19)

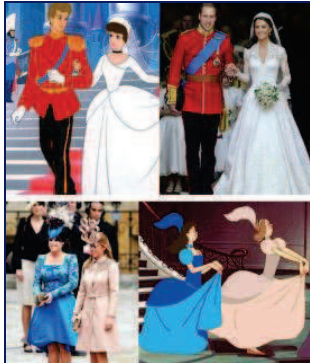
- A nice little history, even if you have nothing to do with theater. But if you ARE an actor, you should memorize the whole thing! :-)

Julie Odegard, “Actors Equity Association”

<http://www.uiowa.edu/~cyberlaw/elx99/odega430.html>

Where does this idea come from? Granted that there are a couple strong unions in theatre, such as The International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, which covers everyone from stage hands to master electricians to sound designers in theatre, film and television. United Scenic Artists is also...

- R Dean Crocker shared Afla Sohail's photo.



pure coincidence?

By: Afla Sohail <https://www.facebook.com/oflos>

- If men be good, government cannot be bad.
— William Penn: *Fruits Of Solitude* (1693)
- Some say, compared to Bononcini,
That Mynheer Handel's but a ninny;
Others aver that he to Handel
Is scarcely fit to hold a candle.
Strange all this difference should be
'Twixt Tweedledum and Tweedledee!
— John Byrom (1692–1763): *Epigram*
- Although not a fan of Google's expanding repertoire of initial screen images, I find today's animation in honor of Martha Graham's 117th birthday rather cool...
- Democracy substitutes election by the incompetent many for appointment by the corrupt few.
— G. B. Shaw: *Maxims for Revolutionists* (1903)

- Interesting article (not to mention, it sounds like a hilarious movie).



The East African: - Comment INo, Osama wasn't running a chicken farm in Pakistan

<http://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/OpEd/comment/No+Osama+wasnt+running+a+chicken+farm+in+Pakistan/-/434750/1158294/-/item/0/-/ew716o/-/index.html>

The funniest film I saw last year was Tere Bin Laden. The title is a play on the “bin” in OBL’s name...

- While this America settles in the mold of its vulgarity, heavily thickening to empire, And protest, only a bubble in the molten mass, pops and sighs out, and the mass hardens, I sadly smiling remember that the flower fades to make fruit, the fruit rots to make earth.
— Robinson Jeffers (1887–1962): *Shine, Perishing Republic*

- Vox populi, vox humbug.
— William Tecumseh Sherman: letter to his wife (1863–June–02)

- Nemo repente fuit turpissimus.
[No one ever suddenly became depraved.]
— Juvenal (ca. 60–ca. 130): *Satires*

- For those who missed that class...



Why Not the Gold Standard?

<http://www.j-bradford-delong.net/politics/whynotthegoldstandard.html>

Loss of control over economic policy. If the U.S. and a substantial number of other industrial economies adopted a gold standard, the U.S. would lose the ability to tune its economic policies to fit domestic conditions.


- The typewriting machine, when played with expression, is not more annoying than the piano when played by a sister or near relation.
— Oscar Wilde: letter to Robert Ross (1897)



Poor Jane's Almanac

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/24/opinion/24lepore.html?_r=1&ref=opinion

Benjamin Franklin’s sister and the path to poverty.

- A Man of Words and not of Deeds
Is like a Garden full of Weeds.
'Tis pity that Good Works among some sorts of people are so little valued so they have inverted the old verse, and say now
A Man of Deeds and not of Words
Is like a Garden full of —
I have forgot the Rhime, but remember 'tis something the very Reverse of a Perfume.
— Benjamin Franklin: letter to his sister, Jane Mecom (1758–Oct–16)
- The history of progress is written in the lives of infidels.
— Robert G. Ingersoll: speech, New York (1881–May–1)
- The reason why we have two ears and only one mouth is that we may listen the more and talk the less.
— Zeno of Citium (ca. 335–ca. 263 BCE), quoted in Diogenes Laërtius' *Lives Of The Philosophers* (probably 3rd century)
- is this possible?
Milwaukee, WI: 48° 40/58 | Mon 36/54
Fort Worth, TX: 47° 40/58 | Mon 41/52
- Man exploits man. Under communism, it's just the opposite.
— Russian saying
- I saw militiamen level their rifles at a crowd of workingmen who were trying to get other workingmen to stay away from a shop where there was a strike on. Government in action.
— Carl Sandburg: Government [from *Chicago Poems* (1916)]
- Pretty cool thing!

[Navy names ship after labor activist Cesar Chavez](http://www.cnn.com/2011/US/05/18/ship.cesar.chavez/index.html?eref=mrss_igoogle_cnn)
http://www.cnn.com/2011/US/05/18/ship.cesar.chavez/index.html?eref=mrss_igoogle_cnn
The U.S. Navy has named one of its newest ships after Mexican-American labor organizer Cesar Chavez, officials said Wednesday.
- The problem of our age is the proper administration of wealth, so that the ties of brotherhood may still bind together the rich and poor in harmonious relationship.
— Andrew Carnegie: Wealth. *North American Review* (1889–June)

- A.

Name of a musical pitch produced by from 435 to 450 vibrations per second, and the octaves of the same. French pitch is the former rate and American concert pitch approximately the latter.

— W. S. B. Mathews and Emil Liebling: *Dictionary of Music* (1896; 1926 'augmented edition')

- We are also told working conditions are (ahem) less than favorable...



[Some Foreign Orchestras Offer Misleading Credentials](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/17/arts/music/some-foreign-orchestras-offer-misleading-credentials.html?_r=1&ref=arts)

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/17/arts/music/some-foreign-orchestras-offer-misleading-credentials.html?_r=1&ref=arts

A look at some foreign orchestras that tour the United States shows that their identities may be misleading.

- If we compel the composer to write in terms of what the listener is able to hear, we flirt with the danger of freezing the evolution of musical language, whose progressive development comes about through transgressions of a given era's perceptual habits.

— Jean-Jacques Nattiez: *Music and Discourse: Toward a Semiology of Music* (1987), translated by Carolyn Abbate (1990)

- FYI



['Enable Dislike Button' scam spreading on Facebook | ZDNet](http://www.zdnet.com/blog/security/enable-dislike-button-scam-spreading-on-facebook/8655)

<http://www.zdnet.com/blog/security/enable-dislike-button-scam-spreading-on-facebook/8655>

Researchers from Sophos have spotted a currently circulating "Enable Dislike Button" Facebook scam.

- Well, yeah, of course...



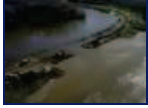
[How the 1960s cured America - CNN](http://articles.cnn.com/2011-05-12/opinion/1960s.era.baby.boomers_1_white-house-pill-constitution?_s=PM%3AOPINION)

http://articles.cnn.com/2011-05-12/opinion/1960s.era.baby.boomers_1_white-house-pill-constitution?_s=PM%3AOPINION

"It is possible to read the history of this country as one long struggle to extend the liberties established in our Constitution to everyone in America."

— Molly Ivins, great American

- The other flood...



Manitoba farmers wait for flood disaster | Posted | National Post

[http://news.nationalpost.com/2011/05/15/manitoba-farmers-wait-for-flood-disaster/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+NP_Top_Stories+\(National+Post+-+Top+Stories\)&utm_content=Google+International](http://news.nationalpost.com/2011/05/15/manitoba-farmers-wait-for-flood-disaster/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+NP_Top_Stories+(National+Post+-+Top+Stories)&utm_content=Google+International)

At about 6 p.m. Saturday, Robert Stanger loaded his sister and aunt into his pick-up truck and took the familiar side roads to the Manitoba farmstead his father once toiled on, as his father had before him. They were there for one last look, before water from the bulging Assiniboine River engulfed...

- Boire sans soif et faire l'amour en tout temps, madame, il n'y a que ça qui nous distingue des autres bêtes.

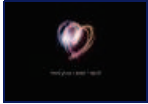
[Drinking when we are not thirsty and making love all year round, madam; that is all there is to distinguish us from other animals.

— Pierre-Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais: *Le Mariage de Figaro* (1785)

- Acting is merely the art of keeping a large number of people from coughing.

— Ralph Richardson (1902–1983)

- who-hoo. it's the big night :-)



Eurovision Song Contest - Düsseldorf 2011

<http://www.eurovision.tv/page/dusseldorf-2011>

The official website of the Eurovision Song Contest (Düsseldorf 2011), featuring the latest news, gossip, information about the contestants, the show, the contest's rich history and more.

- I must say I'm not very fond of oratory that's so full of energy it hasn't any room for facts.


— Sinclair Lewis: *Arrowsmith* (1925)

- Hmm...

Keeping modern dance on its toes

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/usa/culture/2011-05/06/content_12456033.htm

Modern dancers from all over China, both professional and amateur, are set to gather in Beijing to showcase their talents.

- We are a poor country and we opted for socialist policies, but to build a socialist society you have to have a developed society.
— Julius Nyerere: quoted in the *Observer*, 1985-Jul-28
- When drums stop, bass solo?

David Letterman Bangs Out 'Drum Solo Week'
<http://www.tvline.com/2011/06/letterman-late-show-drum-solo-week/>
Band geeks unite: Late Show with David Letterman is kicking off its first ever "Drum Solo Week." The late-night staple is dedicating a week's worth of...
- Credite rebus.
[Believe the facts.]
— Publius Ovidius Naso, called Ovid (43 BCE–ca. 17 CE): *Fasti*
- If you think the United States has stood still, who built the largest shopping center in the world?
— Richard M. Nixon (1960–Sep–14)
- Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.
— Martin Luther King, Jr.: *Letter from the Birmingham jail* (1963)
- Malt liquors undoubtedly assist in the support of the body, and are in practical effect equivalent to so much easily digested food.
— John Bickerdyke: *The Curiosities Of Ale And Beer* (ca. 1890)
- Fame is the one that does not stay —
Its occupant must die
Or out of sight of estimate
Ascend incessantly —
Or be that most insolvent thing
... A Lightning in the Germ —
Electrical the embryo
But we demand the Flame
— Emily Dickinson (1830–1886)

- A classic defense of real pizza...



Quote: Jon Stewart's Epic Rant on Donald Trump's Pizza Fail - TIME NewsFeed

<http://newsfeed.time.com/2011/06/02/quote-jon-stewarts-epic-rant-on-donald-trumps-pizza-fail/>

- The scholar who loves comfort is not fit to be a scholar.
— Kōng Fūzǐ, called Confucius [孔子] (551–479 BCE): *Analects*
- We've gone past the days when the composer was thought of as being struck by inspiration, feverishly scribbling down his thoughts on a scrap of paper. Writing music is seventy-five percent an intellectual activity.
— Maurice Ravel (1875–1937)
- O Tite tute Tati tibe tanta tyranne tulisti!
[O tyrant Titus Tatus, what a lot you brought upon yourself!]
— Ennius (239–169 BCE): *Annals*
- http://m.news4mobile.ca/cpe/db_15248/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=1jsXtM5i
Published: Today. STRATFORD, Ont. - Canadian theatre veteran Seana McKenna isn't placing any demands on audience members who watch her radical performance as villain Richard III at this summer's Stratford Shakespeare Festival.
"If the audience wants to see me as a male or an odd male, or a transgendered male, or a woman pretending to be a man, that's fine with me," the renowned stage performer said in a recent interview at the repertory theatre in southwestern Ontario.
- STRIKE, churl; hurl, cheerless wind, then; heltering hail
May's beauty massacre and wispèd wild clouds grow
Out on the giant air; tell Summer No,
Bid joy back, have at the harvest, keep Hope pale.
- Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844-1889)
- Every man, wherever he goes, is encompassed by a cloud of comforting convictions, which move with him like flies on a summer day.
- Bertrand Russell: *Dreams and Facts. Sceptical Essays* (1928)
- She will never learn the most necessary, most difficult and principal thing in music, that is time, because from childhood she has designedly cultivated the habit of ignoring the beat.
- Wolfgang A. Mozart: letter to Leopold Mozart (1777-10-24)

- Human salvation lies in the hands of the creatively maladjusted.
- Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968)
- Great artists are people who find the way to be themselves in their art. Any sort of pretension induces mediocrity in art and life alike.
- Margot Fonteyn : *Autobiography* (1975)
- The rich rob the poor, and the poor rob each other.
— Sojourner Truth: *Narrative Of Sojourner Truth* (1850)
- Check this out: Vuvuzelas may spread diseases -
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/go/rss/int/news/-/news/health-13509220> (posted with puggleware news app)
- A new study shows women having babies at home increased 20% between 2004 and 2008. The change was mainly due to a 94% increase in home births.
— Fox 6 News At 5:30, WITI, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (2011-May-23)
- The art of being wise is the art of knowing what to overlook.
— William James: *The Principles of Psychology* (1890)
- Everyone suddenly burst out singing;
And I was filled with such delight
As prisoned birds must find in freedom,
Winging wildly across the white
Orchards and dark-green fields; on—on—and out of sight.
... Everyone's voice was suddenly lifted;
And beauty came like the setting sun:
... O, but Everyone
Was a bird; and the song was wordless; the singing will never be done.
— Siegfried Sassoon (1886–1967): *Everyone Sang*
- By the 14th inning you start to wonder: who are these guys?
- I see dance being used as communication between body and soul, to express what it too deep to find for words.
— Ruth St. Denis (1879–1968)

- In the spirit of Carnac the Magnificent:
A. Paul Ryan and Harold Camping.
Q. Name two men whose foolish, destructive ideas have been so built up by the media that some people now believe they are reasonable proposals.
:-)

- A European says: “I can’t understand this, what’s wrong with me?”
An American says: “I can’t understand this, what’s wrong with him?”
— Terry Pratchett [Sir Terence David John Pratchett, OBE] (born 1948)

- Interesting viewpoint...



Bin Laden killing: Whither objective journalism?

<http://blogs.tribune.com.pk/story/6009/bin-laden-killing-wither-objective-journalism/>

News reports misrepresented that the general population was idolising Bin Laden and were angered by his death.

- The misfortune of writing fast is that one cannot at the same time write concisely.
— Walter Scott: *Journal* (1829–April–28)
- ...to secure to them the right to life, and the opportunity to maintain that life; the right to be full sharers in the abundance which is the result of their brain and brawn, and the civilization of which they are the founders and the mainstay; to this the workers are entitled...
— Samuel Gompers: speech (1898)

- Happy Father’s Day...



Wall Photos

- War makes the victor stupid and the vanquished vengeful.
— F. W. Nietzsche: *Menschliches, Allzumenschliches* [Human, All-Too-Human]: 1878
- I am no more humble than my talents require.
- Oscar Levant (1906-1972)
- More men have been elected between sundown and sunup than ever were elected between sunup and sundown.
— Will Rogers: *The Illiterate Digest* (1924)
- We have all been affected as composers, as teachers, as musicians by recordings to an extent that cannot possibly be calculated as yet or predicted for the future. The music which is... most widely imitated and influential, is that music which is available on records...
— Milton Babbitt (1916-2011), quoted in Glenn Gould: *The Prospects of Recording*. *High Fidelity* magazine, 1966-April
- A mugwump is a person educated beyond his intellect.
— Horace Porter (1837-1921): interview during the Cleveland-Blaine campaign (1884)
- Couldn't have said it better. (Have often said it more “succinctly.”)

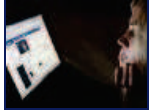


[Why do we keep thinking business experience makes great politicians?](http://blogs.reuters.com/frontrow/2011/06/14/why-do-we-keep-thinking-business-experience-makes-great-politicians/)

<http://blogs.reuters.com/frontrow/2011/06/14/why-do-we-keep-thinking-business-experience-makes-great-politicians/>

- In Mitt Romney’s speech announcing his presidential candidacy earlier this month, Romney made his campaign message clear: Obama has failed to generate sufficient economic or job growth, and only a businessman like Romney can do so.
- Science proceeds from facts to the uniformities in facts. These are themselves facts.
— Lawrence H. Henderson: *Science, Logic and Human Intercourse*. *Harvard Business Review* (1934-Apr)
 - The ancients wrote at a time when the great art of writing badly had not yet been invented. In those days to write at all meant to write well.
— Georg Christoph Lichtenberg (1742-1799): *Reflections* [„Sudelbücher”]
 - Fascinating! Things must be going great on B'way when they can't find a house with a pit for the Tonys???

- A father is proud of those sons who have merit, and puts the rest lower. But a mother, though she is proud too of the former, cherishes the latter.
— Kōng Fūzǐ, called Confucius [孔子] (551–479 BCE): *Book of Rites* [礼记], XXIX
- The place where optimism most flourishes is the lunatic asylum.
— Havelock Ellis (1859–1939)
- Contains instructions how to turn this new “feature” off. Mine still says “This feature is not yet available to you” so I will have to remember to go back and check it later. Bah.



[New Facebook Feature Brings More Concerns](http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/facebook-facial-recognition-feature-raises-eyebrows/story?id=13792666&page=2)

<http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/facebook-facial-recognition-feature-raises-eyebrows/story?id=13792666&page=2>

The social media giant is facing a new wave of concerns over privacy protection shortly after launching their latest feature, which allows users to automatically identify their friends in photos without their permission.

- The passage of laws which concern the admission of citizens and subjects of foreign nations to our shores belongs to Congress, and not to the States. It has the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations: the responsibility for the character of those regulations, and for the manner of their execution, belongs solely to the national government.
— *Chy Lung v. Freeman et al.* [92 U.S. 275]
- I have never known an artist of any kind who didn't do better work when he got paid for it.
— Virgil Thomson: *Why Composers Write How* (1930)
- The market for this kind of talent must always be understocked, because very few of those who are really qualified to gain theatrical fame will condescend to start for it.
— Charles Caleb Colton (1780–1832): *Lacon*
- To forbid us anything is to make us have a mind for it.
— Michel de Montaigne (1533–1592): *Essays*
- Beverly Crusher: They don't do a lot of tap-dancing at weddings.
Data: Why?
Beverly Crusher: Well, Data, because... I don't really know why, Data.
— Harold Apter & Ronald D. Moore: Data's Day. *Star Trek — The Next Generation*, Season 4, Episode 11 [1991-January-07]

- An interesting concept :-)



Daily Kos: How to make the deficit disappear in a decade: Do nothing

[http://www.dailykos.com/story/2011/06/24/981843/-How-to-make-the-deficit-disappear-in-a-decade:-Do-nothing?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+dailykos%2Findex+\(Daily+Kos\)&utm_content=Google+Feedfetcher](http://www.dailykos.com/story/2011/06/24/981843/-How-to-make-the-deficit-disappear-in-a-decade:-Do-nothing?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+dailykos%2Findex+(Daily+Kos)&utm_content=Google+Feedfetcher)

Brian Beutler follows up on the idea of doing nothing in terms of the deficit right now, letting the Bush tax cuts expire without imposing an austerity agenda on the nation, drastically slashing domestic spending. Doing nothing now, letting the tax cuts expire, implementing the Affordable Care Act,

- Hmm. Published memoirs by 20-year old people? Who are we kidding?
- I don't run the Republican Party and the Texas Negro Masonic Grand Lodge like I used to.
— William Madison (Gooseneck Bill) McDonald (June 22, 1866–July 5, 1950): quoted (ca. 1949) in Mack William's *In Old Fort Worth* (1986)



MCDONALD, WILLIAM MADISON | The Handbook of Texas Online | Texas State Historical Association (TSHA)

<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fmc45>

MCDONALD, WILLIAM MADISON (1866–1950). William Madison (Gooseneck Bill) McDonald, politician, fraternal leader, and businessman, was born on June 22, 1866, at College Mound, Texas. His father had been a slave, his mother a free woman. He attended Roger Williams University in Nashville, Tennessee...

- Hmm. Interesting viewpoint...
Framework for an arab spring - Wiener Zeitung Online
http://www.wienerzeitung.at/nachrichten/english_news/english_opinion/45722_Framework-for-an-arab-spring.html
The democratic uprising of 2011 has elements of all of the above, and the spirit of change mostly has been exhilarating. But the loudest noise I hear from the...
- I do not believe in the creed professed by the Jewish church, by the Roman church, by the Greek church, by the Turkish church, by the Protestant church, nor by any church that I know of. My own mind is my own church.
— Thomas Paine: *The Age of Reason* (1794)

- A war undertaken without sufficient monies has but a wisp of force. Coins are the very sinews of battles.

— François Rabelais (1494–1553): *Gargantua*

- American taxpayers could save \$500 million (£312 million) a year if they switched from paper dollars to the more durable metal version.



Mountains of 1.2 billion dollar coins unused in US vaults

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/8608983/Mountains-of-1.2-billion-dollar-coins-unused-in-US-vaults.html>

A mountain of 1.2 billion dollar coins is sitting unused in US government vaults because the American public is so attached to the traditional dollar bill.

- Verily.



Grammar: Don't kill the Oxford comma!

http://www.salon.com/books/feature/2011/06/30/death_of_the_serial_oxford_comma/index.html

The university hands down a new edict about punctuation—but the world's grammar nerds will never back down

- ...it is impossible to judge what is irrelevant without first hearing it.

— Gaius Plinius Caecilius Secundus [Pliny the Younger] (61–c. 112): *Epistulae* [Letters], VI, 2

- Fun!



The Haydn/Mozart String Quartet Quiz

<http://qq.themefinder.org/>

This website tests how well you can distinguish between the string quartets of these two composers. You will listen to randomly selected movements composed by either Mozart or Haydn. Then, you will choose the composer you think wrote the music you have just heard.

- A sick man wishes to be where he is not.

— Samuel Johnson: letter to William Windham (1784–Oct–02)

- My lute, awake! perform the last
Labour that thou and I shall waste,
And end that I have now begun:
For when this song is sung and past,
My lute, be still, for I have done...
— Thomas Wyatt (ca. 1503–1542): *To His Lute*

- A totally captivating summer read!



Farming with dynamite

http://books.google.com/books?id=ZTowAAAAYAAJ&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs_ge_summary_r&cad=0#v=onepage&q&f=false

- [Baseball is] a game played by eighteen persons wearing shirts and drawers. They scatter around the field and try to catch a cannon-ball covered with rawhide. The game is to get people to pay 25 cents to come inside the fence.
— *Milwaukee Sun*, reprinted in the *Detroit Post and Tribune* (1879–Aug–2)

- Ft Worth skyline from KXAS (until they move)...



Wall Photos

- Now THIS is a place with a misplaced sense of reality...



Suu Kyi actress barred from Burma

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/go/rss/int/news/-/news/world-asia-pacific-13938359>

Former Bond girl Michelle Yeoh is barred from entering Burma after making a film in which she plays pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi.

- The whole problem can be stated quite simply by asking, “Is there a meaning to music?” My answer would be, “Yes.” And “Can you state in so many words what the meaning is?” My answer to that would be, “No.”
— Aaron Copland (1900–1990)

- I had no idea of the character. But the moment I was dressed, the clothes and the make-up made me feel the person he was. I began to know him, and by the time I walked onto the stage he was fully born.
— Charlie Chaplin: *My Autobiography* (1964)

- so many levels...



The Beach Boys - Wouldn't it be nice

<http://youtu.be/L—cqAI3IUl>

classic song, original video...very good quality (for a 60's video)...enjoy

- ...sonata form is a model for a colonial empire: first theme (loud), the mother nation; second theme (softer), the supine colony; then follows the rhetorical and occasionally pugilistic exchanges of the development section, the rapprochement of the mother and colony in the recapitulation (both now in the home key), and the coda—consolidation of the empire.
— R. Murray Schafer: *Music and the Soundscape* (1993)

- A fine salute to heroes oft unsung.



Sutton Foster and Patti LuPone and Their Dressers

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/06/25/theater/sutton-foster-and-patti-lupone-and-their-dressers.html?adxnnl=1&hpw&adxnnlx=1309020332-mc63gWB%2FijzdlbSApCemPA>

Broadway stars like Sutton Foster, Patti LuPone and Victoria Clark depend on their dressers to get them through more than costume changes.

- When people talk of the freedom of writing, speaking or thinking I cannot choose but laugh. No such thing ever existed. No such thing now exists: but I hope it will exist. But it must be hundreds of years after you and I shall write and speak no more.
— John Adams: letter to Thomas Jefferson (1818–July–15)

- sad...



[After Impasse, Joffrey and Dancers Reach Tentative Deal](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/07/15/us/15cncjoffrey.html?_r=1&sq=Joffrey+Ballet&st=cse&scp=1&pagewanted=all)

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/07/15/us/15cncjoffrey.html?_r=1&sq=Joffrey+Ballet&st=cse&scp=1&pagewanted=all

The management of the ballet reached a tentative labor agreement with its dancers, but the impasse revealed that the glamour on stage is accompanied by familiar struggles off.

- When the Republicans in the House of Representatives are so enthralled with the so-called Tea party that Sen. Mitch McConnell almost seems reasonable, you know the lunatics are truly running the asylum...

- On a fait une vertu de la modération pour borner l'ambition des grands hommes, et pour consoler les gens médiocres de leur peu de fortune, et de leur peu de mérite.

[Men have made a virtue of moderation to limit the ambition of the great, and to console people of mediocrity for their want of fortune and of merit.]

— François VI, Duc de La Rochefoucauld: *Maxims* (1665)

- This being a musical, naturally, problems arose.

— Charles Strouse: *Put On A Happy Face* [A Broadway Memoir] (2008)

- Someone had fun with this...



[Austria embraces pasta headgear](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-14135523)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-14135523>

The Austrian transport authorities issue a driving licence showing a man wearing a pasta strainer on his head, after accepting his claim that the sieve is confessional headgear in the religion of pastafarianism.

- Oh my.

[At 75, it's been a long, strange trip for Berkeley's Wavy Gravy - San Jose Mercury News](http://www.mercurynews.com/ci_18012881)

http://www.mercurynews.com/ci_18012881

1960s icon Wavy Gravy to throw benefit birthday bash

- Concealed carry not needed? :-)

[Hair Raising Ordeal - Wiener Zeitung Online](http://www.wienerzeitung.at/nachrichten/english_news/334395_Hair-Raising-Ordeal.html)

http://www.wienerzeitung.at/nachrichten/english_news/334395_Hair-Raising-Ordeal.html

A Russian man who tried to rob a hairdressers ended up a victim when the black belt shop owner beat him senseless, tied him up naked and then used him as a sex...

- Happy anniversary!



[For Neptune, It's Been One Year Since Its Discovery : The Two-Way : NPR](http://www.npr.org/blogs/thetwo-way/2011/07/12/137802681/for-neptune-its-been-one-year-since-its-discovery?ft=1&f=1001)

<http://www.npr.org/blogs/thetwo-way/2011/07/12/137802681/for-neptune-its-been-one-year-since-its-discovery?ft=1&f=1001>

Today, Neptune arrived at the same location in space where it was discovered nearly 165 years ago.

- Music with dinner is an insult both to the cook and the violinist.
— G. K. Chesterton (1874–1936)
- War and revolution never produce what is wanted, but only some mixture of the old evils with new ones
— William Graham Sumner: *War* (1903)
- He who confuses political liberty with freedom and political equality with similarity has never thought for five minutes about either.
— G. B. Shaw: *Maxims for Revolutionists* (1903)
- I would hate to be a critic. I would despair of being able to leave the theatre, put my thoughts in order and write a well-organized critique within the next hour. It is extraordinarily difficult to be objective.
— George Abbott: *Mister Abbott* (1963)
- In the affairs of this world, men are served, not by faith, but by want of it.
— Benjamin Franklin: *Poor Richard's Almanac*, 1758
- Leo's newest relaxation technique



[Wall Photos](#)

- [harumph!]

The phone-hacking scandal and Murdoch's media empire

<http://www.twinside.org.sg/title2/resurgence/2010/240-241/media1.htm>

As media mogul Rupert Murdoch intensifies his drive to dominate the global media, an old scandal involving phone-tapping has resurfaced to haunt him.

- What a father says to his children is not heard by the world, but it will be heard by posterity.
— Jean Paul Richter: *Preface to Levana* (1807)
- History is philosophy teaching by examples.
— Dionysius of Halicarnassus [Διονύσιος Ἀλεξάνδρου Ἀλικαρνασσεύς] : *Antiquities of Rome* (ca. 20 BCE)
- Anglo-Saxon civilization has taught the individual to protect his own rights; American civilization will teach him to respect the rights of others.
— William Jennings Bryan: speech in Washington (1899–Feb–22)
- Nevertheless there are limits; there are only so many changes you can make to an apple pie before you have a pizza.
Susan G. Purdy: *As Easy As Pie* (1984)
- A monarchy is a merchantman which sails well, but will sometimes strike on a rock, and go to the bottom; a republic is a raft which will never sink, but then your feet are always in the water.
— Fisher Ames: speech, U. S. House of Representatives (1795)
- Finally, be courteous, impartial and firm, and so compel respect from all.
— Official Baseball Rules: General Instructions to Umpire
- Ignoranti, quem portem petat, nullus suus ventus est.
[If one does not know to which port one is sailing, no wind is favorable.]
— Lucius Annaeus Seneca 'the Younger' (ca. 4 BCE–65 CE): *Epistulae morales ad Lucilium*, no. 71
- What about this have we not known for the last 6 years?



Forget Anonymous: Evidence Suggests GOP Hacked, Stole 2004 Election | Benzinga.com

<http://www.benzinga.com/news/11/07/1789905/forget-anonymous-evidence-suggests-gop-hacked-stole-2004-election>

- Being from Texas, we always hug and kiss to greet. But men always touch my butt.
— Miss USA, Crystle Stewart: quoted by Aram Boghosian for *The Boston Globe* on boston.com (2011–Apr–20)
- Small debts are like small shot; they are rattling on every side, and can scarcely be escaped without a wound: great debts are like cannon; of loud noise but little danger.
— Samuel Johnson: letter to Joseph Simpson (1759)
- Life is like playing a violin solo in public, and learning the instrument as one goes along.
— Samuel Butler (1835–1902)
- i have noticed that when chickens quit quarreling over their food they often find that there is enough for all of them i wonder if it might not be the same with the human race
— Don Marquis: *archy's life of mehitabel, random thoughts by archy* (1933)
- The preachers are desired not to encourage the singing of fugue tunes in our congregations.
— The Doctrines and Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South (1846)
- ...there is a growing indifference to any system of militia discipline, and a strong disposition... to be rid of all regulations. How it is practicable to keep the people duly armed without some organization, it is difficult to see. ...and thus gradually undermine all the protection intended by this clause of our National Bill of Rights.
— Joseph Story: *A Familiar Exposition of the Constitution of the United States* (1842)
- All the perplexities, confusions, and distresses in America arise, not from defects in their constitution or confederation, not from a want of honor or virtue, so much as from downright ignorance of the nature of coin, credit, and circulation.
— John Adams: letter to Thomas Jefferson 1787–August–25)
- It stopped working a long time ago so I killed it. Then I recoded the whole thing by hand and put it back up.
Yes. I mean my web site.
I think it's ready for prime time now, no matter what the little facebook summary says :-)
If you are really bored and have the time to browse around, please let me know if you find any problems. Thanks.



CROCKER MUSIC

<http://www.crockermusic.com>

- A bad book is as much of a labor to write as a good one; it comes as sincerely from the author's soul.
— Aldous L. Huxley: *Point Counter Point* (1928)
- Number from *Spiderman Turn Out The Damn Lights* on Letterman tonight. Best reason I have seen to not do theatre ever again. What a pathetic waste of time! Judging by this excerpt they still need a director, a choreographer, and a clue.
- Our system of credit is privately concentrated. The growth of the nation, therefore, and all our activities are in the hands of a few men who... are necessarily concentrated upon the great undertakings in which their own money is involved and who necessarily... chill and check and destroy genuine economic freedom...
— Woodrow Wilson: *The New Freedom, Section VIII : Monopoly, Or Opportunity?* (1913)
- There let the pealing organ blow,
To the full-voiced choir below,
In service high, and anthems clear
As may, with sweetness, through mine ear
Dissolve me into ecstasies,
And bring all Heaven before mine eyes.
— John Milton: *Il Penseroso* (1632)
- Friends will be much apart. They will respect more each other's privacy than their communion.
— Henry David Thoreau: *Journal* (1841–Feb–22)
- After playing some 3 hours and 45 minutes, Milwaukee and St. Louis FINALLY go into extra innings! YE GODS!
- Monumental idiot. Sad.
[Perry says his rally is about prayers, not politics](http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-perry-prayer-20110806,0,4238141.story?track=icymi)
<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-perry-prayer-20110806,0,4238141.story?track=icymi>
Beneath the dome of an air-conditioned football stadium and a cloud of controversy, Texas Gov. Rick Perry will lead thousands of Christian fundamentalists in seven hours of prayer and fasting Saturday on behalf of a “nation in crisis.”
- Those who have the faith of children have also the troubles of children.
— Robert Hugh Benson (1871–1914)

- simple and to the point:

Debt bad, surplus good, right? Not necessarily, economists say

<http://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/debt-bad-surplus-good-right-not-necessarily-economists-1693058.html>

During the grueling debt ceiling debate, the American public heard one talking point over and over: "If U. S...

- An American woman, resident in the United States, should not lose her citizenship by marriage to an alien.

— Republican National Platform, 1920

- Today, 1 Swiss franc = US \$ 1.28. The first time I was in Switzerland, in 1969, the Swiss franc was worth 25 cents. Gee.



Happy Meal Hamburger | McDonald's

<http://www.mcdonalds.ch/de/menuekarte/happy-meal/happy-meal-hamburger> — Happy Meal comes to \$ 8.96.

- Check this out: The Swiss Franc Soars As Markets Dip, And That Worries The Swiss - <http://www.npr.org/blogs/thetwo-way/2011/08/03/138966433/the-swiss-franc-soars-as-markets-dip-and-that-worries-the-swiss?ft=1&f=1004> (posted with puggleware news app)

- History offers the best training for those who are to take part in public affairs.

— Polybius [Πολύβιος] (ca. 200–118 BCE): *Histories*

- I desire to go on record as predicting that we will never pay our public debt in full.

— Lewis Haney: speech at Detroit (1938–Dec–29)

- Gods chase

Round vase.

What say?

What play?

Don't know.

Nice, though.

— Desmond Skirrow (1924–1976): *Ode On A Grecian Urn Summarized*

- There are two means of refuge from the miseries of life: music and cats.

— Albert Schweitzer (1875–1965)

- A cucumber should be well sliced, and dressed with pepper and vinegar, and then thrown out, as good for nothing.
— Samuel Johnson: quoted in *Tour To The Hebrides* by James Boswell (1785)

- Well, yeah...



US Debt Debate: Annihilating Democracy with the Tea Party - SPIEGEL ONLINE - News - International

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/0,1518,777344,00.html>

Democracy depends on compromise and the American government depends on all branches working together. The Tea Party movement shuns both, preferring instead to drive the state into bankruptcy. On principle.

- The affluent society which conducts its affairs in accordance with rules of another and poorer age also foregoes opportunities. And in misunderstanding itself it will, in any time of difficulty, implacably prescribe for itself the wrong remedies.
— John Kenneth Galbraith: *The Affluent Society* (1958)

- When a column is this accurate, why do they still call it “opinion?”



The Centrist Cop-Out

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/07/29/opinion/krugman-the-centrist-cop-out.html?_r=1&src=me&ref=general

Placing blame equally on Democrats and Republicans for the stalemate over the debt crisis only encourages more bad behavior.

- Nous pardonnons souvent à ceux qui nous ennuiant, mais nous ne pouvons pardonner à ceux que nous ennuyons.
[We often forgive those who bore us, but we cannot forgive those whom we bore.]
— François VI, Duc de La Rochefoucauld: *Réflexions ou sentences et maximes morales* [Maxims] (1665)
- To say that New York came up to its advance billing would be the baldest of understatements. Being there was like being in heaven, without going to all the bother and expense of dying.
— Sir Pelham Grenville Wodehouse, KBE (1881–1975)

- When I was a kid, groups like the Sing Along With Mitch singers, middle of the road LPs, and hundreds of banjo players in pizza parlors entertained the public with songs from the Gay Nineties. See link for more information about those happy days...



[Panic of 1893 - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panic_of_1893)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panic_of_1893

The Panic of 1893 was a serious economic depression in the United States that began in that year.[1] Similar to the Panic of 1873, this panic was marked by the collapse of railroad overbuilding and shaky railroad financing which set off a series of bank failures. Compounding market overbuilding and...

- Wha'? I didn't say anything...



- Corporations are invisible, immortal and have no soul.
— ascribed to Roger Manwood, chief baron of the English Exchequer, 1592
- Some think Newsweek went out of their way to publish an unflattering photo of Michelle Bachmann this week. I think we give them too much credit...



- It is apparently easy for some people to confuse God and the Constitution. Not good qualifications for high office, methinks.

[Pawlenty Courts Evangelicals in Make-or-Break Moment](http://thecaucus.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/08/09/pawlenty-courts-evangelicals-in-make-or-break-moment/?scp=6&sq=Tim+Pawlenty&st=cse)

<http://thecaucus.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/08/09/pawlenty-courts-evangelicals-in-make-or-break-moment/?scp=6&sq=Tim+Pawlenty&st=cse>

Tim Pawlenty is appealing to evangelicals as he seeks to rescue a flagging campaign with a strong performance at a debate in Iowa and straw poll two days later.

- The people are not qualified to legislate. With us, therefore, they only choose the legislators.
— Thomas Jefferson: letter to L'Abbé Arnond (1789)

- L'éducation nous faisait ce que nous sommes.
[Education made us what we are.]
— Claude Adrien Helvétius: *De l'esprit, Discours 3* (1758)
- Yes, and you're surprised at what?
[Wisconsin recall fight ends where it began: With a Big Lie - The Plum Line - The Washington Post](#)
http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/plum-line/post/wisconsin-recall-fight-ends-where-it-began-with-a-big-lie/2011/03/03/gIQALHqD5I_blog.html
The RNC chair flatly misrepresents history of Wisconsin events.

- [The world of bond markets](#)
<https://www.facebook.com/notes/r-dean-crocker/the-world-of-bond-markets/204326812954778>
So there's this financial-services company called Standard & Poor's. They are owned by a large publisher, MacGraw-Hill. They rate other companies for a living. They famously did a bang-up job of ignoring Enron's accounting circus; more recently they regularly gave AAA ratings to highly risky securities that were backed by bad mortgages, helping to bring about the 2007-2009 recession.

So there's this guy at their "sovereign markets" desk who, bless his heart, doesn't think the U. S. Congress did enough of whatever he thought they should be doing during the long, disputatious credit-ceiling discussions. So he lowers his opinion of bonds issued by the United States a little. He admits his math has a 2-trillion dollar error, but he lowers it anyway. The other major rating agencies do NOT follow suit, but stock markets plunge: this seriously damages many people's retirement investments, IRAs, mutual funds, and the like.

SOME people are trying replace our Social Security with this system. Your future can be ruined by one guy's bad decision. Isn't it nice to have insurance? What if you were retiring tomorrow?

- In this earthly world . . . to do harm
Is often laudable, to do good sometime
Accounted dangerous folly.
— William Shakespeare: *Macbeth* (1605???)
- The millions who are poor in the United States tend to become increasingly invisible.... It takes an effort of the intellect and will even to see them.
— Michael Harrington: *The Other America - Poverty in the United States* (1962)

- The more distant the orchestral conductor is from the performers he directs, the more his influence over them is diminished.
— Hector Berlioz (1803–1869): *The Orchestral Conductor* (English translation, published by Carl Fisher, 1902)

- ...and we prayed this pitiable paranoiac was peacefully planted in Westlake...



Beck says he is losing \$1 million on Israel events

<http://www.jpost.com/International/Article.aspx?id=234685&R=R4>

US broadcaster says he intends to show choice between good, evil; critic calls events end-of-times messianic- lunacy circus show.

- My compositions spring from my sorrows. Those that give the world the greatest delight were born of my deepest griefs.
— Franz Schubert: *Diary* (1824–Mar–27)

- 'chele gonna have some 'splainin' to do...



Memento, Starring Michele Bachmann

<http://www.theatlanticwire.com/politics/2011/08/memento-starring-michele-bachmann/41443/>

The candidate has a trouble remembering her own bio—like whether she's a doctor or not

- Baseball's poetic and lyrical celebrants are fond of pointing out that baseball is the only major team sport without a clock. What these people don't understand is that, until about 1945, baseball *did* have a clock. It was called the sun.
— Bill James: *The New Bill James Historical Baseball Abstract* (2001)
- Why do comparisons of words and tone poems (poetry and music) never take into consideration that the word is a mere signifier, but that the sound, aside from being a signifier, is also an object?
— Franz Seraphicus Grillparzer: *Notebooks and Diaries* (1820)
- We are in great haste to construct a magnetic telegraph from Maine to Texas; but Maine and Texas, it may be, have nothing important to communicate.
— Henry David Thoreau: *Walden* (1854)
- I took the repeal of the Corn Laws as light amusement compared with the difficult task of inducing the priests of all denominations to agree to suffer the people to be educated.
— Richard Cobden: letter to a friend, 1846

- You won't notice that when it's played; and it is perhaps not even important: but it is there for reasons of coherence.

— Anton Webern (1883-1945); quoted in album notes for *The Complete Works of Anton Webern, vol. 1* [Columbia LP M4 35193] (1978?)

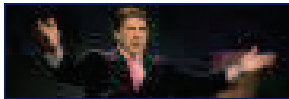
- To many people dramatic criticism must seem like an attempt to tattoo soap bubbles.

— John Mason Brown: *Broadway In Review* (1940)

- The people can never understand why the President does not use his powers to make them behave. Well all the president is, is a glorified public relations man who spends his time flattering, kissing, and kicking people to get them to do what they are supposed to do anyway.

— Harry S Truman: letter to Mary Jane Truman (1947–Nov–14)

- Has Rick Perry said something really stupid every day for the last 10 years, or has it only been this week?



[Despite Perry claim, Texas schools don't teach creationism alongside evolution](http://www.americanindependent.com/199737/despite-perry-claim-texas-schools-dont-teach-creationism-alongside-evolution)

<http://www.americanindependent.com/199737/despite-perry-claim-texas-schools-dont-teach-creationism-alongside-evolution>

Outside a campaign event in New Hampshire this morning, Gov. Rick Perry stopped to chat with a 9-year-old boy whose mom, as the New York Times tells it, was...

- Employees shall have the right to self-organization, to form, join, or assist labor organizations, to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing, and to engage in other concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection...

— 29 U.S.C. §§ 157 (National Labor Relations Act)

- Takes one to know one?



[Stop 'Coddling' Rich People, Billionaire Buffett Tells US](http://www.voanews.com/english/news/usa/Bufett-Asks-US-to-Stop-Coddling-Rich-on-Taxes-127750313.html)

<http://www.voanews.com/english/news/usa/Bufett-Asks-US-to-Stop-Coddling-Rich-on-Taxes-127750313.html>

The second-richest person in the United States, investor Warren Buffett, has repeated his plea for the government to collect more taxes from the country's "super-rich" as one way to cut the government budget deficit and debt.

- Billionaire Warren Buffett announced today he will **donate** [my emphasis] 5 billion dollars to struggling Bank of America.
— nation.foxnews.com/warren-buffett/2011/08/25/can-warren-buffett-save-president-obama

Buffett... received 50,000 shares of cumulative perpetual preferred shares costing \$100,000 each that will pay a 6% annual dividend, which is a good return in a low-return world in which the 10-year Treasury note yields 2.23%... Buffett also got warrants, or the right over the next 10 years to purchase 700,000 shares of BofA common stock at a price of \$7.14 per share. BofA shares rose more than 9% Thursday to \$7.65, which means Buffett's paper profits on the "warrants" jumped more than \$357,000.

— <http://www.usatoday.com/money/industries/banking/story/2011-08-25/Buffetts-5B-bet-on-BofA-powers-94-boost-in-banks-stock/50134290/1>

Buffett will donate. DONATE???? Fox News = lying waste of electrons, apparently unaware of the nature of capitalism.

- ...Play on, invisible harps, unto Love,
Whose way in heaven is aglow
At that hour when soft lights come and go,
Soft sweet music in the air above
And in the earth below.
— James Joyce: *Chamber Music, III* (1907)

- An author is like a blogger who went to college.
— Craig Ferguson: *Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson* (2011—June—2)

- if you are wondering...

[U.S. DOL - The History of Labor Day](http://www.dol.gov/opa/aboutdol/laborday.htm)
<http://www.dol.gov/opa/aboutdol/laborday.htm>

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers.

- Our researches into Public Opinion are content
That he held the proper opinions for the time of year;
When there was peace, he was for peace; when there was a war, he went.
— W. H. Auden: *The Unknown Citizen* (1939)

- I wish someone would extract all the noble passages from Schumann’s symphonies, and combine them into a single instrumental fantasia... so that we might enjoy them without the drudgery of listening to their elaboration into heavy separate works in which... there is nothing to admire except the composer’s devoted perseverance....
— George Bernard Shaw: *Music In London* (review of Schumann’s 4th Symphony [1892–Mar–02])
- (An unmatched left parenthesis creates an unresolved tension that will stay with you all day.
— Randall Munroe: *xkcd* [comic strip] (2011–Feb–11)
- How do USB MIDI hookups know to stop working just as you need them?
- [R Dean Crocker](#) was tagged in [Emily Holt Crocker's photo](#).



[Dean & Emily anniversary](#)

- Always amazed to discover that old stuff like this still exists! “Lullaby of Broadway” from the musical *42nd Street*, original cast, I do believe...



[42nd Street](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10150296914798929>

Length: 5:58

- I like rich people, especially when they are flexible and intelligent.
— George Abbott: *Mister Abbott* (1963)

- If a builder build a house for some one, and does not construct it properly, and the house which he built fall in and kill its owner, then that builder shall be put to death.
— The Code of Hammurabi (ca. 1700 BCE)

- Ah! Such fun memories!



Remembering Why Americans Loathe Dick Cheney

<http://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2011/08/remembering-why-americans-loathe-dick-cheney/244306/>

As the former vice-president releases his memoir, it's useful to recall the many reasons Americans disapproved of his tenure

R Dean Crocker ...it is a tale

Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury,

Signifying nothing.

— William Shakespeare: *Macbeth* (before 1611)

- Mediocre minds usually dismiss anything which reaches beyond their own understanding.
— François, Duc de la Rochefoucauld (1613–1680)
- ...this new art is still in its infancy, and I hope and firmly believe, now that composers and physicists are at last working together, and music is again linked with science, as it was in the Middle Ages, that new and more musically efficient devices will be invented.
— Edgard Varèse: The Liberation of Sound (in *Perspectives of New Music* 5, no. 1, Fall-Winter, 1966)
- [When] the pretended friends of religion lead infidel lives; when they carry religion to market and offer it in exchange for luxuries and honors; when they place it familiarly and constantly in the columns of newspapers, manifestly connected with electioneering purposes, and when they are offering it up as a morning and evening sacrifice on the altar of political party—these men are placing a firebrand to every meeting house and applying a torch to every bible.
— Abraham Bishop: *Connecticut Republicanism — An Oration On The Extent And Power Of Political Delusion* (1800)
- Money may travel faster than sound in some directions, but not in the direction of musical experimentation or extension.
— Charles Ives: *Music And The Future* (1933)

- There is a germ of religion in human nature so strong that whenever an order of men can persuade the people by flattery or terror that they have salvation at their disposal, there can be no end to fraud, violence, or usurpation.
— John Adams: letter to Benjamin Rush (1812—Jun—12)

- Ein Musiker kommt in eine Bar und sammelt für das Begräbnis eines toten Kollegen. Er war Akkordeonspieler.

Einer der Gäste fragt: „Was gibt man den so?“

„Ein Zehner wäre schön.“

„Hier hast du zwanzig. Beerdige noch einen.“

[A musician walks into a bar where people are gathering for a colleague’s funeral. He was an accordion player.

... One of the guests asks: “What should one donate?”

“A ten would be nice.”

“Here, take twenty. Bury another one.”]

— stumbled over this researching Hohner Elektroniums

- Of course, Facebook will never tell you about this...



Facebook to roll out new privacy features - The Times of India

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/tech/social-media/Facebook-to-revamp-privacy-controls/articleshow/9717481.cms>

Facebook Inc, under pressure to improve its privacy protections, will introduce new features to make it easier for users to control who views messages, photos and other shared items.

- I have no more right to the name of a poet than a maker of mouse-traps has to that of an engineer.
— William Cowper, to William Unwin (ca. 1785)

- Now THIS, boys and girls, is an important historical discovery!

Scientists find lager beer's missing link — in Patagonia

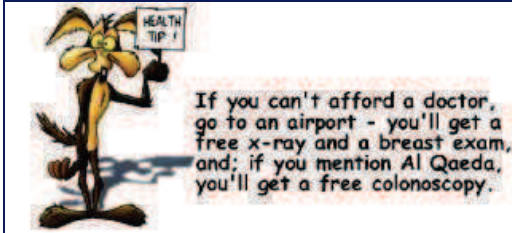
<http://www.latimes.com/news/science/la-sci-beer-yeast-20110823,0,5421077.story?track=rss>

How did lager beer come to be? After pondering the question for decades, scientists have found that an elusive species of yeast isolated in the forests of Argentina was key to the invention of the crisp-tasting German beer 600 years ago.

- Shall we forever make new books, as apothecaries make new mixtures, by pouring only out of one vessel into another? Are we forever to be twisting and untwisting the same rope?
— Laurence Sterne (1713—1768): *The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gent.*

- ...The seven heavens came roaring down for the throats of hell to drink,
And Noah he cocked his eye and said, “It looks like rain, I think,
The water has drowned the Matterhorn as deep as a Menkip mine,
But I don’t care where the water goes if it doesn’t get into the wine.”
— G. K. Chesterton: (1874–1936): *Wine And Water*

- Thanks to [Forest Aten](#):



Wall Photos

Well...

By: [Bobby Bynum](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1438504962>

- In a country well governed, poverty is something to be ashamed of. In a country badly governed, wealth is something to be ashamed of.
— Confucius: *Analects* (ca. 500 BCE???)
- He serves his party best who serves his country best.
— Rutherford B. Hayes: inaugural address (1877–Mar–05)
- The umpire is the sole judge of play, and is entitled to the respect of the spectators, and any person hissing or booing at, or offering any insult or indignity to him, must be promptly ejected from the grounds.
— National League Constitution (1876)
- Signs of advancing age:
The copy says, “Requiem Aeternam.”
I thought it said, “Requiem After Nam.”
sigh...
- The long [Canadian] frontier from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans, guarded only by neighborly respect and honorable obligations, is an example to every country and a pattern for the future of the world.
— Winston Churchill: speech, Canada Club, London (1939–Apr–20)

- For the amusement of my not-in-Wisconsin friends...

[Legislators seek to end state's butter-only law for restaurants, prisons - JSOnline](http://www.jsonline.com/news/wisconsin/130173953.html)

<http://www.jsonline.com/news/wisconsin/130173953.html>

Twelve legislators have decided a decades-old Wisconsin law is spread too thin. So they're co-sponsoring a bill to repeal the law that makes it a crime for restaurants, prisons and schools to substitute margarine for butter unless a customer requests it.

- If you want to make peace with your enemy, you have to work with your enemy. Then he becomes your partner.

— Nelson Mandela: *Long Walk To Freedom* (1995)

- New edition of the Joachim Raff String Octet, Op. 176 (ca. 1872) finished!

http://www.crockermusic.com/RAFF_OctetOp176.html

- Peoples and government have never learned anything from history, or acted on principles deducible from it.

— Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel (1770–1831): *Philosophy of History* [posthumous]

- wonders why the scores displayed on televised sporting events keep getting smaller and more blurry...

- The 20th century has been characterised by three developments of great political importance. The growth of democracy; the growth of corporate power; and the growth of corporate propaganda against democracy.

— Alex Carey: *Taking the Risk out of Democracy* (1997)

- Noting music correctly is as difficult as playing an instrument correctly.

— Jean-Pierre Coulon: Repository of music-notation mistakes (2011)

<http://icking-music-archive.org/lists/sottisier/sottieng.pdf>

- Is this the stupidest POS in the US senate?



[The Senator Who Could Have Shut Down The FAA : NPR](http://www.npr.org/blogs/itsallpolitics/2011/09/15/140513490/the-senator-who-almost-shut-down-the-faa-again)

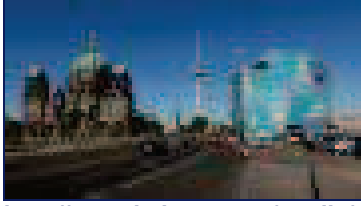
<http://www.npr.org/blogs/itsallpolitics/2011/09/15/140513490/the-senator-who-almost-shut-down-the-faa-again>

Sen. Tom Coburn threatened to block a transportation bill that would extend funding for the FAA. He objected to a part of the bill that funds bike paths and museums.

- Look for the ridiculous in everything, and you will find it.

— Jules Renard (1864–1910)

- To anyone who knows Berlin: So is THAT is what finally replaced the Palast der Republik?



<http://www.latimes.com/media/photo/2011-06/140486880-29121649.jpg>

- Rien n'est plus dangereux qu'une idée, quand on n'a qu'une idée.
[Nothing is more dangerous than an idea, when you have only one idea.]
— Alain [Émile-Auguste Chartier]: *Propos sur la religion* (1938)
- The meeting of two personalities is like the contact of two chemical substances: if there is any reaction, both are transformed.
— Carl Gustav Jung: *Modern Man In Search Of A Soul* (1933)
- I am the people — the mob — the crowd — the mass.
Do you know that all the great work of the world is done through me?
— Carl Sandburg: *I Am The People, The Mob* (1916)
- Locavores unite? :-)
[Holy Smokey - Wiener Zeitung Online](http://www.wienerzeitung.at/nachrichten/english_news/395635_Holy-Smokey.html)
http://www.wienerzeitung.at/nachrichten/english_news/395635_Holy-Smokey.html
A bishop has been bashed by his flock after he staged a boozy barbie in his cathedral to thank builders for their work. Bishop Norbert Trelle, 69...
- Freedom is not something that one people can bestow on another as a gift. They claim it as their own and none can keep it from them.
— Kwame Nkrumah: speech in Accra, Ghana (1953–Jul–10)
- Du mußt die Nacht nicht in dir verschränken,
Mußt sie ins ewige Licht versenken.
[You must not let the night enfold you,
You must immerse yourself in perpetual light.]
— Friedrich Rückert (1788-1866): *Nun will die Sonn' so hell aufgehn*
- In the United States, it is almost inconceivable what rubbish a public man has to utter today if he is to keep respectable.
— John Maynard Keynes: in the *Atlantic Monthly* (1932–May)

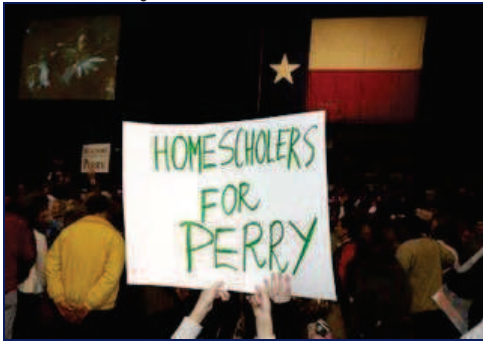
- The bassoon is one of my favorite instruments. It has the medieval aroma, like the days when everything used to sound like that. Some people crave baseball...I find this unfathomable, but I can easily understand why a person could get excited about playing the bassoon.

— Frank Zappa with Peter Occhiogrosso: *The Real Frank Zappa Book* (1988)

- Literature flourishes best when it is half a trade and half an art.

— William Ralph Inge: *The Victorian Age* (1922)

- Nice. Really nice.



Wall Photos

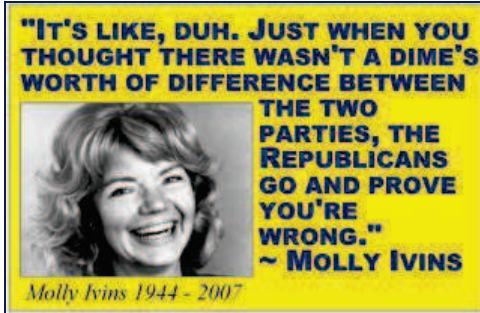
Yay, gud spelleeng. Yay ejukay --- edgu --- lurneeng! :-/

Wait, they spelled "cholera" wrong. That is what they were getting at, isn't it?

By: [The Christian Left](https://www.facebook.com/TheChristianLeft) <https://www.facebook.com/TheChristianLeft>

- No man is above the law and no man is below it, nor do we ask any man's permission when we require him to obey it.
— Theodore Roosevelt: message to Congress (1904)
- A nation must have a religion, and that religion must be under the control of the government.
— Napoleon I, to Count Antoine Thibaudeau (1801–June)
- Everyone has the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests.
— Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Art. 23.4 (1948)
- Writing about music is like dancing about architecture.
— Elvis Costello: Interview in *Musician* magazine (1983–October)
- There is a proper dignity and proportion to be observed in the performance of every act of life.
— Marcus Aurelius Antoninus: *Meditations, book IV* (ca. 175)

- Thank you, Forest.



Wall Photos

By: [Elitist Liberal Scum](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Elitist-Liberal-Scum/103172666432230>

- My opinion of the guy has gone up a notch...

[SFGate.com : Christie: 'Now is not my time' for White House bid](#)

<http://m.sfgate.com/sfchron/article/k3oRZrFY>

Christie said Tuesday he felt an obligation to reconsider his repeated statements he would not make a White House run. Party leaders in recent weeks have lobbied him to re-evaluate that position and he spent the weekend considering a late entry into the field.

- What is the use of living, if it be not to strive for noble causes and to make this muddled world a better place for those who will live in it after we are gone?
— Winston Churchill: speech at Kinnaird Hall, Dundee, Scotland (1908-Oct-10)
- Ruhe ist die erste Bürgerpflicht.
[Calmness is the first duty of the citizen.]
— Friedrich Wilhelm Graf von der Schulenburg-Kehnert: *Proclamation to the people of Berlin, 1806-Oct-17* (3 days after the Battle of Jena)
- It is desirable that the line from home base through the pitcher's plate to second base shall run East-Northeast.
— Official Rules of Baseball 1.04
- I may not have been sure about what really did interest me, but I was absolutely sure about what didn't.
— Albert Camus: *The Stranger* (1942)
- It is not necessary to understand things in order to argue about them.
— Pierre Beaumarchais (1732-1799)
- Pirates beat Brewers. 9 innings in 4 hours 13 minutes! YAWN!

- I have no desire to prove anything by it. I have never used it as an outlet or a means of expressing myself. I just dance.
— Fred Astaire: *Steps in Time* (1959)
- Science is organized knowledge.
Wisdom is organized life.
— Immanuel Kant (1724–1804)
- The industrious husbandman plants trees of which he himself will never see a berry.
— Marcus Tullius Cicero: *Tusculanae disputationes* (ca. 45 BCE)
- Should any political party attempt to abolish social security, unemployment insurance, and eliminate labor laws and farm programs, you would not hear of that party again in our political history. There is a tiny splinter group, of course, that believes you can do these things. Among them are H. L. Hunt (you possibly know his background), a few other Texas oil millionaires, and an occasional politician or business man from other areas. Their number is negligible and they are stupid.
— Dwight D. Eisenhower: letter to his brother, Edgar Newton Eisenhower (1954–November–08)
- Makes sense to me...

Times of Flight between a Source and a Detector observed from a GPS satellite
<http://arxiv.org/abs/1110.2685>
- There are two means of refuge from the miseries of life: music and cats.
— Albert Schweitzer (1875–1965)
- How to reduce the US deficit:
Adopt the long-scale numerical system used throughout most of the world (except for many former English colonies). Fourteen trillion immediately changes to 14 billion—just like that!
- Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose.
[The more things change, the more they remain the same.]
— Alphonse Karr: *Les Guêpes* (1849–Jan)
- A reactionary is a somnambulist walking backward.
— Franklin D. Roosevelt: radio speech, 1939–Oct–26

- It's long. It's fairly boring. It might be worth reading if you're still wondering...



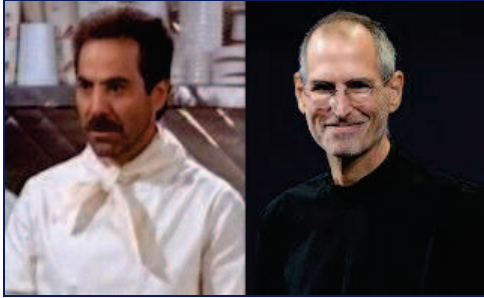
Republicans Stretch Truth in Debate Salvos on Jobs, Health Care - Businessweek

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2011-10-12/republicans-stretch-truth-in-debate-salvos-on-jobs-health-care.html>

Mitt Romney, Rick Perry and the other Republican presidential candidates stretched the truth on health care, job creation and the deficit in a debate last night as they attacked each other and President Barack Obama.

- The main mark of modern governments is that we do not know who governs, de facto any more than de jure. We see the politician and not his backer; still less the backer of the backer; or, what is most important of all, the banker of the backer.
— J.R.R. Tolkien, in *The Letters of J.R.R. Tolkien*
- Never let your sense of morals get in the way of doing what's right.
— Isaac Asimov (1920-1992)
- BBC News: US pianist Williams dies aged 87
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/mobile/entertainment-arts-15233231>
- When machines and computers, profit motives and property rights are considered more important than people, the giant triplets of racism, materialism, and militarism are incapable of being conquered.
— Martin Luther King: speech, Riverside Church, NYC (1967-Apr-04)
- When a man says he approves of something in principle, it means he hasn't the slightest intention of putting it into practice.
— Otto von Bismarck (1815-1898)
- God did not create this country to be a nation of followers.
— Mitt Romney: speech, Charleston, South Carolina (2011-Oct-07)
R Dean Crocker someone wasn't paying attention in history class...
- No one really listens to anyone else, and if you try it for a while you'll see why.
— Mignon McLaughlin (1913-1983)
- Impending hard disk failure sucks...

- Basically the same character...



- I am chaos.

I am the substance from which your artists and scientists build rhythms.

I am the spirit with which your children and clowns laugh in happy anarchy.

I am chaos. I am alive, and I tell you that you are free.

— Malaclypse The Younger [Greg Hill] and Omar Khayyam Ravenhurst [Kerry Thornley]:
Principia Discordia (numerous versions, 1965–present)

- It signifies nothing to play well if you lose.

— H. G. Bohn: *Handbook of Proverbs* (1855)

- UNIX is very simple, it just needs a genius to understand its simplicity.

— Dennis Ritchie (1941–2011)

- One of the biggies...

[Pete Rugolo dies at 95: jazz arranger, composer](#)

www.latimes.com

Pete Rugolo , an award-winning composer and arranger who came to prominence in the world of jazz as the chief arranger for Stan Kenton’s post- World War II band and later wrote the themes for TV’s *The Fugitive* and *Run for Your Life*, has died. He was 95.

- Reflect on every thing you hear, but believe only on proof.

— Publilius Syrus: *Sententiæ* (ca. 50 BCE)

- Some good ideas...

[Congressional Progressive Caucus : The People's Priorities to Rebuild the American Dream](#)

<http://cpc.grijalva.house.gov/index.cfm?sectionid=79&iontree=5%2C79>

- When I came up to bat with three men on and two outs in the ninth, I looked in the other team’s dugout and they were already in street clothes.

— Bob Uecker: quoted in *Baseball Digest* (1972–June)

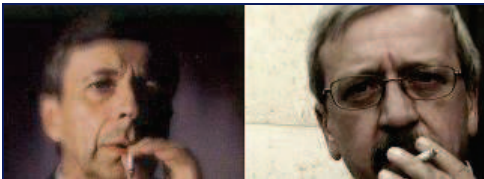
- We had a bad banking situation. Some of our bankers had shown themselves either incompetent or dishonest in their handling of the people's funds. They had used the money entrusted to them in speculations and unwise loans.
— Franklin Roosevelt: *Fireside Chat on Banking* (1933—March—12)

- Always feels good to finally finish a new composition...



CROCKER MUSIC: Palimpsest (Crocker)

http://www.crockermusic.com/CROCKER_Palimpsest.html

- You want the audience to listen to the music, not to you. (Sometimes we forget.)
- Estragon: I can't go on like this.
Vladimir: That's what you think.
— Samuel Beckett: *Waiting For Godot* (1952)
- This is for everyone who has forgotten how *God Bless America* goes...
God Bless America, First Radio performance, Armistice Day November 10, 1938, Kate Smith
- <http://youtu.be/b1rKQReqJZg>
This is the original FIRST broadcast radio performance of *God Bless America* by Irving Berlin as introduced by Kate Smith on November 10, 1938. She later recorded...
- I sputtered whole days through M. Arban's (he's the great authority on the [trumpet]) double- and triple-tounging exercises — with an effect like that of a jackass hiccupping off a big meal of briars.
- Ralph Ellison: *Living With Music* (from *Shadow and Act*, 1955)
- The absurd is the essential concept and the first truth.
— Albert Camus: *The Myth of Sisyphus* (1942)
- no comment...

- When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, do not pick it over again; that shall go to the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow.
— Deuteronomy [דְּבָרִים] (date greatly debated)

- Grosse Seelen dulden still.
[Great souls endure in silence.]
— Johann Christoph Friedrich von Schiller: *Don Carlos* (1787)
- ATTN: all you pseudo-patriotic pre-game show organizers:
The flag should never be carried flat or horizontally, but always aloft and free.
— United States Code, Title 4, Chapter 1, §8c
- Stumbled upon a broadcast of *The Wiz* movie and am once again happy to note how great songs can transcend one the worst damn movies ever made...
- Does the success of program music depend more upon the program than upon the music? If it does, what is the use of the music, if it does not, what is the use of the program?
— Charles Ives: *Essays Before A Sonata* (1920)
- Ἀνεπίφθω κύβος
Alea iacta est.
[The die is cast.]
— Julius Caesar, when crossing the Rubicon (121); quoted in Suetonius: *Vita Divi Iuli*
[According to Plutarch, Caesar actually said this in Greek.]
- When IBM announced the IBM-PC, [they] unbundled personal computer software because they realized that, despite their huge size and software development resources, they did not have the human resources needed to produce the full range of software demanded by personal computer users.
— Boris Beizer: *The Frozen Keyboard* (1986/1988)
- Computers make it easier to do a lot of things, but most of the things they make it easier to do don't need to be done.
— attributed to Andy Rooney (1919–2011)
- A politician is a man who understands government, and it takes a politician to run a government. A statesman is a politician who's been dead 10 or 15 years.
— Harry S Truman: quoted in *The New York World Telegram & Sun* (1958–Apr–12)
- Yesterday's symmetrical poesy and ecstatically violined liltings have become today's "corn," not because the young world has lost one wave length from its range of receptive tunability to the evolution regenerating universal energizations, but because the young world has found asymmetry as stimulating as symmetry.
— Buckminster Fuller: *Ideas And Integrity* (1963)

- Washington Post reporter Phil Rucker: Can I ask my question?

Herman Cain: No. Where's my chief of staff?

Mark Block: Right here.

Cain: Please send him the journalistic code of ethics.

Mark Block: Will do.

— Herman Cain: “discussion” with reporters, The Woodlands, Texas (2011–Nov–05)

Journalists should diligently seek out subjects of news stories to give them the opportunity to respond to allegations of wrongdoing.

— Code of Ethics of the Society of Professional Journalists <http://www.spj.org/pdf/ethicscode.pdf>

- Every dollar of fixed and stable value has, through the agency of confident credit, an astonishing capacity of multiplying itself in financial work. Every unstable and fluctuating dollar fails as a basis of credit and in its use begets gambling speculation and undermines the foundations of honest enterprise.

— Grover Cleveland: message to Congress (1895–Dec–02)

- Who is who? Gordon MacRae, Matt LeBlanc.



- Only by not forgetting the past can we be the master of the future.

— Ba Jin [Li Yaotang 李尧棠] (1904–2005): quoted in *China Daily* (2003–Nov–24)

- Never believe anything until it has been officially denied.

— Claud Cockburn (1904–1981)

- The money was all appropriated for the top in the hopes that it would trickle down to the needy. Mr. Hoover didn't know that money trickled up. Give it to the people at the bottom and the people at the top will have it before night, anyhow. But it will at least have passed through the poor fellow's hands.

— Will Rogers: article in the *St. Petersburg Times* (1932–Nov–26)

- If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich.

— John F. Kennedy: Inaugural address (1961–January–20)

- When the highest type of men hear Tao, they diligently practice it.
When the average type of men hear Tao, they half believe in it.
When the lowest type of men hear Tao, they laugh heartily at it.
— Laozi [老子]: *Tao Te Ching* (possibly 6th century BCE), trans., Wing-tsit Chan
- The people may be made to follow a path of action, but they may not be made to understand it.
— Confucius: *Analects* (ca. 500 BCE?)
- Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the public Acts, Records, and judicial Proceedings of every other State...
— Constitution of the United States, Art. IV, Sect. 1 (1787)
No State, territory, or possession of the United States, or Indian tribe, shall be required to give effect to any public act, record, or judicial proceeding of any other State, territory, possession, or tribe respecting a relationship between persons of the same sex that is treated as a marriage...
— 28 U.S.C., § 1738C [Defense of Marriage Act] (1996)
Have you ever seen an Act of Congress that was so specifically, word-by-word, unconstitutional?
- We denounce the Mellon tax plan as a device to relieve multi-millionaires at the expense of other tax payers, and favor a taxation policy providing for immediate reductions upon moderate incomes, large increases in the inheritance tax rates upon large estates to prevent the indefinite accumulation by inheritance of great fortunes in a few hands...
— Progressive Party Platform (1924)
- I am aware that “tradition” has it that the lay listener, by virtue of some undefined, transcendental faculty, always is able to arrive at a musical judgment absolute in its wisdom if not always permanent in its validity. I regret my inability to accord this declaration of faith the respect due its advanced age.
— Milton Babbitt: *The Composer As Specialist* (1958)
- Another thing that sank the music biz:
I just ran across an LP from 1962 with the price tag still on it. It cost \$4.47.
Adjusted to inflation, that comes to about \$32 today. Who would spend \$32 for a not very good CD?
- One disadvantage of being a hog is that at any moment some blundering fool may try to make a silk purse out of your wife’s ear.
— J. B. Morton: *By The Way* (1931)

- The world is made up for the most part of morons and natural tyrants, sure of themselves, strong in their own opinions, never doubting anything.
— Clarence Darrow: *Liberty* (1928)
- As we listen to all the commentary today about conservative Iowans having so much influence on Republican presidential candidates, keep in mind that Iowa's electoral vote has gone Republican once in the last 20 years. Hmm.
- Wrote a new little ditty. If you've nothing else to do, waste a few minutes here...
[Arion Rides the Dolphin by Dean Crocker](#)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gjrQsYxZoAg&feature=share>
- [Charlie] Chaplin had no previous film acting experience when he came to California... But at the time he first arrived as a greenhorn at the gates of Keystone to try his luck at making a buck in those "galloping tintypes" of 1913, he already had under his belt close to twenty years stage experience in British music hall.
— Stephen M. Weissman, in *Exile's Return: A Lion In Winter* (2008)
- Just watched the PBS version of Wiener Phil's New Year's Day concert. Someone please tell me just WHAT is the "Vienna City Ballet?"
- Accurate, understandable, and oh-so-different from what the talking heads keep saying...
[Nobody Understands Debt](#)
<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/01/02/opinion/krugman-nobody-understands-debt.html?src=tp&smid=fb-share>
The obsession with deficit reduction is wrongheaded and ill-informed.
- All progress is based upon a universal innate desire on the part of every organism to live beyond its income.
— Samuel Butler: *Note-Books* (ca. 1890)
- Just keep repeating it until somebody listens...
[Keynes Was Right](#)
<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/30/opinion/keynes-was-right.html?src=tp&smid=fb-share>
Once again, when politicians and policy makers decided to focus on deficits, not jobs, they proved Keynes right about a slump being the wrong time for austerity.
- Give me the liberty to know, to utter, and to argue freely according to conscience, above all liberties.
— John Milton: *Areopagitica* (1644)

- I suppose I should pass this along, huh? (Thank you, Emily!)
Thanks to all for the wonderful birthday greetings and for those who care to read further, here's a little yearly update from me & Dean.

January 1, 2012

Dear friends near & far,

We hope your holidays past were pleasant! We were in Wisconsin through Dec. 26 before traveling to Fort Worth for a few days where the weather was lovely. We returned to Milwaukee on Dec. 31 where the ground remained clear of snow and the weather felt almost balmy (almost but not quite!)

Emily thanks all of her Facebook friends for the birthday greetings on Dec. 29 — it's astounding to hear from so many of you — it makes the inevitable "year older" almost bearable!

I decided to write our yearly update in the form of a Facebook post, so maybe a few of you will see and possibly read it! Here are some of 2011's highlights (and a few lowlights):

Travel

There were no vacations as such in 2011. Emily's mother Lora broke her hip and had emergency surgery in late 2010. After several weeks in the hospital and rehab and at Emily's brother's house in Stephenville, TX, she is now back in her own home and is doing well, although moving a bit more slowly with a walker. However, she can't drive her car, so Emily (and sometimes Dean, too) traveled to Fort Worth periodically for to run errands and do chores around the house. In fact, we now know the Kroger Grocery layout pretty well!

The Texas Music Educator's convention in San Antonio (February) and the American Choral Directors Convention in Chicago (March) were great opportunities to see old and new friends and colleagues from around the globe. The Hal Leonard Joy of Singing Workshops and Conductor's Craft event were both strong events. We'll be continuing those in 2012 and moving them into the digital world as well (stay tuned at www.halleonard.com!) And we enjoyed a trip to northern California to work with Hal Leonard writers John Jacobson & Roger Emerson.

Sadly, Emily's Aunt Pauline Applegate and Uncle Harold Applegate (Lora's brother) passed away early in 2011 within weeks of each other in Kentucky. We traveled to both funerals and were comforted by the presence of Emily's uncle and aunt, Ed and Martha Hardin, with

whom we stayed, and many cousins and friends that we seldom see, as well as the winter landscape of Lewis County, Kentucky and memories of happy times past.

Work

Dean continues to excel in the craft of music editing and engraving, and is the main print engraver for the G. Schirmer choral catalog. Recent projects include several new editions in the Craig Hella Johnson and Judith Clurman series, among others.

Dean also has composed and edited several new works — all available online at <http://crockermusic.com/catalog.html>. Check them out!

Emily continues in her position as Vice President for Choral Publications at Hal Leonard, where she oversees the publication and marketing of the world's largest choral catalog, not just Hal Leonard, but Boosey & Hawkes, G. Schirmer, Shawnee Press, Walton Music, Eric Whitacre and much more! Our in-house editorial staff is growing as well and we have a talented group of composers and arrangers who are also fun to work with! Emily composed a few new pieces as well (visit www.halleonard.com and search "Crocker" to see and hear) and recently completed a 31-song project for McGraw Hill Kindergarten and Grade 1 Reading with John Jacobson and Andy Waterman focusing on the sounds of the alphabet. It includes such highlights as "Freddy the Fox was Carrying a Box" (for the "x" sound) and "A Hippo in the House" (for the "h" sound) and 29 more!

Outside of the day job, Emily's new choral ensemble, the Vocal Arts Academy continues to flourish and grow. We give about 3 concerts per year and you can check us out at www.youtube.com/vocalartsmilwaukee. Or our website: <http://pws.prserv.net/crocker/>. Both sites include video performances from recent concerts. And for those close enough, you are all invited to our concert "On This Shining Night" on Monday, January 23, 7:00 PM at First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa. We'll be singing music by Morton Lauridsen, Georgia Stitt, Emily Crocker, Nicola Porpora and the Beatles!

Our furry feline companion Leo is enjoying his 6th or 7th life, and enjoys entertaining us with his antics, walking around the neighborhood on a leash (leading a peculiar man behind him), watching the bunnies, birds and squirrels in the yard and, oh yes, sleeping a lot by heater vents and the like.

We send our heartfelt greetings to all — if you find yourself in the Milwaukee area, we offer our hospitality and cheerful company!

<http://pws.prserv.net/crocker/>

<http://crockermusic.com/catalog.html>

- Possibly the gates of hell opening?
[NKorea cites mysterious glow just before Kim death - CBS News](http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-501712_162-57346810/nkorea-cites-mysterious-glow-just-before-kim-death/)
http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-501712_162-57346810/nkorea-cites-mysterious-glow-just-before-kim-death/
- Ya think the blue t-shirt said "I'M WITH STUPID" ???
[Westboro Baptist Church Member Wears 'Glee' T-Shirt At Anti-Gay Protest \(PHOTO\)](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/12/13/westboro-baptist-church-glee-t-shirt_n_1145987.html?ref=mostpopular)
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/12/13/westboro-baptist-church-glee-t-shirt_n_1145987.html?ref=mostpopular
 One particularly hapless member of the Westboro Baptist Church — which is known for its extreme stance against homosexuality — was recently snapped wearing a T-shirt emblazoned with the logo for “Glee,” arguably the most gay-friendly show currently on television.
- FYI
 Country’s oldest white bison dies
<http://www.nativetimes.com/life/culture/6369-countrys-oldest-white-bison-dies>
 Native American Times - #1 Source for Native news in the US.
- Computer science is no more about computers than astronomy is about telescopes, biology is about microscopes or chemistry is about beakers and test tubes. Science is not about tools, it is about how we use them and what we find out when we do.
 — Michael R. Fellows & Ian Parberry: “SIGACT trying to get children excited about CS,”
 Computing Research News (1993–January)
- Philosophy is merely thought that has been thought out. It is often a great bore. But man has no alternative, except between being influenced by thought that that has been thought out and being influenced by thought that has not been thought out. The latter is what we commonly call culture and enlightenment.
 — G. K. Chesterton (1874–1936)
- Laws and institutions must go hand in hand with the progress of the human mind. As that becomes more developed, more enlightened, as new discoveries are made, new truths disclosed, and manners and opinions change with the change of circumstances, institutions must advance also, and keep pace with the times.
 — Thomas Jefferson: letter to Samuel Kercheval (1816–July–12)
- A university is what a college becomes when the faculty loses interest in students.
 — John Ciardi: in *Saturday Review*, Volume 49 (1966)
- A sympathetic Scot summed it all up very neatly in the remark, “You should make a point of trying every experience once, excepting incest and folk dancing.”
 — Sir Arnold Bax: *Farewell My Youth* (1943)

- Anfangen ist leicht, beharren eine Kunst.
[To begin is easy, to persist is art.]
— German proverb
- Drink wine, and have the gout;
Drink none, and have the gout.
— John Cogan: *The Haven of Health* (1584)
- The right of the laborer to wages, the right of every innocent man to his own person, the right of all to equity before the laws — these are no longer abstractions of speculative visionaries, no longer innovations, but the established rights of humanity.
— William Ellery Channing: letter to Jonathan Phillips (1839)
- Close enough...



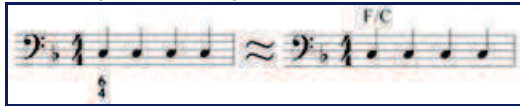
- Note paragraph 2: “The amount of underpaid taxes far exceeded the size of the entire federal budget deficit at the time.”
[Estimate: 17 percent of US taxes owed went unpaid | CanadianBusiness.com](http://www.canadianbusiness.com/article/64768--estimate-17-percent-of-us-taxes-owed-went-unpaid#.TwhwUE4gQdo.facebook)
<http://www.canadianbusiness.com/article/64768--estimate-17-percent-of-us-taxes-owed-went-unpaid#.TwhwUE4gQdo.facebook>
- [Daily Kos: 'Job creation' vs. Romney's locust capitalism](http://www.dailykos.com/story/2012/01/06/1052159/--Job-creation-vs-Romney-s-locust-capitalism)
<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2012/01/06/1052159/--Job-creation-vs-Romney-s-locust-capitalism>
Mitt Romney, Man of the People.
- Life would be tragic if it weren't funny.
— Stephen Hawking: quoted in “The Science of Second-Guessing”, *The New York Times* (2004—Dec—12)

- Science is the great antidote to the poison of enthusiasm and superstition.
— Adam Smith: *An Inquiry into the Nature And Causes of the Wealth of Nations* (1776, 1801)
- Why does it always fall upon comedians to point out the obvious?
[Santorum wants to impose 'Judeo-Christian Sharia' — CNN.com](http://www.cnn.com/2012/01/05/opinion/obeidallah-santorum-sharia/index.html?eref=mrss_igoogle_cnn)
http://www.cnn.com/2012/01/05/opinion/obeidallah-santorum-sharia/index.html?eref=mrss_igoogle_cnn
Dean Obeidallah asks: How do his claims that U.S. civil law should reflect Christian law differ from the Taliban in Afghanistan?
- The game:
 - 1) Discover the #1 single in your country of origin in the week you were born
 - 2) Find it on YouTube
 - 3) Post it on your Facebook page without shame[That Lucky Old Sun - Frankie Laine](http://youtu.be/9nTdZopEyu8)
<http://youtu.be/9nTdZopEyu8>
- The greatest minds are capable of the greatest vices as well as of the greatest virtues.
— René Descartes: *Le discours de la méthode* (1637)
- What a difference a day makes...



- Just as my fingers on these keys
Make music, so the self-same sounds
On my spirit make a a music, too.
— Wallace Stevens: *Peter Quince At The Clavier* (1923)
- Oh, yeah!
[Spongebob Voice Actors Dub Classic Movies](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cHEH1wW-AT4)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cHEH1wW-AT4>
The voice cast of Spongebob Squarepants dub some of the greatest films ever made.

- We have just enough religion to make us hate, but not enough to make us love one another.
— Jonathan Swift: *Thoughts on Various Subjects from Miscellanies* (1711–1726)
- One person's view from across the pond...
[Sh*t Republican candidates say](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2012/jan/10/sht-republican-candidates-say)
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2012/jan/10/sht-republican-candidates-say>
Lizz Winstead: I thought I had a potty mouth, but you should hear the way this GOP field talks. For starters, they're obsessed with sex...
- The practice of “reviewing”... in general has nothing in common with the art of criticism.
— Henry James: *Criticism* (1893)
- We can never be a nation of snobs so long as we are willing to poke fun at ourselves.
— Edgar W. “Bill” Nye: in *The Century* magazine (1892)
- O! for a plump fat leg of mutton,
Veal, lamb, capon, pig, and coney;
None is happy but a glutton,
None an ass but who wants money...
— John Lyly: *Campaspe* (1584)
- inspiring...
[Hawking turns 70 with a brief history of mine | Reuters](http://uk.reuters.com/article/2012/01/08/science-hawking-idUKL6E8C70EA20120108)
<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2012/01/08/science-hawking-idUKL6E8C70EA20120108>
By Kate Kelland, Health and Science Correspondent CAMBRIDGE, England, Jan 8 (Reuters)-
The world's most widely recognised living scientist Stephen Hawking was too ill to attend his 70th birthday celebrations...
- [Disputants should be temperate in their language] because in this way the truth, which is often lost amidst too much wrangling, may be more surely perceived.
— Erasmus of Rotterdam (1466–1536): *De libero arbitrio*
(Rendered by H. L. Mencken as “Truth is lost with too much debating.”)
- Just one more opera I don't want to sit through... :-)
[News From KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY of DPRK](http://www.kcna.co.jp/index-e.htm)
<http://www.kcna.co.jp/index-e.htm>
- Adding highway lanes to deal with traffic congestion is like loosening your belt to cure obesity.
— Lewis Mumford (1895–1990)

- In is unjust and in my opinion morally wrong to make a person with earned income pay considerably more in taxes than persons with unearned income from dividends.
— John W. McCormack (1891–1980), Speaker of the House of Representatives from 1962 to 1971: quoted in *The New York Times*, 2012–Jan–20
- Capitalist production is not the production of consumer goods, nor is it merely the production of commodities; it is pre-eminently the production of surplus value.
— Rosa Luxemburg (1871–1919): *Die Akkumulation des Kapitals* [The Accumulation of Capital] (1913) [trans., Agnes Schwarzschild, 1951]
- All the problems we face in the United States today can be traced to an unenlightened immigration policy on the part of the American Indian.
— Patrick Layton “Pat” Paulsen (1927–1997)
- blockhead, cretin, dimwit, dunce, fool, idiot, ignoramous, imbecile, jerk, moron, nincompoop, nitwit, stupid, claims to be a “historian”
[Daily Kos: Newt Gingrich reiterates his plans to be an outlaw president, or if you prefer, a dictator](http://www.dailykos.com/story/2012/01/19/1056256/-Newt-Gingrich-reiterates-his-plans-to-be-an-outlaw-president,-or-if-you-prefer,-adictator)
<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2012/01/19/1056256/-Newt-Gingrich-reiterates-his-plans-to-be-an-outlaw-president,-or-if-you-prefer,-adictator>
If Gingrich managed to overcome the odds and take up residence in the White House, he has repeatedly made plain that he would openly defy Supreme Court decisions on a broad number of issues. In fact, it seems, on any issue he as president disagreed with. At a candidate forum held Wednesday by Person...
- ...it is often easier to fight for principles than to live up to them.
— Adlai Stevenson: speech, New York City (1952–Aug–27)
- Be a craftsman in speech that thou mayest be strong, for the strength of one is the tongue, and speech is mightier than all fighting.
— Ptahhotep: *Maxims* (ca. 2400 BCE or earlier)
- It's only about style...

- Be concerned about your brother. You may not be on strike. But either we go up together, or we go down together.
— Martin Luther King: speech [I've Been to the Mountaintop], Memphis, Tennessee (1968)

- Don't get sick in Wisconsin...
[Appointment of state health officer raises eyebrows](http://host.madison.com/ct/news/local/govt-and-politics/city-hall/appointment-of-state-health-officer-raises-eyebrows/article_f16dddf4-3d35-11e1-9be2-0019bb2963f4.html)
http://host.madison.com/ct/news/local/govt-and-politics/city-hall/appointment-of-state-health-officer-raises-eyebrows/article_f16dddf4-3d35-11e1-9be2-0019bb2963f4.html
 This week's announcement that health department Secretary Dennis Smith's pick for the state's new health officer is Karen McKeown, a...
- Une maison est une machine-à-habiter.
 [A house is a machine for living in.]
 — Charles Édouard Jeanneret (Le Corbusier): *Vers une Architecture* (1923)
- But is mimicry acting? [Order another round and discuss amongst yourselves.]
- Ich die Baukunst eine erstarrte Musik nenne.
 [I call architecture frozen music.]
 — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe: letter to Eckermann (1829)
- Some interesting observations here.
[Mitt Romney, would-be president of the 0.001%](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2012/jan/14/mitt-romney-wouldbe-president-0-001-percent)
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2012/jan/14/mitt-romney-wouldbe-president-0-001-percent>
 John Stoehr: We keep hearing that Romney is a moderate, but his economic policies make Reaganomics look like socialism...
- Politics has got so expensive that it takes lots of money to even get beat with.
 — Will Rogers: syndicated newspaper column (1931–Jun–28)
- It is interesting how “the media” all seem to copy each other...
[Reading the Pictures: “Occupy” Flag Burning Photo as Extreme Prejudice](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/michael-shaw/reading-the-pictures-occu_2_b_1241804.html?ref=fb&src=sp&comm_ref=false)
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/michael-shaw/reading-the-pictures-occu_2_b_1241804.html?ref=fb&src=sp&comm_ref=false
 The photo almost everybody saw. I guess it's hard to conclude anything other than the fact that the Occupy movement must have decided to torch itself.
- The composer must bear in mind that the radio listener does not hear music directly. He hears it only after the sound has passed through a microphone, amplifiers, transmission lines, radio transmitter, receiving set, and, finally, the loud speaker apparatus itself.
 — Raymond Scott (1938)
- I know of no accordionists who specialize in playing continuo, but when you think about it, it would seem to be the perfect instrument for that purpose... :-)

- Good information.

[Facebook Timeline Looms: What You Need to Know](http://www.pcworld.com/article/248925/facebook_timeline_looms_what_you_need_to_know.html)

http://www.pcworld.com/article/248925/facebook_timeline_looms_what_you_need_to_know.html

Facebook is making Timeline compulsory and is rolling it out to all users in the next couple of weeks, so you'll want to be prepared for all that sharing.

- Ninety percent of the politicians give the other ten percent a bad reputation.

— Henry A. Kissinger: quoted in *The Other 637 Best Things Anybody Ever Said* by Robert Byrne [1984]

- Being desirous of allaying the dissensions of party strife now existing within our realm, I do hereby dissolve and abolish the Democratic and Republican parties...

— Joshua A. Norton, self-styled "Emperor of these United States and Protector of Mexico": Imperial Decree, published in *The San Francisco Herald* [1889–Aug–13]

[Emperor Norton](http://www.zpub.com/sf/history/nort.html)

<http://www.zpub.com/sf/history/nort.html>

At the pre-emptory request of a large majority of the citizens of these United States, I Joshua Norton, formerly of Algoa Bay, Cape of Good Hope, and now for the last nine years and ten months past of San Fransisco, California, declare and proclaim myself the Emperor of These United States....

- ...a news media more prone to stenography than journalism...

— Electoral Dysfunction, 2012 (editorial). *The Nation* (2012–Jan–30)

- My point is that when mad things start happening, it's when subgroups get out of control, and particularly when they combine: God, money and the military is a particularly deadly recipe.

— Hanna Segal (1918–2011): interviewed by Jon Henley in *The Guardian* (2008–Sep–7)

- While out-of-state liberal interests continue their effort to saddle Wisconsin taxpayers with the bill for their baseless recall, Governor Walker continues his efforts to reform government spending and create jobs.

— Ben Sparks, Communications Director for the Republican Party of Wisconsin: quoted on WISGOP<dot>ORG (2011–Nov–21)

[Four donors jointly gave Walker \\$1 million in recent weeks — JSONline](http://www.jsonline.com/news/statepolitics/four-donors-jointly-gave-walker-1-million-in-recent-weeks-jh3u371-137978248.html)

<http://www.jsonline.com/news/statepolitics/four-donors-jointly-gave-walker-1-million-in-recent-weeks-jh3u371-137978248.html>

Gov. Scott Walker received \$1 million from just four donors in recent weeks, and most of his money came from out of state as he raced to collect funds to fight an effort to recall him.

- In every age 'the good old days' were a myth. No one ever thought they were good at the time. For every age has consisted of crises that seemed intolerable to the people who lived through them.
— Brooks Atkinson: *Once Around the Sun* (1951)
- Faith may be defined briefly as an illogical belief in the occurrence of the improbable.
— H. L. Mencken: *Prejudices, Third Series* (1922)
- By my count, the GOP presidential primary debate reality series hit its 24th episode this evening, equaling the entire production run of *The Jetsons*. Although the debates were certainly more fanciful, I believe *The Jetsons* demonstrated higher quality writing and better character development.
- Poverty does not produce unhappiness: It produces degradation.
— George Bernard Shaw (1856–1950)
- Let the insane rumors begin...
[Russian Scientists Drill to Sub-Glacial Antarctic Lake](http://en.ria.ru/science/20120206/171176587.html)
<http://en.ria.ru/science/20120206/171176587.html>
After decades of drilling, Russian scientists have finally managed to pierce through Antarctica's ice sheet to reveal the secrets of a unique sub-glacial lake, Vostok, that has been sealed there for the past 20 million years, a scientific source said on Monday.
- Madonna fails to ignite Super Bowl halftime sparks
— Glenn Gamboa: Newsday web site
Madonna reigns at Super Bowl halftime show
— Joey Guerra: Houston Chronicle web site
- It violates right order whenever capital so employs the working or wage-earning classes as to divert business and economic activity entirely to its own arbitrary will and advantage, without any regard to the human dignity of the workers, the social character of economic life, social justice, and the common good.
— Pope Pius XI: *Quadragesimo anno* (1931–May–15)
- I profess both to learn and to teach anatomy, not from books but from dissections; not from positions of philosophers but from the fabric of nature.
— William Harvey: *De motu cordis et sanguinis* (1628)

- To widen the market and to narrow the competition, is always the interest of the dealers. To widen the market may frequently be agreeable enough to the interest of the public; but to narrow the competition must always be against it. This can serve only to enable the dealers, by raising their profits above what they naturally would be, to levy for their own benefit an absurd tax upon the rest of their fellow-citizens. The proposal of any new law or regulation of commerce that comes from this interest group, ought always to be listened to with great precaution, and ought never to be adopted till after having been long and carefully examined, not only with the most scrupulous, but with the most suspicious attention. It comes from an order of men, whose interest is never exactly the same with that of the public, who have generally an interest to deceive and even to oppress the public, and who accordingly have, upon many occasions, both deceived and oppressed it.
— Adam Smith: *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations* (first appeared in 1776)
- Always good to know that other nation's have stupid governments too!
[Fake citizenship ceremony: Colin Kenney refuses to apologize for Sun News broadcast, blames bureaucracy](http://news.nationalpost.com/2012/02/02/kenney-refuses-to-apologize-for-fake-citizenship-broadcast-blames-bureaucracy)
<http://news.nationalpost.com/2012/02/02/kenney-refuses-to-apologize-for-fake-citizenship-broadcast-blames-bureaucrats/>
A fake citizenship ceremony broadcast last fall on Sun News was the result of “logistical problems,” Immigration Minister Jason Kenney said Thursday in the House of Commons, amid much laughter
- There are many things that seem impossible only so long as one does not attempt them.
— André Gide: *Si le grain ne meurt* [If It Die] (1924)
- Money is like muck, not good except it be spread.
— Francis Bacon: *Of Seditions and Troubles. Essays* (1625)
Money is like manure; it's not worth a thing unless it's spread around encouraging young things to grow.
— Thornton Wilder: *The Matchmaker* (1954)
- Mid-Europe should never be colder than mid-winter Wisconsin! Hope my friends there all have warm coats, warm homes, and warm drinks!
Stay inside!!!
- ...most great wars are arranged by people who stay at home and sell groceries to the widow and orphan and old maids at one hundred per cent advance.
— Bill Nye: *History of the United States* (1894)

- The devil is always in the details...

[Komen's Planned Parenthood decision all about politics](http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/she-the-people/post/komens-planned-parenthood-decision-all-about-politics/2012/02/01/gIQAJ51xhQ_blog.html)

http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/she-the-people/post/komens-planned-parenthood-decision-all-about-politics/2012/02/01/gIQAJ51xhQ_blog.html

Komen founder Nancy Brinker has strong Republican ties and Cecile Richards, who leads Planned Parenthood, has strong Democratic Party ties.

- Inmates running the asylum...

[Daily Kos: House Republicans will vote to keep people out of strip clubs ... but still no jobs bill](http://shar.es/fcixO)

<http://shar.es/fcixO>

A bill that GOP leaders are bringing to the House floor Wednesday would require states to prevent welfare recipients from accessing or spending their benefits at strip clubs, casinos and liquor stores.

- We'd all like t'vote fer th'best man, but he's never a candidate.

— Frank McKinney (“Kin”) Hubbard (1868–1930)

- How is this even possible? MTI? Hello?

[At Plano Children's Theatre, They've Shampooed All the Black Kids out of Hairspray](http://blogs.dallasobserver.com/mixmaster/2012/01/at_plano_childrens_theatre_the.php)

http://blogs.dallasobserver.com/mixmaster/2012/01/at_plano_childrens_theatre_the.php

You need two things when you do the musical Hairspray: a fat girl to play the lead character, Tracy...

- Idea stolen (thanks, Marlene & Sandy) and reduced to complete absurdity...



- No man is ever so old but he thinks he can live another year.

— Cicero: *Cato Maior de Senectute*, vii (44 BCE)

- We are thankful they did not require contraceptives...

[8,000 instances of abuse alleged in Archdiocese bankruptcy hearing — JSOnline](http://www.jsonline.com/features/religion/archdiocese-bankruptcy-judge-allows-two-claims-to-stand-me44pue-139044534.html)

<http://www.jsonline.com/features/religion/archdiocese-bankruptcy-judge-allows-two-claims-to-stand-me44pue-139044534.html>

Sealed documents filed in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee bankruptcy identify at least 8,000 instances of child sexual abuse and 100 alleged offenders - 75 of them priests - who have not previously been named by the archdiocese, a victims' attorney said Thursday.

- Those who know how to win are much more numerous than those who know how to make proper use of their victories.

— Polybius [Πολύβιος] (ca. 200 BCE—ca. 118 BCE): *The Histories*

- I am lucky to have a representative in Congress that tells it like it is. The film clip seems to end before she did, however.

[Rep. Moore Discusses HHS Contraception Ruling on the House Floor](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gRsdQK8H2pc&feature=share)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gRsdQK8H2pc&feature=share>

- And just how long has THIS taken?

[Congress says instruments allowed as airplane carry-ons!](http://myemail.constantcontact.com/Congress-says-instruments-allowed-as-airplane-carry-ons-.html?soid=1101807703206&aid=mrCc1XxRfzU)

<http://myemail.constantcontact.com/Congress-says-instruments-allowed-as-airplane-carry-ons-.html?soid=1101807703206&aid=mrCc1XxRfzU>

The AFM applauds the passage of the FAA Bill that sets a consistent national policy allowing musical instruments on airplanes.

- Your representative owes you, not his industry only, but his judgment; and he betrays instead of serving you if he sacrifices it to your opinion.

— Edmund Burke: speech to the electors of Bristol (1774–November–3)

- Today's puzzle.



- I'm getting old and feeble and I cannot work no more,
I have laid my rusty mining tools away;
For forty years and over I have toiled about the mines,
But now I'm getting feeble, old and gray.
I started in the breaker and went back to it again,
But now my work is finished for all time;
The only place that's left me is the almshouse for a home,
Where I'm going to lay this weary head of mine.
— Traditional American: *The Old Miner's Refrain* (Library of Congress recording, LP 16)

- Glad I'm not playing there any more! The small Big Mac Menu (big mac, fries, drink) at the Zurich main train station McDonalds now costs equivalent of US\$ 12.50.

[World's 10 most expensive cities - CBS News](http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-505146_162-57379050/worlds-10-most-expensive-cities/)

http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-505146_162-57379050/worlds-10-most-expensive-cities/

The crisis in the euro zone pushed Zurich past Tokyo to become the costliest city on the planet, a new survey shows...

- The state has no place in the nation's bedrooms.
— Pierre Trudeau: interview, 1967–Dec–22

- VERY nice.



- Fantasy from Oz...
[What if nobody wins?](http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012-02-14/john-barron-brokered-convention/3829266)
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012-02-14/john-barron-brokered-convention/3829266>
As the candidates trade victories in the 2012 Republican Presidential Primary contest, and the race heads towards 'Super Tuesday' on March 6 when a dozen states will conduct primaries, caucuses or conventions, an intriguing possibility is emerging — what if nobody wins? It's a very, very big what if...
- He who says there is no such thing as an honest man, you may be sure is himself a knave.
— George Bishop Berkeley (1685–1753)
- Fairly hilarious...
[Summary Box: Chinese city seizes Apple iPads - CBS News](http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-501366_162-57376577/summary-box-chinese-city-seizes-apple-ipads/)
http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-501366_162-57376577/summary-box-chinese-city-seizes-apple-ipads/
- It is a reproach to religion and government to suffer so much poverty and excess.
— William Penn: *Some Fruits of Solitude* (1693)
- Everyone shall have the right to freedom of association with others, including the right to form and join trade unions for the protection of his interests.
— International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Art. 22.1 (1967)
- If you make people think they're thinking, they'll love you; but if you really make them think, they'll hate you.
— Don Marquis, quoted in *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* (1958–February)
- Las necedades del rico por sentencias pasan en el mundo.
[The foolish sayings of the rich pass for wise laws in society.]
— Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra (1547–1616): *Don Quixote*
- What is folly? It is holding on to that which is harmful
And throwing away that which is beneficial.
— Tiruvalluvar: *Tirukkura!* (date very uncertain, 2nd century BCE–8th century CE)
- It's OK. The stupid deserve representation just like everyone else...
[Girl Scouts Responds To Indiana Lawmaker's Allegations — Forbes](http://onforb.es/wfS03h)
<http://onforb.es/wfS03h>
The Girl Scouts of the USA responds to Indiana lawmaker Bob Morris's claims that it promotes homosexuality and Planned Parenthood.

- It would seem that “theology” is the latest word to be so overused that no one actually knows what it means. Look it up sometime..
- Who does not see that the same authority which can establish Christianity, in exclusion of all other Religions, may establish with the same ease any particular set of Christians, in exclusion of all other sects?
— James Madison: *A Memorial and Remonstrance Against Religious Assessments* (1785)
- I usually don’t watch local TV newscasts. Today I did. WTMJ Channel 4 should run a disclaimer, “All we do is quote the Republican party line.” Useless.
- It’s only a minute and a half audio. It is “interesting.”
[Santorum’s Hypocrisy on Prenatal Testing | The Progressive](http://www.progressive.org/santorum_hypocrisy_on_prenatal_testing_audio.html)
http://www.progressive.org/santorum_hypocrisy_on_prenatal_testing_audio.html
- This is where I learned this tune. What is the word for “this brings back warm fuzzy memories” and “oh god this really sucks” all at the same time?
[The Animals - House of the Rising Sun \(1964\) High Definition \[HD\]](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mmdPQp6Jcdk&feature=share)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mmdPQp6Jcdk&feature=share>
- I make a pact with you, Walt Whitman—
I have detested you long enough.
I come to you as a grown child
Who has had a pig-headed father;
I am old enough now to make friends.
I was you that broke the new wood,
Now is a time for carving.
We have one sap and one root—
Let there be commerce between us.
— Ezra Pound: *A Pact* (1926)
- I am even more angry as a legislator who must endure the threats of every religious group who thinks it has some God-granted right to control my vote on every roll call in the Senate. I am warning them today: I will fight them every step of the way if they try to dictate their moral convictions to all Americans in the name of “conservatism.”
— Barry Goldwater: speech in the U. S. Senate (1981—September—16)
[Santorum deepens bet on ultraconservative stance](http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/International/2012/Feb-20/163979-santorum-deepens-bet-on-ultraconservative-stance.ashx#axzz1mvzDXdX)
<http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/International/2012/Feb-20/163979-santorum-deepens-bet-on-ultraconservative-stance.ashx#axzz1mvzDXdX>
Presidential contender Rick Santorum, is playing to the ultraconservative, evangelical Christian wing of the party.

- We cannot expect that everyone, to use the phrase of a decade ago, will “talk sense to the American people.” But we can hope that fewer people will listen to nonsense. And the notion that this Nation is headed for defeat through deficit, or that strength is but a matter of slogans, is nothing but just plain nonsense.
— John F. Kennedy: undelivered speech prepared for delivery at the Dallas Trade Mart (1963–Nov–22)
- In our social system music is undoubtedly produced as a luxury. When poverty increases to the extent it has today this luxury takes on a provocative character.
— Hanns Eisler: *The Crisis In Music* (1935)
- No editing required...



- Now an' then an innocent man is sent t' th' legislature.
— Frank McKinney Hubbard (1868–1930): *Back Country Folks* (1914)
- Dives fieri qui vult
Et cito vult fieri.
[He who wishes to become rich wishes to become so speedily.]
— Decimus Iunius Iuvenalis, known in English as Juvenal: *Satires* (ca. 100)
- From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic an “iron curtain” has descended across the continent.
— Winston Churchill: speech, Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri (1946–Mar–05)
- I hate television. I hate it as much as peanuts. But I can't stop eating peanuts.
— Orson Welles in New York Herald Tribune (1956–Oct–12)
- Nations, as well as individuals, are amenable for their acts to the public opinion of mankind.
— Texas Declaration of Independence (1836–Mar–02)

- I believe that our Great Maker is preparing the world, in His own good time, to become one nation, speaking one language.
— Grover Cleveland: inaugural address (1893–Mar–04)
- The composition consisting of the words and music known as the Star-Spangled Banner is the national anthem.
— 36 USC § 301 (signed into law 1931–Mar–03)
- A musicologist is a man who can read music but can't hear it.
— Sir Thomas Beecham (1879–1961), quoted in Humphrey Proctor-Gregg: *Beecham Remembered* (1976)
- The human race will begin solving its problems on the day that it ceases taking itself so seriously.
— Greg Hill [Malaclypse The Younger] & Kerry Thornley [Omar Khayyam Ravenhurst]: *Principia Discordia* (ca. 1979)
- “doublethink” — To tell deliberate lies while genuinely believing in them, to forget any fact that has become inconvenient, and then when it becomes necessary again, to draw it back from oblivion for just so long as it is needed.
— George Orwell: *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (1949)
- A masterful, masterful player...
[Trumpet player Maurice Andre dies](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-17173246)
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-17173246>
World famous classical trumpeter Maurice Andre dies aged 78, it is announced.
- Our very unity has been strengthened by our pluralism. We establish no religion in this country, we command no worship, we mandate no belief, nor will we ever. Church and state are, and must remain, separate.
— Ronald Reagan: speech to Temple Hillel and Community Leaders in Valley Stream (1984–Oct–26)
- If you wish to make an apple pie from scratch, you must first invent the universe.
— Carl Sagan: *Cosmos* (1980)
- Just had a thought about insurance plans: shouldn't voice lessons be considered preventative care?

- A quick Google search:
62% —
 - of kids who enter college with some sort of “faith commitment” who Rick Santorum says leave “without it”
 - of American small businesses went under because they couldn’t pay health bills [a statement rated “FALSE” by PolitiFact]
 - of US-based national chain restaurant queries on Valentine’s Day that came from mobile devices [Google]
 - recent increase in carjackings [Occupy Newark]
 - of Americans prefer a universal health insurance program over the current employer-based system [ABCNEWS/Washington Post poll]
 - of private gun sellers agreed to sell a gun to a person who said he probably couldn’t pass a background check [NYC, Dec, 2011]
 - iPad’s projected share of the tablet market in 2012 [c|net]
 - = $8/5 = 1.6$
 - The Golden Ratio = 1.6180339887...

Just sayin’ :-)

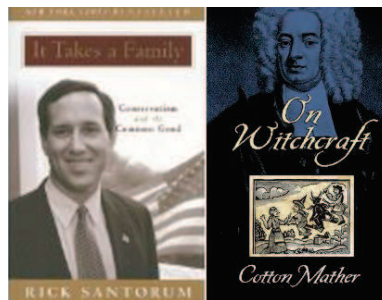
[The Golden Section, Golden Ratio or Divine Proportion based on Phi, 1.618: Constructions and Applic](http://www.goldenumber.net/goldsect.htm)
<http://www.goldenumber.net/goldsect.htm>

Constructions and examples of the Golden Section, Divine Proportion, Golden Ratio

- How much easier it is to be critical than to be correct.
— Benjamin Disraeli: speech at the House of Commons (1860–Jan–24)
- It’s official: this man is insane.
Obama College Plan Aimed at ‘Indoctrination’ - Thursday, February 23, 2012
[NationalJournal.com](http://pulse.me/s/6hPoE)
<http://pulse.me/s/6hPoE>
- And in the Software That Stills Needs Work category, Google Images found these photos to be “similar” —



- All human situations have their inconveniences. We feel those of the present but neither see nor feel those of the future; and hence we often make troublesome changes without amendment, and frequently for the worse.
— Benjamin Franklin (1706–1790)
- We do not write because we want to; we write because we have to.
— W. Somerset Maugham (1874–1965)
- The time will come when people will travel in stages moved by steam engines, from one city to another, almost as fast as birds fly, fifteen or twenty miles an hour.
— Oliver Evans: *Patent Right Oppression Exposed* (1813)
- The Soviet Union has indeed been our greatest menace, not so much because of what it has done, but because of the excuses it has provided us for our failures.
— J. William Fulbright: quoted in the *Observer* (1958–Dec–21)
- Pilots are like musicians, but helicopter pilots are like drummers.
— Craig Ferguson: *The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson* (broadcast 2011–01–21)
- If you develop an ear for sounds that are musical it is like developing an ego. You begin to refuse sounds that are not musical and that way cut yourself off from a good deal of experience.
— John Cage (1912–1992)
- A continuing thread in our history...



- Fere libenter homines id quod volunt credunt. [Men willingly believe what they wish.]
— Gaius Iulius Caesar (100 BCE–44 BCE): *De Bello Gallico* [tr., Craufurd Tait Ramage, 1891]
- He had grown up in a country run by politicians who sent the pilots to man the bombers to kill the babies to make the world safer for children to grow up in.
— Ursula K. LeGuin: *The Lathe of Heaven* (1971)

- Nothing incites to money-crimes like great poverty or great wealth.
— Mark Twain [Samuel Langhorne Clemens], quoted in “Mark Twain: Collected Tales, Sketches, Speeches, and Essays, 1891-1910,” *Library of America* (1992)
- Some fellows get credit for being conservative when they are only stupid.
— Frank McKinney Hubbard (1868–1930), quoted by Rudolf Franz Flesch: *The Book of Unusual Quotations* (1957)
- The convention which formed the federal constitution... were careful to exclude from that instrument every expression that might be construed into an admission that there could be property in men.
— United States v. Libellants and Claimants of the Schooner Amistad, 40 U.S. 518 (1841–Mar–09)
No bill of attainder, ex post facto law, or law denying or impairing the right of property in negro slaves shall be passed.
— Constitution of the Confederate States of America, Art. I, Sec. 9.4 (adopted 1861–Mar–11)
- Mr. Watson, come here, I want to see you.
— Alexander Graham Bell: first words transmitted by telephone to Thomas A. Watson (1876–Mar–10)
- As a nation we have come into our full inheritance at a tender age. We proclaim ourselves, as indeed we are, the defenders of freedom, wherever it continues to exist in the world, but we cannot defend freedom abroad by deserting it at home.
— Edward R. Murrow: “A Report on Senator Joseph R. McCarthy,” *See It Now* (CBS-TV, 1954–Mar–09)
- How shall a man escape from that which is written: How shall he flee from his destiny?
— Ferdowsi (حکیم ابوالقاسم فردوسی توسی): *Shahnameh* [The Book of Kings] (completed, 1010–Mar–08)
- Never did there devolve on any generation of men higher trusts than now devolve upon us, for the preservation of this Constitution and the harmony and peace of all who are destined to live under it.
— Daniel Webster: speech, United States Senate (1850–Mar–07)
- Old anchormen, you see, don’t fade away; they just keep coming back for more. And that’s the way it is: Friday, March 6, 1981.
— Walter Chronkite: closing statement on his last day as the CBS Evening News anchor

- Ah! let not Censure term our fate our choice,
The Stage but echoes back the public voice.
The drama's laws the drama's patrons give,
For we that live to please, must please to live.
— Samuel Johnson: *Prologue at the Opening of Drury Lane Theatre* (1747)
- No woman is really an insider in the institutions fathered by masculine consciousness.
— Adrienne Rich (1929–2012): *Blood, Bread, and Poetry*
- ..The wind blows out, the bubble dies;
The spring entombed in autumn lies;
The dew dries up, the star is shot;
The flight is past: and man forgot.
— Henry King (1592–1669): *Sic vita*
- A fool's brain digests philosophy into folly, science into superstition, and art into pedantry.
Hence University education.
— George Bernard Shaw: "Maxims for Revolutionists." *Man and Superman* (1905)
- So long as men worship the Caesars and Napoleons, Caesars and Napoleons will arise and make them miserable.
— Aldous Huxley: *Ends and Means* (1937)
- A Conservative is a man with two perfectly good legs who, however, has never learned to walk.
— Franklin D. Roosevelt: radio speech (1939–Oct–26)
- There are three kinds of men: the ones that learn by reading; the few who learn by observation; the rest of them have to pee on the electric fence for themselves.
— Will Rogers, quoted in *The Manly Wisdom of Will Rogers* (2001)
- The body is at its best between the ages of thirty and thirty-five; the mind is at its best about the age of forty-nine.
— Aristotle: *Rhetoric* (ca. 322 BCE)
- If you want to change the way people respond to you, change the way you respond to people.
— Timothy Leary: *Changing My Mind, Among Others* (1982)
- Television has made dictatorship impossible, but democracy unbearable.
— Shimon Peres, quoted in *Financial Times* (1995–Jan–31)

- The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to ensure the right of everyone to form trade unions and join the trade union of his choice, subject only to the rules of the organisation concerned, for the promotion and protection of his economic and social interests...
— International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Art. 8.1[a] (1966)
- “...There must have been more time
in Shakespeare’s day
to sit and watch a play.
You know so many artists who are fools.”
He says, “You know so many fools
who are not artists.”
— Marianne Moore (1887–1972): *Marriage*
- Life is the two-fold internal movement of composition and decomposition, at once general and continuous.
— Henri Marie Ducrotay de Blainville: *Cours de physiologie générale* (1833)
- No man ever looks at the world with pristine eyes. He sees it edited by a definite set of customs and institutions and ways of thinking... Until we are intelligent as to [custom’s] laws and varieties, the main complicating facts of human life must remain unintelligible.
— Ruth Benedict: *Patterns of Culture* (1934)
- Be a scribe! Your body will be sleek, your hand will be soft... You are one who sits grandly in your house; your servants answer speedily; beer is poured copiously; all who see you rejoice in good cheer. Happy is the heart of him who writes; he is young each day.
— Ptahotep (ca. 4500 B.C.)
- Hugo Kaun, well known German composer, died on April 2nd, in Berlin. His name is rather familiar in America through his activities in Milwaukee, where for fifteen years he was prominent as an orchestral conductor and as teacher.
— The Etude Music Magazine, Vol. L, no. 7 (1932–July)
- All new states are invested, more or less, by a class of noisy, second-rate men who are always in favor of rash and extreme measures, but Texas was absolutely overrun by such men.
— Sam Houston (1793–1863): unsourced quote at Sam Houston Memorial Museum web site

- I had heard so much of Mr. [Noah] Webster that when I read his book I confess I was disappointed. It is cold, methodical, dry, and dispassionate in the extreme, and one cannot help comparing it with the works of James Fenimore Cooper and Horace.
— Bill Nye: *History of the United States* (1894)
- Everyman naturally persuades himself that he can keep his resolutions, nor is he convinced of his imbecility but by length of time and frequency of experiment.
— Samuel Johnson: *Prayers and Meditations, no. 1770* (1785)
- It is of no consequence to the dead what his funeral is; costly obsequies are the affectation of the living.
— Euripides: *The Trojan Women [Τρωάδες]* (415 BCE)
- Poetry is not a turning loose of emotion, but an escape from emotion; it is not the expression of personality, but an escape from personality.
— T. S. Eliot: *Tradition and the Individual Talent* (1919)
- The priest persuades humble people to endure their hard lot; the politician urges them to rebel against it; and the scientist thinks of a method that does away with the hard lot altogether.
— Max Perutz: *Is Science Necessary* (1989)
- In Perl 6, we decided it would be better to fix the language than fix the user.
— Larry Wall (1954–), quoted on Perl 6 Wikipedia page
- I've made it a rule never to drink by daylight and never to refuse a drink after dark.
— H. L. Mencken, in the *New York Post* (1945–Sept–18)
- Dig that cimbalom player, man!
CIFRA Viktorral füttyhóra és a pacsirta a várban utcazene
[youtu.be](https://youtu.be/...)
- Art is man added to Nature.
— Francis Bacon: *Descriptio Globi Intellectus* (1612)
- It is interesting to recall that when the Supreme Court established the legitimacy of judicial review in *Marbury v. Madison*, 5 U.S. (1 Cranch) 137 (1803), they declared a law that *increased* the role of the court to be unconstitutional.

- It is a good thing to go to the ball park and watch a game live, even if your side loses. I was annoyed at the number of hits St. Louis got between third and short! Speaking of annoying Cardinals...

Neither I nor anyone in the Church would ever tolerate hatred of or prejudice towards any of the Lord's children.

— Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of New York: letter to Carl Siciliano (2012–Mar–28)

- When a fellow says, “It hain’t the money, but th’ principle o’ the thing,” it’s th’ money.
— Frank McKinney Hubbard (1868–1930): *Hoss Sense and Nonsense* (1926)
- The tyranny of the legislatures is the most formidable dread at present and will be for many years. That of the executive will come in its turn, but it will be at a remote period.
— Thomas Jefferson: letter to James Madison (1789)
- The only way out of today’s misery is for people to become worthy of each other’s trust.
— Albert Schweitzer: *Reverence For Life* (1969)
- There is no sports event like Opening Day of baseball, the sense of beating back the forces of darkness and the National Football League.
— George Vecsey: *A Year in the Sun* (1989)
- In America any boy may become President, and I suppose it’s just one of the risks he takes.
— Adlai E. Stevenson II: speech, Indianapolis, Indiana (1952–September–26)
- The employment of children is prohibited. The minimum age of admission to employment may not be lower than the minimum school-leaving age...
— European Union: Charter on Fundamental Rights and Freedoms, Art. 32 (2000)
- We may have democracy, or we may have wealth concentrated in the hands of a few, but we can't have both.
— Louis Brandeis, quoted in Raymond Lonergan: *Mr. Justice Brandeis, Great American* (1941)
- No modest man ever did or ever will make a fortune.
— Mary Wortley Montagu: letter to Wortley Montagu (1714–Sep–24)
- Man soll aufhören, wenn es am schönsten ist - aber wir hatten nach der ersten Sendung nicht den Mut.
[You should stop when you’re on top of your game — but we didn’t have the courage to do that after the first show.]
- Anke Engelke: On the last *Anke Late Night* show (broadcast on SAT.1, 21 October 2004)

- ...decision makers in Washington must face the awkward and enduring fact that the sum total of the United States' global interests and obligations is nowadays far larger than the country's power to defend them all simultaneously.
- Paul Kennedy: *The Rise and Fall Of the Great Powers* (1987)
- Doctor's license should be permanently revoked; hospital should be put into receivership.
Oklahoma Doctor Refuses To Provide Rape Victim With Emergency Contraception
<http://pulse.me/s/9O16m>
An Oklahoma emergency room doctor refused to provide emergency contraception to a 24-year-old female rape victim because the doctor said it went against her personal beliefs. The hospital was also unable to provide the victim with a rape kit, because they had no appropriate nurse on staff...
- Я считаю, что совершенно неважно, кто и как будет в партии голосовать; но вот что чрезвычайно важно, это - кто и как будет считать голоса.
[I consider it completely unimportant who in the party will vote, or how; but what is extraordinarily important is this—who will count the votes, and how.]
— Joseph Stalin (1923), quoted in Boris Bazhanov: *The Memoirs Of Stalin's Former Secretary* (1992)
- We may say of angling as Dr. Boteler said of strawberries: "Doubtless God could have made a better berry, but doubtless God never did"; and so, if I might be judge, God never did make a more calm, quiet, innocent recreation than angling.
— Izaak Walton: *The Compleat Angler* (1653–1655)
Fly fishing may be a very pleasant amusement; but angling or float fishing I can only compare to a stick and a string, with a worm at one end and a fool at the other.
— Samuel Johnson (attrib.) in Peter Hawker: *Instructions to Young Sportsmen* (1824)
- With school turning out more runners, jumpers, racers, tinkers, grabbers, snatchers, fliers, and swimmers instead of examiners, critics, knowers, and imaginative creators, the word 'intellectual,' of course, became the swear word it deserved to be. You always dread the unfamiliar.
— Ray Bradbury: *Fahrenheit 451* (1953)
- The death penalty shall be abolished. No-one shall be condemned to such penalty or executed.
— Council of Europe: Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, Protocol 6, Art. 1 (1983)
- Everyone has talent at twenty-five. The difficulty is to have it at fifty.
— Edward Degas (1834–1917), quoted in R. H. Ives Gammell: *The Shop-Talk of Edward Degas*

- The 20th century has been a badly written drama, from the beginning. The opposite of a Greek drama.
Act one: Greed and hypocrisy leading to a genocidal world war, a boom, a crash, totalitarianism.
Act two: Greed and hypocrisy leading to a genocidal world war, a boom, a crash, totalitarianism.
Act three: Greed and hypocrisy... I don't dare continue.
— Leonard Bernstein, quoted in “The Gift Of Music.” *Great Performances: Season 22, Episode 8* (orig. PBS broadcast, 1993)
- Love, I find, is like singing. Everybody can do enough to satisfy themselves, though it may not impress the neighbors as being very much.
— Zora Neale Hurston: *Dust Tracks On A Road* (1942)
- Don't believe anything they write about you, good or bad.
— George Herman “Babe” Ruth (1895-1948), quoted in Curt Johnson and R. Craig Sautter: *The Wicked City—Chicago from Kenna to Capone* (1998)
- I never forget a face, but in your case I'll make an exception.
— Groucho Marx (1890–1977)
- There is nothing which has yet been contrived by man by which so much happiness is produced as by a good tavern or inn.
— Samuel Johnson, quoted in James Boswell: *Life Of Samuel Johnson* (1791)
- Money couldn't buy friends but you got a better class of enemy.
— Spike Milligan: *Puckoon* (1963)
- There's no trick to being a humorist when you have the whole government working for you.
— Will Rogers, several versions reported over the years
- For hate is not conquered by hate: hate is conquered by love. This is law eternal.
— According to tradition, the Buddha: *Dhammapada* [धम्मपद]
- It is a fair summary of history to say that the safeguards of liberty have been forged in controversies involving not very nice people.
— Felix Frankfurter: dissenting opinion in *United States v. Rabinowitz* 339 U.S. 56 (1950)

- If they [Republicans] will stop telling lies about the Democrats, we will stop telling the truth about them.
— Adlai Stevenson: various speeches during the 1952 Presidential campaign
- Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards.
— Søren Kierkegaard (1813–1855)
- It is beginning to be hinted that we are a nation of amateurs.
— Lord Rosebury: rectoral address, University of Glasgow (1900–Nov–16)
- They say man rules the universe,
That subject shore and main
Kneel down and bless the empery
Of his majestic reign;
But a sovereign, gentler, mightier,
Man from his throne has hurled,
For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rules the world.
— William Stewart Ross (“Saladin”), from a poem in *Woman: Her Glory, her Shame, and her God, Vol. II* (1894)
- Enforced uniformity confounds civil and religious liberty and denies the principles of Christianity and civility. No man shall be required to worship or maintain a worship against his will.
— Roger Williams (1603–1684), quoted in *The Great Quotations on Religious Freedom* (1991)
- If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich.
— John F. Kennedy, inaugural address (1961–Jan–20)
- I hate a fellow whom pride or cowardice or laziness drives into a corner, and who does nothing when he is there but sit and growl. Let him come out as I do, and bark.
— Samuel Johnson, quoted in Hester Lynch Thrale Piozzi: *Mrs. Piozzi’s Anecdotes of Samuel Johnson* (1786)
- I long ago come to the conclusion that all life is 6 to 5 against.
— Damon Runyon: “A New Price,” *Collier’s* magazine (1934–Sep–8)
- Marriage is a wonderful invention; but, then again, so is a bicycle repair kit.
— Billy Connolly, quoted in Duncan Campbell: *Billy Connolly* (1976)

- Children are tough, though we tend to think of them as fragile. They have to be tough. Childhood is not easy. We sentimentalize children, but they know what's real and what's not. They understand metaphor and symbol. If children are different from us, they are more spontaneous. Grown-up lives have become overlaid with dross.
— Maurice Sendak, quoted in Bernard Holland: "The Paternal Pride of Maurice Sendak," *The New York Times* (1987–Nov–09)
- Unreason and anti-intellectualism abominate thought. Thinking implies disagreement; and disagreement implies nonconformity; and nonconformity implies heresy; and heresy implies disloyalty — so, obviously, thinking must be stopped. But shouting is not a substitute for thinking and reason is not the subversion but the salvation of freedom.
— Adlai E. Stevenson II: *A Call To Greatness* (1954)
- Religio peperit Divitias, et filia devoravit matrem.
[Religion brought forth Prosperity, and the daughter destroyed the mother.]
— old Latin saying cited by Cotton Mather in *Magnalia Christi Americana* [The Ecclesiastical History of New England] (1702)
- I've finished that chapel I was painting. The Pope is quite satisfied.
— Michelangelo di Lodovico Buonarroti Simoni: letter to his father, after finishing the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel (1512)
- True science teaches us to doubt and to abstain from ignorance.
— Claude Bernard, in *Bulletin of New York Academy of Medicine, vol. IV* (1928)
- It is always observable that silence propagates itself, and that the longer talk has been suspended, the more difficult it is to find anything to say.
— Samuel Johnson: *The Adventurer*, no. 84 (1753–Aug–25)
- No higher duty, or more solemn responsibility, rests upon the Court than that of translating into living law and maintaining this constitutional shield deliberately planned and inscribed for the benefit of every human being subject to our Constitution — of whatever race, creed or persuasion.
— Hugo L. Black: *Chambers v. Florida*, 309 U.S. 227 (1940)
- Here in two flat sentences are the best things I can say about our field on American television: *Dr. Who* is sometimes aired. Sometimes *Battlestar Galactica* is not.
— Gene Wolfe: guest of honor speech at "Aussiecon Two" [43rd World Science Fiction Convention] (1985–Aug)

- I am sitting in the smallest room of my house. I have your review before me. In a moment it will be behind me.
— Max Reger: responding to a negative review (1906), quoted in Daniel Albright's *Modernism and Music: An Anthology of Sources*
- The typewriter separated me from a deeper intimacy with poetry, and the hand brought me closer to that intimacy again.
— Pablo Neruda (1904–1973): in *Writers At Work*, 5th series
- One of the most important things that distinguish man from other animals is that man can get pleasure from drinking without being thirsty.
— Fernand Point: *Ma Gastronomie* (1969) [English translation, 2008]
- It may be said generally that businesses which are in their nature monopolies are properly part of the functions of the state, and should be assumed by the state.
— Henry George: *Progress and Poverty* (1879)
- The intelligent have a right over the ignorant; namely, the right of instructing them.
— Ralph Waldo Emerson: *Representative Men* (1850)
- It was not by accident or coincidence that the rights to freedom in speech and press were coupled in a single guaranty with the rights of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition for redress of grievances.... They are cognate rights, and therefore are united in the First Article's assurance.
— Wiley B. Rutledge, *Thomas v. Collins*, 323 U.S. 516, 530 (1945)
- Americans are people who prefer the Continent to their own country, but refuse to learn its languages.
— Edward Varrall Lucas (1868–1938): *Wanderings and Diversions—The Continental Dictionary*
- My choice early in life was either to be a piano-player in a whorehouse or a politician. And to tell the truth there's hardly any difference.
— Harry S Truman, quoted in Harold Foote Gosnell: *Truman's Crises—A Political Biography of Harry S. Truman* (1980)
- In the United States, politics is a profession, whereas in Europe it is a right and a duty.
— Umberto Eco: preface to the American edition of *Travels In Hyperreality* (1986)

- Luxuriance and terseness of style,
And the different aspects of form,
Vary according to laws of propriety,
Whose intricacies hinge upon a feeling so subtle:
Once grasped, uncouth language may divulge clever parables.
A truism by light verbal touches is turned into epigram,
The older the model, the fresher the imitation,
The duller the beginning, the more brilliant the final illumination.
— Lu Ji [士衡] (261–303): *Essay on Literature* [trans., Shih-hsiang Chen]
- I therefore beg leave to move—that henceforth prayers imploring the assistance of Heaven, and its blessing on our deliberations, be held in this Assembly every morning before we proceed to business...
— Benjamin Franklin: motion made to Constitutional Convention, Philadelphia (1787–June–29), quoted in *The Great Rehearsal* by Carl Van Doren (1948)
[Following a second and discussion, the motion was never put to a vote and was never brought up again.]
- It's better because you are so damned talented, but it's not really good.
— Lily Kraus: master class at TCU (1981)
- I dogmatise and am contradicted, and in this conflict of opinions and sentiments I find delight.
— Samuel Johnson, quoted in John Hawkins: *Life Of Samuel Johnson* (1787)
- Our constitution protects aliens, drunks and U.S. Senators.
— Will Rogers (1879–1935)
- Unless we fundamentally change this system, ultimately campaign finance will consume our democracy.
— Congressman Lloyd Doggett (D-TX) (1996)
- Some folks can look so busy doin' nothin' that they seem indispensable.
— Frank McKinney Hubbard (1868–1930): quoted in *The Book of Unusual Quotations* (1957) by Rudolf Franz Flesch
- Humor can be dissected as a frog can, but the thing dies in the process and the innards are discouraging to any but the pure scientific mind.
— E. B. White (1899–1985): *Some Remarks On Humor*

- You will hear people say that poverty is the best spur to the artist. They have never felt the iron of it in their flesh. They do not know how mean it makes you. It exposes you to endless humiliation, it cuts your wings, it eats into your soul like a cancer. It is not wealth one asks for, but just enough to preserve one's dignity, to work unhampered, to be generous, frank and independent. I pity with all my heart the artist, whether he writes or paints, who is entirely dependent for subsistence upon his art.
— W. Somerset Maugham: *Of Human Bondage* (1915)
- ...the general root of superstition; namely, that men observe when things hit, and not when they miss; and commit to memory the one, and forget and pass over the other.
— Sir Francis Bacon: *Sylva Sylvarum, century X* (1627)
- As someone pointed out recently, if you can keep your head when all about you are losing theirs, it's just possible you haven't grasped the situation.
— Jean Kerr: *Please Don't Eat The Daisies* (1957)
- Science is a differential equation. Religion is a boundary condition.
— Alan Turing: letter to Robin Gandy (1954)
- 'Tis God gives skill,
But not without men's hands: He could not make
Antonio Stradivari's violins
Without Antonio.
— George Eliot [Mary Ann Evans] (1820–1880): *God Needs Antonio* (1875?)
- The theory of probabilities is at bottom nothing but common sense reduced to calculus.
— Pierre Simon de Laplace: *Théorie Analytique des Probabilités* (1812–1820)
- And this is why...
News :: The Damage Scott Walker Has Done to Wisconsin :: Shepherd Express: Milwaukee's best guide to
Gov. Scott Walker and his allies in the conservative movement and at the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
www.expressmilwaukee.com
- The problems of victory are more agreeable than the problems of defeat, but they are no less difficult.
- Winston Churchill: speech, House of Commons (1942-Nov-11)

- The united vote of those who toil and have not will vanquish those who have and toil not, and solve forever the problems of democracy.
- Eugene V. Debs: speech, Indianapolis, Indiana (1904-Sept-1)
- They spend their time mostly looking forward to the past.
- John Osborne: *Look Back in Anger* (1956)
- Form in the arts, and especially in music, aims primarily at comprehensibility.
— Arnold Schoenberg: *Composition With Twelve Tones* (1941)
- Ich die Baukunst eine erstarrte Musik nenne.
[I call architecture frozen music.]
— Johann Wolfgang von Goethe: letter to Eckermann (1829—March—23)
- The corporate grip on opinion in the United States is one of the wonders of the Western World. No First World country has ever managed to eliminate so entirely from its media all objectivity — much less dissent.
— Gore Vidal (1925—2012): “Cue the Green God, Ted” in *A View from the Diner’s Club* (1991)
- A cult is a religion with no political power.
— Tom Wolfe: *In Our Time*, “Entr’actes and Canapes” (1980)
- Though we cannot out-vote them we will out-argue them.
— Samuel Johnson, quoted in James Boswell: *Tour To The Hebrides* (1785)
- If the pupil’s imagination needs stimulation he should hear the piece well played before studying it. If, however, he is merely too lazy to find out the rhythm, melody, and so forth, and rather relies upon his purely imitative faculty, he should not hear it, but be compelled to do his own reading and thinking.
— Josef Hofmann: *Piano Playing, With Piano Questions Answered* (1909, 1920)
- No testimony is sufficient to establish a miracle, unless the testimony be of such a kind that its falsehood would be more miraculous than the fact which it endeavors to establish.
— David Hume: *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding* (1748)
- As mankind becomes more liberal, they will be more apt to allow, that all those who conduct themselves as worthy members of the community are equally entitled to the protection of civil government.
— George Washington: reply to a Congratulatory Address by a committee of Roman Catholics Waiting Upon the President (1790—Mar—15)

- The finiteness of the human understanding betrays itself on all subjects, but more especially when it contemplates such as involve infinity. What may safely be said seems to be, that the infinity of time & space forces itself on our that the mind prefers at once the idea of a self-existing cause to that of an infinite series of cause & effect, which augments instead of avoiding difficulty; and that it finds more facility in assenting to the self-existence of an invisible cause possessing infinite power, wisdom & goodness, than to the self-existence of the universe, visibly destitute of those attributes, and which may be the effect of them. In their comparative facility of conception & belief, all philosophical Reasoning on the subject must perhaps terminate.
— James Madison: letter to Frederick Beasley (1825—Nov—20)
- And remember, *This Land Is Your Land* starts on the IV chord.
— Denton Institute of Phrenology web site, accessed 2011—Jul—06
- ...the human mind will some day get back to the freedom it enjoyed 2000 years ago. This country, which has given the world an example of physical liberty, owes to it that of moral emancipation also.
— Thomas Jefferson: letter to John Adams (1821—Jan—22)
- All art is autobiographical; the pearl is the oyster's autobiography.
— Federico Fellini, in *The Atlantic* magazine (1965—Dec)
- I principally wish to enforce the necessity of educating the sexes together to perfect both, and of making children sleep at home that they may learn to love home; yet to make private support, instead of smothering, public affections, they should be sent to school to mix with a number of equals, for only by the jostlings of equality can we form a just opinion of ourselves.
— Mary Godwin Wollstonecraft: *A Vindication Of The Rights Of Woman* (1792)
- Some of the poor live in places usually called “hospitals”—the Greek word is *Ptochotrophia*, but I will use the more familiar word—and others beg in public; still others endure their afflictions as best they can in their own places. I define a hospital as any place where the sick are fed and nursed, where a given number of indigent persons are supported, boys and girls educated, abandoned infants nourished, the insane confined, and the blind allowed to spend their days. Rulers of states must understand that these institutions are part of their responsibilities.
— Juan Luis Vives (1492-1540): *De Subventionem Pauperum Sive de Humanis Necessitatibus* [1526] [*On Assistance to the Poor*, trans., Alice Tobriner (1999)]

- It is easier to ask forgiveness than it is to get permission.
— Adm. Grace Hopper, quoted in the U. S. Navy's *Ships Ahoy* magazine (1986–July)
- Men did not make the earth... It is the value of the improvements only, and not the earth itself, that is individual property... Every proprietor owes to the community a ground rent for the land which he holds.
— Thomas Payne: *Agrarian Justice* (1795-1796)
- I have undertaken all knowledge to be my province.
— Francis Bacon: letter to Lord Burleigh (1592)
- The trouble with the young is that they do not do as the old folks advise, but as they have done.
— Brenham (Texas) Weekly Banner, Vol. XXVI, No. 24, Ed. 1, Thursday, June 11, 1891; accessed at texashistory.unt.edu/ark:-/ark:67531/metaph115666-m1-slash-5-slash-
- It looks like the financial giants of the world have bungled as much as the diplomats and politicians. This would be a great time in the world for some man to come along that knew something.
— Will Rogers' "Daily Telegram," 1931–Sep–21: quoted in *Will Rogers' Daily Telegrams—vol. 2, The Hoover Years 1929–1931* (edited by James M. Smallwood & Steven K. Gragert, 1978)
- Had every Athenian citizen been a Socrates, every Athenian assembly would still have been a mob.
— James Madison (1751–1836): *Federalist Paper No. 55*
- Somehow, suddenly, a musical idea occurs to you; either a whole phrase, or three notes, or a series of chords, something that seems pregnant with possibilities for development. Once you have the kinds of ideas that fascinate you, you're no longer in a position to decide the nature of the animal. It's going to take its essence from the musical ideas that occur to you.
— Aaron Copland, quoted in Howard Pollack: *Aaron Copland—The Life And Work Of An Uncommon Man* (1999)
- Every succeeding scientific discovery makes greater nonsense of old-time conceptions of sovereignty.
— Anthony Eden: speech, House of Commons (1945–Nov–22)
- We don't pay taxes. Only the little people pay taxes.
— Leona Helmsley, quoted in *The New York Times* (1989-July-12)

- Many movie stars are not just stupid, but, in their deep insecurity, easily drawn to comic book-like philosophies.
— Michael Wolff at *The Guardian* [guardian.co.uk/commentisfree] (posted 2012–July–10)
- That book is good
Which puts me in a working mood.
Unless to Thought is added Will,
Apollo is an imbecile.
— Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803–1882): *Fragments On The Poetic Gift*
- The shrewd guess, the fertile hypothesis, the courageous leap to a tentative conclusion—these are the most valuable coin of the thinker at work. But in most schools guessing is heavily penalized and is associated with laziness.
— Jerome Seymour Bruner: *The Process of Education* (1960)
- The above classification of form exhausts the subject, and affords place for every variety of form which can be created.
— W. S. B. Mathews & Emil Liebling: *Dictionary of Music* (1926)
- One of the earliest documented musical instruments based on electronic principles was the Clavecin Électrique, designed by the Jesuit priest Jean-Baptiste Delaborde in France in 1759.
— David Dunn: *A History of Electronic Music Pioneers* (1992)
- You know everybody is ignorant, only on different subjects.
— Will Rogers: “From Soup To Nuts,” *The New York Times* (1924–Aug–31)
- He who is now an orthodox Christian would have been infallibly as true a Mussulman, or as errant a heretic, had his birth been in another place.
— Anthony Ashley Cooper, 3rd Earl of Shaftesbury: *Characteristics Of Men, Manners, Opinions, Times, Etc.* (1699)
- Democracy and socialism are means to an end, not the end itself.
— Jawaharlal Nehru: *Credo* (New York Times, 1958–Sep–07)
- Whatever is my right as a man is also the right of another; and it becomes my duty to guarantee as well as to possess.
— Thomas Paine: *The Rights of Man* (1791)
- One country, one constitution, one destiny.
— Daniel Webster: speech (1837–Mar–15)

- We've all heard that a million monkeys banging on a million typewriters will eventually reproduce the entire works of Shakespeare. Now, thanks to the Internet, we know this is not true.
— Robert Wilensky, quoted in *Mail On Sunday* (1997–Feb–16)
- Science is what we understand well enough to explain to a computer. Art is everything else we do.
— Donald Knuth: *forward to A=B* (1996)
- The various modes of worship, which prevailed in the the Roman world, were all considered by the people as equally true; by the philosopher, as equally false; and by the magistrate, as equally useful.
— Edward Gibbon: *Decline And Fall Of The Roman Empire* (1776–1788)
- Sir, I have two very cogent reasons for not printing any list of subscribers:
 - one, that I have lost all the names,
 - the other, that I have spent all the money.
 — Samuel Johnson, quoted in James Boswell: *Tour To The Hebrides* (1785)
- As the free press develops, the paramount point is whether the journalist, like the scientist or scholar, puts truth in the first place or in the second.
— Walter Lippmann: address, International Press Institute Assemble (1965–May–27)
- You can't frighten me. I was raised by Scottish women.
— Craig Ferguson: *The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson*, CBS-TV (2012–Apr–19)
- One of the great cares of a priest is his altar boys. He is careful in selecting them, spends much of his valuable time in teaching and training them, is full of anxiety and care for them, using all the means in his power to keep them pure and innocent.
— James J. McGovern: *The Manual Of The Holy Catholic Church* (1906)
- Just take the ball and throw it where you want to. Throw strikes. Home plate don't move.
— Leroy Robert 'Satchel' Paige (1906–1982)
- Every fool is fully convinced, and every one fully persuaded is a fool: the more erroneous his judgment the more firmly he holds it.
— Baltasar Gracián y Morales (1601–1658): *El Oráculo manual* [The Art of Worldly Wisdom] (trans., Joseph Jacobs, 1892)

- It is not enough to have a good mind. The main thing is to use it well.
— René Descartes: *Le discours de la méthode* (1637)
- The kernel of the scientific outlook is the refusal to regard our own desires, tastes and interests as affording a key to the understanding of the world.
— Bertrand Russell: *The Place Of Science In A Liberal Education* (1913)
- Experience informs us that the first defence of weak minds is to recriminate.
— Samuel Taylor Coleridge: *Biographia literaria* (1817)
- We are in the process of creating what deserves to be called the idiot culture. Not an idiot sub-culture, which every society has bubbling beneath the surface and which can provide harmless fun; but the culture itself. For the first time, the weird and the stupid and the coarse are becoming our cultural norm, even our cultural ideal.
— Carl Bernstein: *An A-Z of cultural terms*, *The Guardian* (1992–Jun–03)
- Facts are not what drama is.
— Harvey Fierstein, quoted in *The New York Times* (2012–Mar–04)
- It shows nobility to be willing to increase your debt to a man to whom you already owe much.
— Marcus Tullius Cicero, *Epistulae ad Familiares* (43 BC).
- A specialist is somebody who plays all the other types of music worse.
— Ruggiero Ricci [born Woodrow Wilson Rich, called Roger] (ca. 1918–2012), quoted in obituary in *The New York Times* (2002–Aug–10)
- The right of voting for representatives is the primary right by which other rights are protected. To take away this right is to reduce a man to slavery, for slavery consists in being subject to the will of another, and he that has not a vote in the election of representatives is in this case.
— Thomas Payne: *Dissertation on First Principles of Government* (1795)
- The civil sword (therefore) cannot (rightfully) act either in restraining the souls of the people from worship, etc., or in constraining them to worship, considering that there is not a tittle in the New Testament of Christ Jesus that commits the forming or reforming of His spouse and church to the civil and worldly powers...
— Roger Williams: *The Hireling Ministry, None of Christ's* (1652)

- Art. X, Sec. 3: The legislature shall not have power to authorize or incorporate by any general or special law, any Bank or other Institution having any banking power or privilege, or to confer upon any corporation, institution, person or persons any banking power or privilege.
Art. X, Sec. 5: No branch or agency of any bank or banking institution of the United States, or of any State or Territory within or without the United States, shall be established or maintained within this State.
— Proposed Constitution of the State of Wisconsin: Approved by constitutional convention, Dec., 1846; rejected by voters, Apr., 1847.
- If we cannot end now our differences, at least we can make the world safe for diversity. For, in the final analysis, our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this small planet. We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children's future. And we are all mortal.
— John F. Kennedy: speech at American University, Washington, D.C. (1963—June—10)
- Whoever said laughter is the best medicine never had gonorrhoea.
— Greg Garcia, John Hoberg and Kat Likkell: "Robbed A Stoner Blind," *My Name Is Earl*, season 2, episode 8 (original airdate 2006—Nov—16)
- Freedom is an indivisible word. If we want to enjoy it, and fight for it, we must be prepared to extend it to everyone, whether they are rich or poor, whether they agree with us or not, no matter what their race or the color of their skin.
— Wendell Wilke: *One World* (1943)
- The art of being wise is the art of knowing what to overlook.
— William James: *Principles of Psychology* (1890)
- The human mind invents its Puss-in-Boots and its coaches that change into pumpkins at midnight because neither the believer nor the atheist is completely satisfied with appearances.
— André Malraux: *Antimémoires* [preface] (1967)
- Semiotics is in principle the discipline studying everything which can be used in order to lie. If something cannot be used to tell a lie, conversely it cannot be used to tell the truth: it cannot in fact be used "to tell" at all.
— Umberto Eco: *A Theory Of Semiotics* (1976)
- People don't make lists of web sites they want to visit before they die.
— Dodge advertisement seen on my local CBS affiliate (2011—Sept—24)

- A national debt, if it is not excessive, will be to us a national blessing.
— Alexander Hamilton, letter to Robert Morris. (1781–Apr–30)
- Musically, there is no focal point in this work. The harmonic construction is so arranged as to leave everything fluid.
— Anton Webern (1883–1945), quoted in album notes for *The Complete Works of Anton Webern, vol. 1* [Columbia LP M4 35193] (1978)
- I beseech those whose piety will permit them reverently to petition, that they will pray for this union, and ask that He who buildeth up and pulleth down nations will, the mercy preserve and unite us.
— Sam Houston (1793–1863), unsourced quote at Sam Houston Memorial Museum web site
- That fellow seems to me to possess but one idea, and that is a wrong one.
— Samuel Johnson, quoted in James Boswell: *Tour To The Hebrides* (1785)
- Good company in a journey makes the way to seem the shorter.
— Izaak Walton (1593–1683): *The Compleat Angler* (five editions from 1653 to 1676)
- The whole dream of democracy is to raise the proletarian to the level of stupidity attained by the bourgeois.
— Gustave Flaubert (1821–1880)
- It is not ill-bred to adopt a high manner with the great and powerful, but it is vulgar to lord it over humble people.
— Aristotle (384 BCE–322 BCE): *The Nicomachean Ethics*
- However fiercely opposed one may be to the present order, an old respect for the idea of order itself often prevents people from distinguishing between order and those who stand for order, and leads them in practise to respect individuals under the pretext of respecting order itself.
— Antonin Artaud: letter to André Gide (1935–Feb–10)
- In my early years I read very hard. It is a sad reflection, but a true one, that I knew almost as much at eighteen as I do now.
— Samuel Johnson, quoted in James Boswell: *Tour To The Hebrides* (1785)
- If A is success in life, then $A=x+y+z$. Work is x , play is y and z is keeping your mouth shut.
— Albert Einstein, to Samuel J. Woolf, Berlin (1929)

- When a stupid man is doing something he is ashamed of, he always declares that it is his duty.
— George Bernard Shaw: *Caesar and Cleopatra* (1901)
- We mean then by the “good” those whose actions and lives leave no question as to their honour, purity, equity, and liberality; who are free from greed, lust, and violence; and who have the courage of their convictions.
— Marcus Tullius Cicero: *Laelius de Amicitia [Laelius On Friendship]* (44 BCE), trans., E. S. Shuckburgh
- Although a lot of Republicans keep wishing otherwise, running the federal government is nothing at all like running a business. Presidents don’t hire or fire members of Congress... An aptitude for reviewing business plans or a talent for wooing investors—useless.
— Peter Robinson: “The GOP’s Not-So-Great Communicators,” *The Wall Street Journal Opinion* web site (2012–Jan–4)
- He is every bit as sane as you or I,
He sees the world as clearly as you or I see it,
It is only that he has seen a great deal more than that.
— T. S. Eliot: *The Family Reunion* (1939)
- Ignorant but pious people often loathe knowledge so much that they transform it—in their minds—into a false religion.
— Delos B. McKown: *Accuracy in Academia or What to Do about Humbug* (1986)
- These facts make the creator of music a being like the gods, and make music itself the supreme mystery of human knowledge.
— Claude Lévi-Strauss: *Mythologiques I - Le cru et le cuit* (1964)
- The theater needs continual reminders that there is nothing more debasing than the work of those who do well what is not worth doing at all.
— Gore Vidal (1925–2012): “Love Love Love,” *Partisan Review* (Spring, 1959)
- We wish to control big business so as to secure among other things good wages for the wage-workers and reasonable prices for the consumers. Wherever in any business the prosperity of the businessman is obtained by lowering the wages of his workmen and charging an excessive price to the consumers we wish to interfere and stop such practices. We will not submit to that kind of prosperity any more than we will submit to prosperity obtained by swindling investors or getting unfair advantages over business rivals.
— Theodore Roosevelt: speech at Progressive Party Convention, Chicago (1912–June–17)

- [Guys like you are] in what we call the reality-based community, [people who] believe that solutions emerge from your judicious study of discernible reality.... That's not the way the world really works anymore. We're an empire now, and when we act, we create our own reality.
— Karl Rove, quoted in Ron Suskind: "Faith, Certainty and the Presidency of George W. Bush," *The New York Times Magazine* (2004–Oct–17)
- O my son! If water would stand still in Heaven, and a black crow become white, and myrrh grow sweet as honey, then ignorant men and fools might understand and become wise.
— *The Story of Anikar* (ca. 500 BCE) [trans. by Harris, Lewis, and Conybeare, 1913]
- In truth, poverty is an anomaly to rich people. It is very difficult to make out why people who want dinner do not ring the bell.
— Walter Bagehot: *The Waverly Novels* (1858)
- Q. What is religious freedom?
A. It is the art of giving intolerance a little more room.
— Bill Nye: *History of the United States* (1894)
- [P]olitics becomes dirty and a zero-sum, lose-lose game only when it has no moral core
— Mikhail Gorbachev: "Is the World Really Safer Without the Soviet Union?" in *The Nation*, Vol. 294, nos. 2 & 3 (2012–Jan–9/16)
- Whatever may be the limitations which trammel inquiry elsewhere, we believe that the great state university of Wisconsin should ever encourage that continual and fearless sifting and winnowing by which alone the truth can be found.
— C. K. Adams [These words, taken from a UW Board of Regents report (1894), have been prominently exhibited on a large bronze plaque in Bascom Hall on the Madison campus for over 100 years.]
- The fight for religious freedom starts here at home, because we are one nation under God.
— House Majority Leader Eric Cantor: speech to Values Voters Summit (2012–Sep–14)
A paradox?
A paradox!
A most ingenious paradox!
We've quips and quibbles heard in flocks,
But none to beat this paradox!
— W. S. Gilbert: *The Pirates of Penzance* (1879)

- Among famous composers only Schumann and MacDowell became totally insane and had to be committed.
— Nicolas Slonimsky: *Lectionary Of Music* (1989)
- No attempt will be made to discuss the acoustics of the horn. The science of acoustics is so abstruse that, without scientific training and familiarity with up-to-date experimental apparatus, it would be most imprudent to venture into its labyrinths: to do so would, in modern jargon, simply be “sticking one’s neck out”.
— R. Morley-Pegge: *The French Horn* (1960/1973)
- I know of no country, indeed, where the love of money has taken stronger hold on the affections of men and where a profounder contempt is expressed for the theory of the permanent equality of property.
— Alexis de Tocqueville: *Democracy in America* (1835)
- The learned counsel has very properly avoided all political discussions unconnected with the subject, and I shall follow his example. Courts of justice have nothing to do with them.
— Lloyd Kenyon, 1st Baron Kenyon, L.C.J.: Trial of John Vint and others, 27 How. St. Tr. 640 (1799)
- To while away the idle hours, seated the livelong day before the inkslab, by jotting down without order or purpose whatever trifling thoughts pass through my mind, truly this is a queer and crazy thing to do!
— Yoshida Kenko (1283-1350): *Essays*
- “PEACE upon earth!” was said. We sing it,
And pay a million priests to bring it.
After two thousand years of mass
We’ve got as far as poison-gas.
— Thomas Hardy (1840–1928): *Christmas: 1924*
- If you try to act a part beyond your powers, you not only disgrace yourself in it but you neglect the part which you could have filled with success.
— Epictetus (ca. 50–130 CE): *Enchiridion* (trans., P. E. Matheson)
- I can’t tell you if the use of force in Iraq today would last five days, or five weeks, or five months, but it certainly isn’t going to last any longer than that.
— Donald Rumsfeld: interview with Steve Croft, Infinity CBS Radio Connect (2002–Nov–14)

- Since modern music has risen mainly to serve profane uses, greater care must be taken with regard to it, in order that the musical compositions of modern style which are admitted in the Church may contain nothing profane, be free from reminiscences of motifs adopted in the theaters, and be not fashioned even in their external forms after the manner of profane pieces.
— Pius X: Motu proprio “Tra le sollecitudini” (1903–Nov–22)
- Men might as well project a voyage to the moon as attempt to employ steam navigation against the stormy North Atlantic Ocean.
— Dionysius Lardner: speech to the British Association for the Advancement of Science (1838)
- The speech of our day... pursues the limping tenor of its way with all sorts of sounds and intonations, due to the influences of our cosmopolitan life, while we, following the practice of Dryden’s day, “torture one poor word ten thousand ways” to earn the distinction of being described “a stuttering, slovenly-spoken generation,” given to paying too much attention to accent and too little to distinct enunciation.
— Frank H. Vizetelly: *A Desk-Book of Twenty-five Thousand Words Frequently Mispronounced* (1917, 1929)
- There is no hard evidence to prove it, but it is my belief that John Wilkes Booth, the man who assassinated Lincoln, was in the employ of the European bankers who wanted to nip this American populist experiment in the bud.
— Pat Robertson: *The New World Order* (1991), quoted in Al Franken: *Rush Limbaugh Is A Big Fat Idiot And Other Observations* (1996)
- A society that celebrates childhood, however equivocally, finds it exceedingly difficult to tolerate adolescents. Baby-faced charm gives way to gauche assertiveness, and the object of biologically triggered, parental protectiveness becomes a challenge to authority.
— Charles Hannam & Norman Stephenson: “Childhood,” *The Oxford Companion to the Mind* (1987)
- We are no longer the nation that used to amaze the world with its visionary projects. We have become, instead, a nation whose politicians seem to compete over who can show the least vision, the least concern about the future and the greatest willingness to pander to short-term, narrow-minded selfishness.
— Paul Krugman: “The End Of The Tunnel,” *The New York Times* (2010–October–08)
- Every politician must be able to keep both feet on the fence with his ear to the ground.
— Gracie Allen: *How to Become President* (1940)

- 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: *The Little Hours*
- If I were asked... to what the singular prosperity and growing strength of that people [the Americans] ought mainly to be attributed, I should reply: To the superiority of their women.
— Alexis de Tocqueville: *Democracy In America, part II* (1840)
- Think of living in peace with what you possess, and whatever the Gods choose to give will come of its own accord.
— *Maxims of Ptahhotep* (ca. 2400 BCE or earlier)
- · Everything in the vicinity of Red river at Denison has been washed away.
· The Santa Fe has been coming in from two to five hours late all this week. It was four hours late Wednesday night.
· On account of washouts above Gainesville, the Red river bridge being entirely gone, no tickets beyond there are sold over the Santa Fe now. The trains passing here being locals made up on this side of the washout.
· The washout on the Santa Fe has been repaired and the sale of tickets all along the line has been resumed.
— Separate items, all on the front page of the *Brenham (Texas) Weekly Banner*, Vol. XXVI, No. 24, Ed. 1 (1891–Jun–11); accessed at [texashistory.unt.edu/ark:-/slash-67531-slash-metaph115666-slash-m1-slash-5-slash-](http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/ark-metaph115666-slash-m1-slash-5-slash-)
- If a man does not make new acquaintance as he advances through life, he will soon find himself left alone.
— Samuel Johnson, quoted in James Boswell: *Tour To The Hebrides* (1785)
- For the life of me I cannot fathom why we expect so much from teachers and provide them so little in return. In 1940, the average pay of a male teacher was actually 3.6 percent more than what other college-educated men earned. Today is is 60 percent lower. Women teachers now earn 16 percent less than other college-educated women. This bewilders me...
— Bill Moyers, speech (2005) quoted in *Moyers On Democracy* (2008)
- We must face the fact that the United States is neither omnipotent nor omniscient, that we are only six percent of the world's population, that we cannot impose our will upon the other ninety-four percent of mankind, that we cannot right every wrong or reverse each adversity, and that therefore there cannot be an American solution to every world problem.
— John F. Kennedy: speech, University of Washington, Seattle (1961–November–16)

- No. A famous American actress is NOT living with the President of France.



- An error does not become truth by reason of multiplied propagation, nor does truth become error because nobody sees it.

— Mohandas K. Gandhi (1869-1948): *Young India 1924-1926*

- Let me tell you about the very rich. They are different from you and me. They possess and enjoy early, and it does something to them, makes them soft where we are hard, and cynical where we are trustful, in a way that, unless you were born rich, it is very difficult to understand. They think, deep in their hearts, that they are better than we are because we had to discover the compensations and refuges of life for ourselves. Even when they enter deep into our world or sink below us, they still think that they are better than we are. They are different.

— F. Scott Fitzgerald: "Rich Boy," *All the Sad Young Men* (1936)

[Mr. Romney's Government Handout](#)

Mitt Romney has proposed making the dysfunctional tax loophole system, that provides benefits only for the very rich, even more unfair.

- Writing is in itself a joy,

Yet saints and sages have long since held it in awe.

For it is being, created by tasking the great void;

And it is sound rung out of profound silence.

— Lu Ji [士衡] (261-303): *Essay on Literature* (Shih-hsiang Chen, trans.)

- An insightful and unprejudiced analysis -

[Slave states vs. free states, 2012](#)

The ongoing struggle of the Southern oligarchy against America

- A weapon that comes down as still

As snowflakes fall upon the sod;

But executes a freeman's will,

As lightning does the will of God;

And from its force, nor doors nor locks

Can shield you; 'tis the ballot-box.

— John Pierpont (1785-1866): *A Word from a Petitioner*

- There is a theory that if ever anyone discovers what the Universe is for and why it is here, it will instantly disappear and be replaced with something even more bizarre and inexplicable. There is another theory that this has already happened.
— Douglas Adams: *The Restaurant at the End of the Universe* (1980)
- A democratic civilization will save itself only if it makes the language of the image into a stimulus for critical reflection—not an invitation for hypnosis.
— Umberto Eco: “Can Television Teach?,” *Screen Education* 31 (1979)
- Legislative bodies have tended more and more to become wholly inefficient for the purposes of legislation. The prime feature in causing this unhealthy growth has been the discovery by minorities that under the old rules of parliamentary procedure they could put a complete stop to all legislative action.
— Theodore Roosevelt: speech before the Federal Club, New York City (1891-Mar-6, 1891), quoted in *New York Daily Tribune* the next day.
- Renewed my driver license today. Valid: eight years. Total cost: \$34. Time involved: 17 minutes, 45 seconds from parking the car to driving off. Sometimes Wisconsin works very well.
- It has been suggested that an army of monkeys might be trained to pound typewriters at random in the hope that ultimately great works of literature would be produced. Using a coin for the same purpose may save feeding and training expenses and free the monkeys for other monkey business.
— William Feller (1906–1970): *An Introduction To Probability Theory And Its Applications*
- For the corporation executives, the military metaphysic often coincides with their interest in a stable and planned flow of profit; it enables them to have their risk underwritten by public money; it enables them reasonably to expect that they can exploit for private profit now and later, the risky research developments paid for by public money. It is, in brief, a mask of the subsidized capitalism from which they extract profit and upon which their power is based.
— C. Wright Mills: *The Causes Of World War Three* (1960)
- The public does not like you to mislead or represent yourself to be something you’re not. And the other thing that the public really does like is the self-examination to say, you know, I’m not perfect. I’m just like you. They don’t ask their public officials to be perfect. They just ask them to be smart, truthful, honest, and show a modicum of good sense.
— Ann Richards, on *Larry King Live* [CNN] (2001–Jan–23)

- To recognize as right what is right and as wrong what is wrong is called “wisdom.” To regard as wrong what is right and as right what is wrong is called “stupidity.”
— Xunzi [荀子] (313 BCE–238 BC): *The Xunzi*
- Inaccurate myths continue to influence our lives...
[Cuban Missile Crisis Beliefs Endure After 50 Years](#)
50 years after Cuban missile crisis, scholars say compromise not brinkmanship ruled the day
- Private enterprise did not get us atomic energy.
— John Kenneth Galbraith: *The Affluent Society* (1958)
- Had the science of architecture no fixed nomenclature belonging to it—were there no settled names for distinguishing the different sorts of buildings nor the different parts of the same building from each other—what would it be? It would be what the science of legislation, considered with respect to its form, remains at present.
— Jeremy Bentham: *Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation* (1789)
- An insult directed at the wicked is not to be censured; on the contrary, the honest man, if he has sense, can only applaud.
— Aristophanes: *The Knights* [Ἰππεῖς] (424 BCE) [trans., Eugene O’Neill (1938)]
- Some writers did your homework for you. Read it, make up your mind, and stop paying attention to all the noise.
[Obama and Romney: Where they stand on the issues](#)
A look at where Democratic President Barack Obama and Republican presidential rival Mitt Romney stand on a selection of issues, in brief:
- South Carolina is too small for a republic and too large for an insane asylum.
— James L. Petigru (1789–1863)
- Today we are engaged in a final, all-out battle between communistic atheism and Christianity. The modern champions of communism have selected this as the time, and ladies and gentlemen, the chips are down — they are truly down.
— Sen. Joseph McCarthy, speech in Wheeling, West Virginia (1950–Feb–09); quoted at History Matters web site
- Le silence éternel de ces espaces infinis m’effraie.
[The eternal silence of these infinite spaces frightens me.]
— Blaise Pascal (1623–1662): *Pensée* 206

- Entsetzt sehen wir, dass der Kapitalismus, seitdem sein Bruder, der Sozialismus, für tot erklärt wurde, vom Größenwahn bewegt ist und sich ungehemmt auszutoben begonnen hat. [We are horrified to watch how capitalism, stirred by megalomania, has gone out of control with no restraints ever since it's brother, socialism, was declared dead.]
— Günter Grass (b. 1927): Nobel Lecture (1999), quoted at nobelprize dot org
- I believe in an America where millions of Americans believe in an America that's the America millions of Americans believe in. That's the America I love.
— Mitt Romney's early 2012 stump speech, quoted by Mark Steyn: "The Man Who Gave Us Newt," *National Review Online* (January 22, 2012; accessed 2012-Sep-01) <http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/288873/man-who-gave-us-newt-mark-steyn>
- If a man could ascend to heaven and get a clear view of the natural order of the universe, and the beauty of the heavenly bodies, that wonderful spectacle would give him small pleasure, though nothing could be conceived more delightful if he had but had some one to whom to tell what he had seen.
— Marcus Tullius Cicero: *Laelius de Amicitia* [Laelius On Friendship] (44 BCE), trans., E. S. Shuckburgh
- A burial outfit for the child of a Polander, whose name no one could remember, was sent out to the Chadwick place Tuesday.
— Item from "Local News," *Brenham (Texas) Weekly Banner*, Vol. XXVI, No. 24, Ed. 1, Thursday, June 11, 1891; accessed at texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth115666/m1/5/
- Beware of penetrating into a work of art, he said, you will ruin each and every one for yourself, even those you love most.
— Thomas Bernhard (1931-1989): *Old Masters* [trans., Ewald Osers (1989)]
- ...each agency shall ensure the objectivity of any scientific and technological information and processes used to support the agency's regulatory actions.
— Barack Obama: Executive Order 13563 (2011-Jan-18)
- The ultimate result of shielding men from the effects of folly, is to fill the world with fools.
— Herbert Spencer: *Essays—Scientific, Political, And Speculative* (1891)
- They are dropping, one by one...
[Paul Kurtz, giant of humanism, dead at 86](#)
GENEVA (Reuters) - Paul Kurtz, a leading U.S. philosopher who devoted his life to fighting prejudice against people who reject belief in a god and promoting a non-religious stance in life, has died at...

- Sometimes you have to point out the obvious.

[The Myth of Job Creation](#)

Both President Obama and Mitt Romney have said government does not create jobs. But the government does in fact create jobs, millions of important jobs.

- Is nothing sacred? Hmm. Guess not.



- It is the habit of the boa constrictor to besmear the body of his victim with a foul slime before he devours it; and there are many people in England, and perhaps elsewhere, who seem to be unable to contemplate military operations for clear political objects, unless they can cajole themselves into the belief that their enemy are utterly and hopelessly vile. To this end the Dervishes, from the Mahdi and the Khalifa downwards, have been loaded with every variety of abuse and charged with all conceivable crimes. This may be very comforting to philanthropic persons at home; but when an army in the field becomes imbued with the idea that the enemy are vermin who cumber the earth, instances of barbarity may easily be the outcome. This unmeasured condemnation is moreover as unjust as it is dangerous and unnecessary.

— Winston Churchill: *The River War—An Historical Account of the Reconquest of the Soudan*, (1899)

- Nothing is more curious than the almost savage hostility that Humour excites in those who lack it.

— George Saintsbury (1845-1933): *A Last Vintage*

- ...the people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. That is easy. All you have to do is tell them they are being attacked and denounce the pacifists for lack of patriotism and exposing the country to danger. It works the same way in any country.

— Hermann Göring, quoted in Gustave Gilbert: *Nuremberg Diary* (1946)

- We just need a President to sign this stuff, we don't need someone to think it up or design it. ...Focus on electing the most conservative Republican who can win in each House seat, and the most conservative Republican who can win in each Senate seat, and then pick a Republican with enough working digits to handle a pen to become President of the United States.
— Grover Norquist: speech, American Conservative Union (2012-Feb-11)
- Now everyone knows that the labor movement did not diminish the strength of the nation but enlarged it. By raising the living standards of millions, labor miraculously created a market for industry and lifted the whole nation to undreamed of levels of production. Those who attack labor forget these simple truths, but history remembers them.
— Martin Luther King, Jr., speech to the AFL-CIO (1961-Dec-11)
- To get the bad Customs of a Country chang'd, and new ones, though better, introduc'd, it is necessary first to remove the Prejudices of the People, enlighten their Ignorance, and convince them that their Interest will be promoted by the propos'd Changes; and this is not the Work of a Day.
— Benjamin Franklin, letter to Alexander Small (1787-Sep-28)
- The demand for a statement of a candidate's religious belief can have no meaning except that there may be discrimination for or against him because of that belief. Discrimination against the holder of one faith means retaliatory discrimination against men of other faiths.
— Theodore Roosevelt: letter to Mr. J.C. Martin concerning religion and politics (1908-Nov-6)
- ...in the mercantile system the interest of the consumer is almost constantly sacrificed to that of the producer; and it seems to consider production, and not consumption, as the ultimate end and object of all industry and commerce.
— Adam Smith (1723-1790): *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*
- Logical consequences are the scarecrow of fools and the beacons of wise men.
— Thomas Henry Huxley: *On The Hypothesis That Animals Are Automata, And Its History* (1874)
- Churches are becoming political organizations.... It probably will not be long until the churches will divide as sharply upon political, as upon theological questions; and when that day comes, if there are not liberals enough to hold the balance of power, this Government will be destroyed.
— Robert G. Ingersoll: *Some Mistakes Of Moses* (1879)

- He who knows (the Tao) does not (care to) speak (about it); he who is (ever ready to) speak about it does not know it.
 — Lao-Tse [老子]: *Tao Teh King* [道德經] (trans., James Legge)
 Those who know don't talk.
 Those who talk don't know.
 — Lao-Tzu [老子]: *Tao Te Ching* [道德經] (trans., Stephen Mitchell)
 Those who know don't talk, and those who talk don't know.
 — Ruth Bader Ginsburg, quoted by Jack Goldsmith: "Temple Of Silence," *The New Republic* (2012-Jun-23)
- History has the relation to truth that theology has to religion — i.e., none to speak of.
 — Robert A. Heinlein: *Time Enough For Love* (1973)
- Man's wisdom is at the tip of his pen,
 His intelligence is in his writing.
 His pen can raise a man to the rank
 That the scepter accords to a king.
 — Samuel ha-Nagid [Samuel ha-Levi ben Joseph ibn Nagrela] (993-1056), translated by David Goldstein in *Hebrew Poems from Spain* (1996)
- We are like a man running downhill, who cannot keep on his legs unless he runs on, and will inevitably fall if he stops; or, again, like a pole balanced on the tip of one's finger; or like a planet, which would fall into its sun the moment it ceased to hurry forward on its way.
 Unrest is the mark of existence.
 — Arthur Schopenhauer: *The Vanity of Existence* (1851)
- Calumny disregarded is soon forgotten by the world, but if you get into a passion about it, it seems to have a foundation of truth.
 — Tacitus: *History, IV* (ca. 100)
- Agitators are like those who fish for eels. When the water is tranquil they catch nothing, but if they stir up the mud they make a haul.
 — Aristophanes: *The Knights* (424 BCE)
- To be proud of virtue is to poison yourself with the antidote.
 — Benjamin Franklin: *Poor Richard's Almanac* (1756)
- Non omnia possumus omnes.
 [We are not all capable of everything.]
 — Publius Virgilius Maro [called Virgil] (70–19 BCE): *Eclogue VIII*

- A “wire-coaster,” something new in this state, but common in Louisiana and Illinois, is being erected on the vacant lot in the rear of Pennington hotel. I consists of slack wires running from two elevated platforms 200 feet apart, on which “the coasters” with handles are fastened, and the fun comes in in catching on to the coasters and riding from the upper platform to the other 200 feet away. Chairs will be used for the ladies to ride in.
— Item from “Local News,” *Brenham (Texas) Weekly Banner*, Vol. XXVI, No. 24, Ed. 1, Thursday, June 11, 1891; accessed at texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/ark-metaph115666-slash-m1-slash-5-slash-
- I am not one who was born in the possession of knowledge; I am one who is fond of antiquity, and earnest in seeking it there.
— 孔子 [Confucius] (551–479 BCE): *Analects* [trans., James Legge]
- Turkey: A large bird whose flesh, when eaten on certain religious anniversaries has the peculiar property of attesting piety and gratitude.
— Ambrose Bierce: *The Devil’s Dictionary* (1911)
- Some of us file composers
in alphabetical order,
and have systems
for filing within a composer.
Alphabetists avoid compilations.
Do you file
the string quartets of Debussy and Ravel
under D or R?
— Geoffrey Lehmann (b. 1940): from *Thirteen Long-Playing Haiku*
- Liut unde lant diu möhten mit genâden sîn
wan zwei vil kleiniu wortelîn “min” unde “din”.
[People and nations could live in grace but for two little words, “mine” and “yours.”]
— Gottfried von Strassburg († ca. 1210) [trans., Frederick Goldin (1973)]
- Niemand ist mehr Sklave, als der sich für frei hält, ohne es zu sein.
[None are more hopelessly enslaved than those who falsely believe they are free.]
— Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832): *Die Wahlverwandtschaften* (1809) [Elective Affinities or Kindred by Choice, trans., Otto Wenckstern (1853)]
- Faith is a wonderful thing, but doubt gets you an education.
— Wilson Mizner (1876-1933), quoted in Stuart B. McIver: *Dreamers, Schemers and Scalawags* (1994)

- On account of their having embraced Christian science views six members were expelled from the Baptist church at Marshal Sunday.
— Item from “State News,” *Brenham (Texas) Weekly Banner*, Vol. XXVI, No. 24, Ed. 1, Thursday, June 11, 1891; accessed at texashistory.unt.edu-slash-ark:-slash-67531-slash-metaph115666-slash-m1-slash-5-slash-
- A standing army is like a standing member. It’s an excellent assurance of domestic tranquility, but a dangerous temptation to foreign adventure.
— Elbridge Thomas Gerry (1744-1814), speech at the U. S. Constitutional Convention (1789)
- Satire is a kind of glass, wherein beholders do generally discover everybody’s face but their own.
— Jonathan Swift: *The Battle Of The Books* (1704)
- Some things never change...



**Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire
New York City, Mar. 25, 1911**

**Tazreen Fashions factory fire
Dhaka, Bangladesh, Nov. 24, 2012**

- The course of life is fixed, and nature admits of its being run but in one way, and only once; and to each part of our life there is something specially seasonable; so that the feebleness of children, as well as the high spirit of youth, the soberness of maturer years, and the ripe wisdom of old age—all have a certain natural advantage which should be secured in its proper season.
— Marcus Tullius Cicero: *Cato Maior de Senectute* [Cato the Elder On Old Age] (44 BCE), trans., E. S. Shuckburgh
- Comedy is tragedy plus time.
— Carol Burnett, quoted in Rita Mae Brown: *Starting From Scratch* (1989)

- Many evil men are rich, and good men poor, but we shall not exchange with them our excellence for riches.
— Solon (c. 638–558 BCE): *fragment 4*
- The world of the happy is quite different from the world of the unhappy.
— Ludwig Wittgenstein (1889-1951): *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus* (1922)
- Any girl can be glamorous. All you have to do is stand still and look stupid.
— Hedy Lamarr (1913-2000), quoted in Richard Schickel: *The Stars* (1962)
- All the pale horses of the apocalypse have stormed through my life, revolution, starvation, devaluation of currency and terror, epidemics, emigration; I have seen the great ideologies of the masses grow and spread out before my eyes. Fascism in Italy, National Socialism in Germany, Bolshevism in Russia, and, above all, that archpestilence, nationalism, which poisoned our flourishing European culture.
— Stefan Zweig (1881-1942): *Die Welt von Gestern* [The World of Yesterday] (1942), trans., Marion Sonnenfeld
- Unthinking respect for authority is the greatest enemy of truth.
— Albert Einstein, letter to Jost Winteler (1901)
- “Whoever denies authority and fights against it is an anarchist,” said Sebastien Faure. The definition is tempting in its simplicity, but simplicity is the first thing to guard against in writing a history of anarchism.
— George Woodcock: *Anarchism — A History of Libertarian Ideas and Movements* (1962)
- This life of yours which you are living is not merely a piece of this entire existence, but in a certain sense the whole; only this whole is not so constituted that it can be surveyed in one single glance.
— Erwin Schrödinger (1887-1961): *Mein Leben, meine Weltansicht* [My View of the World] (1961)
- If we are uncritical we shall always find what we want: we shall look for, and find, confirmations, and we shall look away from, and not see, whatever might be dangerous to our pet theories. In this way it is only too easy to obtain what appears to be overwhelming evidence in favor of a theory which, if approached critically, would have been refuted.
— Karl Popper (1902-1994): *The Poverty of Historicism* (1957)
- Freedom of the press is guaranteed only to those who own one.
— A. J. Liebling: “Do you belong in journalism,” *The New Yorker* (1960-May-14)

- Human happiness and human satisfaction must ultimately come from within oneself. It is wrong to expect some final satisfaction to come from money or from a computer.
— Tenzin Gyatso [14th Dalai Lama]: *The Path to Tranquility – Daily Wisdom* (1998)
- To a body of infinite size there can be ascribed neither centre nor boundary... Thus the Earth no more than any other world is at the centre.
— Giordano Bruno: *De l'infinito universo et mundi* (1584); trans., Dorothea Waley Singer
- The day Lincoln was shot, I was the only one who turned to the theatre section to read the review of the play.
— spoken by George Burns; Keith Fowler, Norman Paul, Harvey Helm & Williams Burns: “The Stolen Car,” *The George Burns & Gracie Allen Show* (1958-Jan-6)
- A man who knows he’s making money for other people ought to get some of the profits he brings in.
— George Herman ‘Babe’ Ruth (1895-1948), quoted in Dan Shaughnessy: *The Rivals - The Boston Red Sox Vs. The New York Yankess, An Inside Story* (2004)
- The great landowning nobility [of western Europe] sapped the strength of numerous kings over the centuries, drowning any potential unity in a sea of petty squabbles. Caught between the warring sides as always were the poor, crushed in the grip of feudal lords and bound ever more tightly to their land. Constantinople, by contrast, to its great benefit, managed largely to keep its aristocracy in check, ensuring a surprising degree of social and economic mobility for its citizens that added immeasurably to the prosperity and strength of the empire.
— Lars Brownworth: *Lost To The West—The Forgotten Byzantine Empire That Rescued Western Civilization* (2009)
- That world of fantasy
Just stopped and ceased to be
The day they traveled to the stars.
They wreck the dreams you weave.
Next thing they’ll have you believe
There ain’t no life on Mars.
— Neil Sedaka & Howie Greenfield: *What Have They Done To The Moon* (1971)
- I have noticed that even people who claim everything is predetermined and that we can do nothing to change it, look before they cross the road.
— Stephen Hawking: *Black Holes and Baby Universes and Other Essays* (1993)

- The human body is an instrument for the production of art in the life of the human soul.
— Alfred North Whitehead: *Adventures of Ideas* (1933)
- He who would distinguish the true from the false must have an adequate idea of what is true and false.
— Baruch Spinoza: *Ethics* (1677)
- ...I think a general Government necessary for us, and there is no form of Government but what may be a blessing to the people if well administered, and believe farther that this is likely to be well administered for a course of years, and can only end in Despotism, as other forms have done before it, when the people shall have become so corrupted as to need despotic Government, being incapable of any other.
— Benjamin Franklin, address to the Constitutional Convention (1787-Sep-17), quoted in Carl Van Doren: *The Great Rehearsal* (1948)
- There are two men inside the artist, the poet and the craftsman. One is born a poet. One becomes a craftsman.
— Émile Zola: letter to Paul Cézanne (1860-Apr-16)
- Der eitle, schwache Mensch sieht in Jedem einen Richter, der stolze, starke hat keinen Richter als sich selbst.
[The vain and weak see a judge in everyone; the proud and strong know no judge other than themselves.]
— Marie Freifrau von Ebner-Eschenbach (1830-1916): *Aphorisms* (1890), trans., D. Scrase and W. Mieder (1994)
- Never allow the demands of tomorrow to interfere with the pleasure and excitement of today.
— Harold Hill, in Meredith Willson: *The Music Man* (1957)
- For Forms of Government let fools contest;
Whate'er is best administered is best;
For Modes of Faith let graceless zealots fight;
He can't be wrong whose life is in the right;
In Faith and Hope the world will disagree,
But all Mankind's concern is Charity;
All must be false that thwart this One great End;
And all of God, that bless Mankind or mend.
— Alexander Pope (1688-1744): *Essay On Man*

- Too bad that all the people who know how to run the country are busy driving taxicabs and cutting hair.
— George Burns, quoted in *Life* magazine (1979–Dec)
- If you ask me play myself, I will not know what to do. I do not know who or what I am.
— Peter Sellers, as quoted in Leslie Halliwell: *Halliwell's Filmgoer's Companion* (1988)
- What is this “mac and cheese?” Is that a black thing?
— Pat Robertson, on *The 700 Club* (broadcast 2011–Oct-23), following an interview where Condoleezza Rice named it as her favorite Thanksgiving dish
- The power of the Executive to cast a man in prison without formulating any charge known to the law, and particularly to deny him the judgment of his peers is in the highest degree odious and is the foundation of all totalitarian government, whether Nazi or Communist.
— Winston Churchill, telegram (1942–Nov–21) from Cairo, Egypt, to Home Secretary Herbert Morrison; cited in Simpson: *In the Highest Degree Odious* (1992)
- It is the duty of the humor of any given nation in time of high crisis to attack the catastrophe that faces it in such a manner as to cause the people to laugh at it in such a way that they cannot die before they are killed.
— Lord Buckley [Richard Mryle Buckley]: *H-Bomb* (1960)
- Who overcomes By force, hath overcome but half his foe.
— John Milton: *Paradise Lost* (1667)
- Books to the ceiling,
Books to the sky,
My pile of books is a mile high.
How I love them! How I need them!
I'll have a long beard by the time I read them.
— Arnold Lobel (1933-1987)
- A committee is a cul-de-sac down which ideas are lured and then quietly strangled.
— Sir Barnett Cocks (1907–1989)
- The scientists of today think deeply instead of clearly. One must be sane to think clearly, but one can think deeply and be quite insane.
— Nikola Tesla: *Modern Mechanics And Inventions* (1934–July)

- I guess I'm just an old mad scientist at bottom. Give me an underground laboratory, half a dozen atom-smashers, and a beautiful girl in a diaphanous veil waiting to be turned into a chimpanzee, and I care not who writes the nation's laws.

— S. J. Perelman: "Captain Future, Block That Kick!", *The Most of S. J. Perelman* (1992)

- So the shortest day came, and the year died,
And everywhere down the centuries of the snow-white world
Came people singing, dancing,
To drive the dark away.
They lighted candles in the winter trees;
They hung their homes with evergreen;
They burned beseeching fires all night long
To keep the year alive,
And when the new year's sunshine blazed awake
They shouted, reveling.
Through all the frosty ages you can hear them
Echoing behind us—Listen!!
All the long echoes sing the same delight,
This shortest day,
As promise wakens in the sleeping land:
They carol, feast, give thanks,
And dearly love their friends,
And hope for peace.
And so do we, here, now,
This year and every year.
Welcome Yule!

— Susan Cooper (1935-), *The Shortest Day*

- There are two sighs of relief every night in the life of an opera manager. The first comes when the curtain goes up The second sigh of relief comes when the final curtain goes down without any disaster, and one realizes, gratefully, that the miracle has happened again.

— Rudolf Bing (1902-1997), unsourced at brainyquote dot com

- About the most originality that any writer can hope to achieve honestly is to steal with good judgment.

— Josh Billings (1818-1885)

- The mind of a bigot is like the pupil of the eye: the more light you pour upon it, the more it will contract.
— Oliver W. Holmes, Jr. (1841-1935)
- You're too young to understand it now, but nothing can kill a show like too much exposition.
— Greg Kotis: *Urinetown•The Musical* (2001)
- English Teeth, English Teeth!
Shining in the sun
A part of British heritage
Aye, each and every one.
English Teeth, Happy Teeth!
Always having fun
Clamping down on bits of fish
And sausages half done.
English Teeth! HEROES' Teeth!
Hear them click! and clack!
Let's sing a song of praise to them—
Three Cheers for the Brown Grey and Black.
— Terence Alan Patrick Seán “Spike” Milligan (1918-2002): *Teeth*
- An expensive arms race, under cover of the military metaphysic, and in a paranoid atmosphere of fright, is an economically attractive business. To many utopian capitalists, it has become Business Way of American Life.
— C. Wright Mills: *The Causes Of World War Three* (1960)
- Non ego ventosae plebis suffragia venor.
[I court not the votes of the fickle mob.]
— Quintus Horatius Flaccus [Horace]: *Epistles* (20 BCE)
- I have often wished I had time to cultivate modesty... but I am too busy thinking about myself.
— Edith Sitwell, quoted in *The Observer* (1950-Apr-30)
- To declare that in the administration of the criminal law the end justifies the means—to declare that the government may commit crimes in order to secure the conviction of a private criminal—would bring terrible retribution.
— Louis Brandeis: *Dissenting, Olmstead v. United States*, 277 U.S. 438 (1928)

- If you would not be forgotten, as soon as you are dead and rotten, either write things worth reading, or do things worth the writing.
— Benjamin Franklin: *Poor Richard's Almanac* (1738)
- Axiom: hatred of the bourgeois is the beginning of wisdom.
— Gustave Flaubert, letter to George Sand (1867–May–10)
- Common looking people are the best in the world: that is the reason the Lord makes so many of them.
— Abraham Lincoln, quoted in John Hay's diary (1863–Dec–23)
- Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passions, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence.
— John Adams: Defense of the British soldiers on trial for the Boston Massacre (1770)
- They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety.
— Benjamin Franklin: *Historical Revue of Pennsylvania* (1759)
- Lost time is never found again.
— Benjamin Franklin: *Poor Richard's Almanac* (1748)
- Above all he [John F. Kennedy] gave the world for an imperishable moment the vision of a leader who greatly understood the terror and the hope, the diversity and the possibility, of life on this planet and who made people look beyond nation and race to the future of humanity.
— Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr.: *A Thousand Days* (1965)
- You all look like happy campers to me. Happy campers you are, happy campers you have been, and, as far as I am concerned, happy campers you will always be.
— James Danforth Quayle: Speech to American Samoans (1989–Apr–25 [est.])
- You've got to be an optimist to be a Democrat, and you've got to be a humorist to stay one.
— Will Rogers: Good Gulf radio show (1934–Jun–24)
- The Constitution of the United States was made not merely for the generation that then existed, but for the posterity—unlimited, undefined, endless, perpetual posterity.
— Henry Clay, speech in the U. S. Senate (1850–Jan–29)

- Avoid the “tremolo” or “vibrato” style of playing. See that your tone is absolutely clear and pure.
— Ernest F. Wagner: *Foundation to Flute Playing* (1918)
- Call it democracy, or call it democratic socialism, but there must be a better distribution of wealth within this country for all God’s children.
— Martin Luther King, Jr.: speech, Negro America Labor Council (1965-May)
- In the United States there is more space where nobody is than where anybody is. This is what makes America what it is.
— Gertrude Stein: *The Geographical History of America* (1936)
- In all the world there is nothing more timorous than a million dollars, except ten million. In revolutionary times the rich are always the people who are most afraid.
— Gerald White Johnson: *American Freedom and the Press* (1958)
- Art is the imposing of a pattern on experience, and our aesthetic enjoyment in recognition of the pattern.
— Alfred North Whitehead: *Dialogues of Alfred North Whitehead* (1953)
- One must not always think that feeling is everything. Art is nothing without form.
— Gustave Flaubert, letter to Madame Louise Colet (1846–Aug–12)
- A general definition of civilization: a civilized society is exhibiting the five qualities of truth, beauty, adventure, art, peace.
— Alfred North Whitehead: *Adventures of Ideas* (1933)
- Every ex-President should have some place where he could go and hide his shame.
— Bill Nye: *History of the United States* (1894)
- Ceaselessly the river flows, and yet the water is never the same, while in the still pools the shifting foam gathers and is gone, never staying for a moment. Even so is man and his habitation.
— Kamo no Chomei (1153-1216): *The Ten Foot Square Hut and Tales of the Heike* [trans., A. L. Sadler, 1928]
- Civil government, so far as it is instituted for the security of property, is in reality instituted for the defense of the rich against the poor, or of those who have some property against those who have none at all.
— Adam Smith: *The Wealth Of Nations* (1776)

- [P]rogressive government by its very terms, must be a living and growing thing, that the battle for it is never ending and that if we let up for one single moment or one single year, not merely do we stand still but we fall back in the march of civilization.
— Franklin D. Roosevelt (1930–May), quoted in James MacGregor Burns: *Roosevelt, vol. 1* (1956)
- · W. G. Sneed, of Wichita Falls, a *Kansas City Sunday Sun* correspondent, was given a coat of tar and feathers at that place Saturday night.
· Professor Langley believes emphatically in the possib[i]lity of a flying machine that will fly. Why not? Stranger things than that have already come to pass.
· The sanitary condition of the city should be looked after. Trash barrel’s [sic] in front of the BANNER office have remained unemdtied [sic] since they were set out Saturday morning.
· Garland, Dallas county, needs a new bank badly, and will very likely have one by fall.
· Denton needs a town clock.
— Items from “State News,” *Brenham (Texas) Weekly Banner*, Vol. XXVI, No. 24, Ed. 1, Thursday, June 11, 1891 (accessed at texashistory.unt.edu/slash-ark:-slash-67531-slash-metaph115666-slash-m1-slash-5-slash-)
- Happiness lies not in the mere possession of money; it lies in the joy of achievement, in the thrill of creative effort.
— Franklin D. Roosevelt: First Inaugural Address (1933–March-4)
- Let me warn you, and let me warn the nation, against the smooth evasion that says: “Of course we believe these things. We believe in social security. We believe in work for the unemployed. We believe in saving homes. Cross our hearts and hope to die! We believe in all these things. But we do not like the way that the present administration is doing them. Just turn them over to us. We will do all of them, we will do more of them, we will do them better and, most important of all, the doing of them will not cost anybody anything!”
— Franklin D. Roosevelt: Address at the Democratic State Convention, Syracuse, New York (1936–Sep-29)
- Let us not be afraid to help each other—let us never forget that government is ourselves and not an alien power over us. The ultimate rulers of our democracy are not a President and Senators and Congressmen and Government officials but the voters of this country.
— Franklin D. Roosevelt: Address at Marietta, Ohio (1938–July-8)

- The real truth of the matter is, as you and I know, that a financial element in the larger centers has owned the Government ever since the days of Andrew Jackson — and I am not wholly excepting the Administration of W. W. [Woodrow Wilson]. The country is going through a repetition of Jackson's fight with the Bank of the United States — only on a far bigger and broader basis.
— Franklin D. Roosevelt: Letter to Col. Edward Mandell House (1933–Nov–21), quoted in *F.D.R.: His Personal Letters, 1928–1945*, edited by Elliott Roosevelt (1950)
- Unhappy events abroad have retaught us two simple truths about the liberty of a democratic people.
The first truth is that the liberty of a democracy is not safe if the people tolerate the growth of private power to a point where it becomes stronger than their democratic state itself. That, in its essence, is Fascism—ownership of Government by an individual, by a group, or by any other controlling private power.
The second truth is that the liberty of a democracy is not safe if its business system does not provide employment and produce and distribute goods in such a way as to sustain an acceptable standard of living.
— Franklin D. Roosevelt: Message to Congress on Curbing Monopolies (1938–Apr–29)
- We know now that Government by organized money is just as dangerous as Government by organized mob.
— Franklin D. Roosevelt: Address at Madison Square Garden, New York City, (1936–Oct–31).
- The very employers and politicians and publishers who talk most loudly of class antagonism and the destruction of the American system now undermine that system by this attempt to coerce the votes of the wage earners of this country. It is the 1936 version of the old threat to close down the factory or the office if a particular candidate does not win. It is an old strategy of tyrants to delude their victims into fighting their battles for them. Every message in a pay envelope, even if it is the truth, is a command to vote according to the will of the employer. But this propaganda is worse—it is deceit.
— Franklin D. Roosevelt: Address at Madison Square Garden, New York City, (1936–Oct–31)
- Before you can steal fire from the Gods you gotta be able to get coffee for the director.
—David Mamet: *Bambi Vs. Godzilla — On the Nature, Purpose, and Practice of the Movie Business* (2007)
- Mora omnis ingrata est, sed facit sapientiam.
[All delay is unpleasant, but we are the wiser for it.]
— Francis Bacon (1561–1626)

- The contributions of “Big Business” to WWII... <sigh>



[U.S. Senate: Art & History Home > Historical Minutes > 1941-1963 > The Truman Committee](http://www.senate.gov/artandhistory/history/minute/The_Truman_Committee.htm)
http://www.senate.gov/artandhistory/history/minute/The_Truman_Committee.htm
 Truman Committee -- March 1, 1941

- Before you can steal fire from the Gods you gotta be able to get coffee for the director.
 —David Mamet: *Bambi Vs. Godzilla – On the Nature, Purpose, and Practice of the Movie Business* (2007)

- Funny.



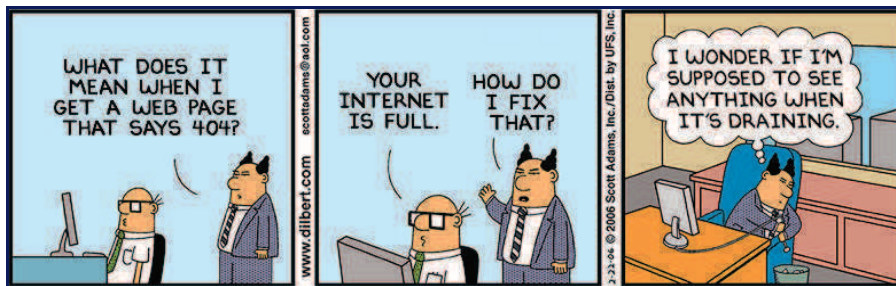
[New York Times articles with changes added by Chinese hackers](http://www.newyorker.com)

<http://www.newyorker.com>

For the last four months, Chinese hackers have persistently attacked The New York Times, infiltrating its computer systems and getting passwords...

- I shall vanish and be no more,
 But the land over which I now roam
 Shall remain
 And change not.
 — Omaha Indian song, in *Bureau of American Ethnology Twenty-seventh Annual Report, 1904-6* [trans., Alice Fletcher and Francis LaFlesche]

- So there!



- The opposite of the religious fanatic is not the fanatical atheist but the gentle cynic who cares not whether there is a god or not.
 — Eric Hoffer: *The True Believer – Thought On The Nature Of Mass Movements* (1951)

- ...there is no grief like the grief which does not speak.
 — Henry Wadsworth Longfellow: *Hyperion* (1839)

- Coherent advice.



[Kick That Can](http://nyti.ms/VKwEXi)

<http://nyti.ms/VKwEXi>

Given the state we're in, now is not the time for spending cuts.

- Mora omnis ingrata est, sed facit sapientiam.
[All delay is unpleasant, but we are the wiser for it.]
— Francis Bacon (1561-1626)
- It must never be forgotten, however, that the Bill of Rights was the child of the Enlightenment. Back of the guarantee of free speech lay faith in the power of an appeal to reason by all the peaceful means for gaining access to the mind. It was in order to avert force and explosions due to restrictions upon rational modes of communication that the guarantee of free speech was given a generous scope. But utterance in a context of violence can lose its significance as an appeal to reason and become part of an instrument of force. Such utterance was not meant to be sheltered by the Constitution.
— Felix Frankfurter: writing for the court, *Milk Wagon Drivers Union of Chicago, Local 753. v. Meadowmoor Dairies, Inc.*, 312 U.S. 287 (1941)
- One of these men is not the Milwaukee County Sheriff...



- Apparently, women need to feel loved to have sex, and men need to have sex to feel loved, so the basic act of continuing the species requires a lie from one of you.
— Billy Connolly: *Billy Connolly Live* (1994)

- The power which we have over our children is peculiar to Roman citizens, and is found in no other nation.

— Flavius Anicius Iustinianus, called Justinian (483-565): *The Institutes of Justinian* [trans., J.B. Moyle, 1913]

- His IRA must have rebounded...



Pope Benedict XVI Says He Will Retire – The New York Times

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/02/12/world/europe/pope-benedict-xvi-says-he-will-retire.html>

Pope Benedict XVI, the former Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger who took office in 2005 following the death of his predecessor, said on Monday that he will retire on Feb. 28, the first pope to do so in six centuries.

- They don't want to see us unite:

All they want us to do is keep on fussing and fighting.

They don't want to see us live together:

All they want us to do is keep on killing one another.

— Bob Marley: *Top Rankin'* (1979)

- I, Culgi, king of Urim, have also devoted myself to the art of music. Nothing is too complicated for me; I know the full extent of the tigi and the adab, the perfection of the art of music. When I fix the frets on the lute, which enraptures my heart, I never damage its neck; I have devised rules for raising and lowering its intervals. On the gu-uc lyre I know the melodious tuning. I am familiar with the sa-ec and with drumming on its musical soundbox. I can take in my hands the miritum, which ... [missing]. I know the finger technique of the aljar and sabitum, royal creations. In the same way I can produce sounds from the urzababitum, the harhar, the zanaru, the ur-gula and the dim-lu-magura. Even if they bring to me, as one might to a skilled musician, a musical instrument that I have not played previously, when I strike it up I make its true sound known; I am able to handle it just like something that has been in my hands before. Tuning, stringing, unstringing and fastening are not beyond my skills. I do not make the reed pipe sound like a rustic pipe, and on my own initiative I can wail a sumunca or make a lament as well as anyone who does it regularly.

— Anonymous: *A praise poem of Šulgi* (Shulgi B) [excerpt], ca. 2050 BCE. [The Electronic Text Corpus of Sumerian Literature (ETCSL), Oxford.]

- US citizenship turns onerous for expats

<http://m.thelocal.ch/page/view/us-citizenship-turns-onerous-for-expats> - The Local

Scott Schmith is a patriot and a US military veteran but he is no longer a US citizen. Sick of complex tax rules making his life in Switzerland...

- Can any one be so indifferent or idle as not to care to know by what means, and under what kind of polity, almost the whole inhabited world was conquered and brought under the dominion of the single city of Rome, and that too within a period of not quite fifty-three years? [220-167 BCE] Or who again can be so completely absorbed in other subjects of contemplation or study, as to think any of them superior in importance to the accurate understanding of an event for which the past affords no precedent.
— Polybius (c. 200-118 BCE): *The Histories*, trans., from the text of F. Hultsch by Evelyn S. Shuckburg (1889)

- Thought is free.
— John Gower: *Confessio amantis* (ca. 1390)

- Nice. Just really nice.



[The Universal History Of Music In One Awesome Timelapse Drawing](http://www.gizmodo.com.au)
www.gizmodo.com.au

I love timelapse drawings that explain complex things, like timelines or processes. They are usually mesmerising and beautiful. This history of music ...

- A joker is near akin to a buffoon; and neither of them is the least bit related to wit.
— Lord Chesterfield: letter to his son (1749–Aug–30)
- Milwaukee, 7°. Reykjavik, 46°. Just sayin'...
- Wit is the clash and reconciliation of incongruities, the meeting of extremes round a corner.
— Leigh Hunt: *Table-Talk* (1851)
- Is anyone bothered that the word “palindrome” isn’t one?
- Alles Gescheite ist schon gedacht worden.
Man muss nur versuchen, es noch einmal zu denken.
[All intelligent thoughts have already been thought; what is necessary is only to try to think them again.]
— Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749–1832): *Wilhelm Meisters Wanderjahre*, Bk. II
- The film studios learned to our dismay but to their pleasure that if they spent \$200 million making a film they could make a half billion on it. So they were not interested anymore in quality films... They can’t afford to be that risky at those prices. consequently you're getting a lot of remakes, sequels, dopey comedies full of toilet jokes...
— Woody Allen: radio interview, BBC (2011)

- I have served on the Intelligence Committee for over a decade and I wish to deliver a warning this afternoon. When the American people find out how their government has secretly interpreted the PATRIOT Act, they are going to be stunned and they are going to be angry. They are going to ask Senators: Did you know what this law actually permits? Why didn't you know before you voted on it? The fact is anyone can read the plain text of the PATRIOT Act. Yet many Members of Congress have no idea how the law is being secretly interpreted by the executive branch because that interpretation is classified.
— Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR): Congressional Record 157:74 (2011–May–26), p. S3386
- By necessity, by proclivity, and by delight, we all quote. In fact, it is as difficult to appropriate the thoughts of others as it is to invent.
— R. Emerson
—— Quoted from a fortune cookie program (whose author claims, “Actually, stealing IS easier.”)
—— [to which I [the editor] reply, “You think it’s easy for me to misconstrue all these misquotations?!?” Ed.]
- A total waste of perfectly good carbon.
[Montana Bill Would Give Corporations The Right To Vote](#)
thinkprogress.org

A bill introduced by Montana state Rep. Steve Lavin would give corporations the right to vote in municipal elections: Provision for vote by corporate property
- As we say...
[Sequester of Fools](#)
www.nytimes.com

Here we go again! That terrible fiscal crisis we were warned about two years ago is just around the corner. Is anyone interested?
- By letting it go it all gets done. The world is won by those who let it go. But when you try and try, the world is beyond the winning.
— Laozi [老子] (fl. 6th century BCE): *Tao Te Ching*, trans., Raymond B. Blakney (1955)
- If organized religion is the opium of the masses, then disorganized religion is the marijuana of the lunatic fringe.
— Kerry Thornley (Discordian Society Co-founder): *Principia Discordia*, Introduction to 5th Edition
- Men often oppose a thing merely because they have had no agency in planning it, or because it may have been planned by those whom they dislike.
— Alexander Hamilton: The Federalist LXX (1788)

- My mother's brothers, ca. 1915. Such happy boys!



- My mother's son, ca. 1951. Such a happy boy!



- They understand that if Barack Obama was somehow able to cure hunger in the world, the Republicans would blame him for overpopulation. They understand that if somehow Barack Obama could somehow bring about world peace, they would blame him for destroying the defense industry. In fact, they understand that if Barack Obama has a BLT sandwich tomorrow for lunch they would try and ban bacon.
— Rep. Alan Grayson (D-FL): Speech on the House floor (2009-Oct-8)
- Why driving in Ireland can be a challenge. (That 80 km/h translates to 50 miles per hour!)



- Selfishness is not living as one wishes to live, it is asking others to live as one wishes to live.
— Oscar Wilde (1854–1900)
- Something about this makes me laugh uncontrollably...



[Music Directors and Composers : Occupational Outlook Handbook : U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics](http://www.bls.gov)
www.bls.gov

Music directors (also called conductors) lead orchestras and other musical groups during performances and recording sessions. Composers write and arrange

- Don't write music entirely by ear. Your ears will always guide you aright, of course, but you must *know* why one progression is good and another bad.
— Anton Webern, quoted in Humphrey Searle: Conversations With Webern, Musical Times (1940)

- fairly cool...

[Churchbells will ring for Benedict XVI](http://www.wienerzeitung.at/nachrichten/english_news/526671_Churchbells-will-ring-for-Benedict-XVI.html) - Wiener Zeitung Online

http://www.wienerzeitung.at/nachrichten/english_news/526671_Churchbells-will-ring-for-Benedict-XVI.html

The *Pummerin* bells rings on rare events such as holidays, New Year's Eve, the death and election of a pope, the archbishop of Vienna, the priest of St...

- 1619 Jamestown, Virginia: Polish craftsmen strike

[1619 Jamestown Polish craftsmen strike](http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/1619_Jamestown_Polish_craftsmen_strike) - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The Jamestown Polish craftsmen's strike of 1619, which occurred in the settlement of Jamestown in the Virginia colony, was the first strike in the recorded history of North America.

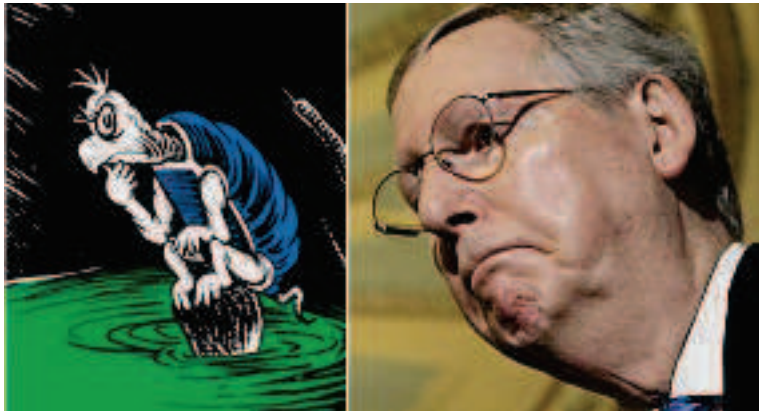
- Advanced photoshoppers are encouraged to “Have at it!”



- Songs are thoughts, sung out with the breath when people are moved by great forces and ordinary speech no longer suffices. Man is moved just like the ice floe sailing here and there out in the current. His thoughts are driven by a flowing force when he feels joy, when he feels fear, when he feels sorrow. Thoughts can wash over him like a flood, making his breath come in gasps and his heart throb. Something, like an abatement in the weather, will keep him thawed up. And then it will happen that we, who always think we are small, will feel still smaller. And we will fear to use words. But it will happen that the words we need will come of themselves. When the words we want to use shoot up of themselves—we get a new song.
— Orpingalik [Netsilik Eskimo], quoted in Knud Rasmussen: “The Netsilik Eskimos—Social Life and Spiritual Culture,” *Report of the Fifth Thule Expedition 1921-24* [trans., W. E. Calvert (1952)]

- No bank nor banking institution, nor office of discount and deposit, nor other monied corporation, nor private banking establishment, shall ever exist during the continuance of this constitution.
— Art. 30, Proposed constitution for a Mexican state of Texas, made in general convention in the town of San Felipe de Austin (1833-Apr-13)
- Television makes so much at its worst that it can't afford to do its best.
—Fred W. Friendly: quoted in *U. S. News & World Reports* (1967-Jun-12)
- We have an arsenal of notational devices, old and new, to cope with a large number of musical situations, but when it comes to keyboard reductions, it is often the music itself which makes reductions impractical (if not impossible).
— Kurt Stone: *Music Notation in the Twentieth Century—A Practical Guidebook* (1980)
- National hatred is something peculiar. You will always find it strongest and most violent where there is the lowest degree of culture.
— J. W. Goethe: *Conversations with Eckermann* (1830-Mar-14)
- No law perfectly suits the convenience of every member of the community; the only consideration is, whether upon the whole it be profitable to the greater part.
—Livy: *History of Rome* (ca. 10)
- We assert that no nation can long endure half republic and half empire, and we warn the American people that imperialism abroad will lead quickly and inevitably to despotism at home.
— Democratic Party National Platform (1900)
- It is forbidden to decry other sects: the true believer gives honor to whatever in them is worthy of honor.
— Decree of Ashoka [Aśoka], emperor of India ca. 269 BCE to 232 BCE
- A living wage includes not merely decent maintenance for the present but also a reasonable provision for such future needs as sickness, invalidity, and old age.
— Pastoral letter of the Roman Catholic Archbishops and Bishops of the United States (1920-Feb-22)
- The public must have access to every lake in the state and, at convenient points, to rivers as well. These waters are public waters and private monopoly of them, through private ownership of the land around and along them, cannot be tolerated.
— Editorial, *Milwaukee Journal* (1921-Oct-5)

- Musical comedy is the Irish stew of the drama. Anything may be put into it, with the certainty that it will improve the general effect.
— P. G. Wodehouse: *Bill the Bloodhound* (1917)
- Modern man must descend the spiral of his own absurdity to the lowest point; only then can he look beyond it. It is obviously impossible to get around it, jump over it or simply avoid it.
— Vaclav Havel, *Disturbing the Peace* (1986)
- Je me hâte de me moquer de tous, de peur d'être obligé d'en pleurer.
[I hasten to laugh at everything, for fear of being obliged to weep.]
— Pierre de Beaumarchais, *Barbier de Séville* (1773)
- The wicked are wicked, no doubt, and they go astray and they fall, and they come by their desserts; but who can tell the mischief which the very virtuous do?
— William Makepeace Thackeray: *The Newcomes* (1854)
- Your Majesty. Please... I don't like to complain.
But down here below, we are feeling great pain.
— Theodor Seuss Geisel [Dr. Seuss]: *Yertle the Turtle and Other Stories* (1958)



- A man likes to hear his own voice in the bath.
— Lucius Annaeus Seneca: *Epistulae morales ad Lucilium* (ca. 63)
- The arrow is straight but cruel; the lute is crooked but sweet.
Therefore, judge men by their acts, not their appearance.
— Tiruvalluvar (also called Kundakunda): *The Holy Kural* [trans. under the guidance of Gurudeva, Sivaya Subramuniyaswami, 1995] (First Century BCE ???)

- Television contracts the imagination and radio expands it.
—Terry Wogan, in “Saying of the Year,” *Observer* (1984–Dec–30)
- Each person enlisting in an armed force shall take the following oath:
“I, XXXXXXXXXXXX, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. So help me God.”
— 10 USC § 502(a)
- Words, when well chosen, have so great a force in them that a description often gives us more lively ideas than the sight of things themselves.
— Joseph Addison: *The Spectator* (1712–Jun–27)
- To my daughter Leonora without whose never-failing sympathy and encouragement this book would have been finished in half the time.
— P. G. Wodehouse: dedication of *The Heart Of A Goof* (1926)
- By outlawing Solidarity, a free trade organization to which an overwhelming majority of Polish workers and farmers belong, they have made it clear that they never had any intention of restoring one of the most elemental human rights—the right to belong to a free trade union.
— Ronald Reagan: Radio Address to the Nation on Solidarity and United States Relations With Poland (1982–Oct–09)
- The limits of my language mean the limits of my world.
— Ludwig Wittgenstein: *Tractatus logico-philosophicus* (1922)
- When I take my wine my cares go to rest.
— Anacreon [Ἀνακρέων]: fragment (ca. 500 BCE)
- No part of the uniform shall include a pattern that imitates or suggests the shape of a baseball.
— Official Baseball Rules, 1.11(e)
- Surplus wealth is a sacred trust which its possessor is bound to administer in his lifetime for the good of the community.
—Andrew Carnegie: *The Gospel Of Wealth* (1900)

- He is not well-bred that cannot bear ill-breeding in others.
— Benjamin Franklin: *Poor Richard's Almanac* (1748)
- A hen is only an egg's way of making another egg.
— Samuel Butler: *Life and Habit* (1877)
- Let us all be happy, and live within our means, even if we have to borrow [sic] the money to do it with.
— Artemus Ward [Charles F. Browne]: *Artemus Ward In London* (1867)
- Language originated before philosophy, and that is what is the matter with philosophy.
— G. C. Lichtenberg: *Reflections* (1799)
- If only this damned French language were not so badly fitted for music!
— W. A. Mozart: letter to his father (1778–Jul–9)
- In the magnificent and spacious Grecian city of Ephesus an ancient law was made by the ancestors of the inhabitants. It was hard indeed in its nature, but nevertheless equitable. When an architect was entrusted with the execution of a public work, an estimate of the cost was lodged in the hands of a magistrate, and the architect's property was held as security until the work was finished. If, when finished, the expense did not exceed the estimate, he was complimented with decrees and honors. When the excess did not amount to more than a fourth part of the original estimate, it was defrayed by the public, and no punishment was inflicted. But when more than one fourth of the estimate was exceeded, he was required to pay the excess out of his own pocket.
— Marcus Vitruvius Pollio (fl. ca. 25 BCE), from *The Architecture of Marcus Vitruvius Pollio in Ten Books* [trans., Joseph Gwilt [1860]
- No country is permanently strong. Nor is any country permanently weak. If conformers to law are strong, the country is strong; if conformers to law are weak, the country is weak.
— Han Fei Tzu (280–233 BCE): “Having Regulations—A Memorandum” in *The Complete Works of Han Fei Tzu, Volume I*. Trans., W. K. Liao (1939)
- Every other enjoyment malice may destroy; every other panegyric envy may withhold; but no human power can deprive the boaster of his own encomiums.
— Samuel Johnson: *Rambler*, no. 193 (1752–Jan–21)
- Five minutes! Zounds! I have been five minutes too late all my life-time!
— Hannah Cowley: *The Belle's Stratagem* (1780)

- ESTRAGON: Charming spot. Inspiring prospects. Let's go.
VLADIMIR: We can't.
ESTRAGON: Why not?
VLADIMIR: We're waiting for Godot.
— Samuel Beckett: *Waiting for Godot* (1955)

- A classic set design...



- Mankind's true moral test, its fundamental test (which lies deeply buried from view) consists of its attitudes toward those who are at its mercy: animals.
— Milan Kundera: *The Unbearable Lightness Of Being* (1984)
- ...preferring to store her money in the stomachs of the needy rather than hide it in a purse.
— St. Ambrose (340–397): letter 127 [trans., F. A. Wright]
- Joseph set down a decree (that is in force until today) that one-fifth of [whatever grows on] the farm land of Egypt belonged to Pharaoh. Only the priestly lands did not belong to Pharaoh.
— *Genesis [Bereishit] 47:26* (ca. 6th century BCE) [trans., Aryeh Kaplan]
- Jesus said, “If you have money, do not lend it at interest, but give it to one from whom you will not get it back.”
— Anonymous: *The Gospel of Thomas* (ca. 40–140) [trans., Thomas O. Lambdin]

- All the perplexities, confusions, and distresses in America arise, not from defects in their constitution or confederation, nor from want of honor or virtue, as much from downright ignorance of the nature of coin, credit, and circulation.
— John Adams, letter to Thomas Jefferson (1787–Aug–25)
- Few men have the virtue to withstand the highest bidder.
— George Washington, letter (1779–Aug–17)
- A man wants to earn money in order to be happy, and his whole effort and the best of a life are devoted to the earning of that money. Happiness is forgotten; the means are taken for the end.
— Albert Camus: “Absurd Creation,” *The Myth of Sisyphus* (1942), [trans., Justin O’Brien, 1991]
- The sweetest sounds I’ll ever hear
Are still inside my head.
— Richard Rodgers: “The Sweetest Sounds,” *No Strings* (1962)
- The thing that impresses me most about America is the way parents obey their children.
— Edward, Duke of Windsor, in *Look* magazine (1957–Mar–5)
- O young artist, you search for a subject — everything is a subject. Your subject is yourself, your impressions, your emotions in the presence of nature.
— Eugène Delacroix (1799–1863): *Oeuvres littéraires*
- Man’s wisdom is at the tip of his pen,
His intelligence is in his writing.
His pen can raise a man to the rank
That the scepter accords to a king.
— Samuel ha-Nagid [Samuel ha-Levi ben Joseph ibn Nagrela] (993–1056), in *Hebrew Poems from Spain*, trans. David Goldstein
- cage me and i d go frantic
my life is so romantic
capricious and corybantic
and i m toujours gai toujours gai
— Don Marquis (1878–1937): “the song of mehitabel,” *archy and mehitabel* (1927)

- Journalists belong in the gutter because that is where the ruling classes throw their guilty secrets.
— Gerald Priestland [on Radio London], quoted in the *Observer* (1988–May–22)
- I think for my part one half of the nation is mad—and the other not very sound.
— Tobias Smollett: *The Adventures of Sir Laucelot Greaves* (1762)
- The record of performance of the Republican Administration on behalf of our working men and women goes still further. The Federal minimum wage has been raised for more than 2 million workers. Social Security has been extended to an additional 10 million workers and the benefits raised for 6 1/2 million. The protection of unemployment insurance has been brought to 4 million additional workers. There have been increased workmen's compensation benefits for longshoremen and harbor workers, increased retirement benefits for railroad employees, and wage increases and improved welfare and pension plans for federal employees.
— Republican Party Platform (1956)
- Listen, can you hear it? Spring's sweet cantata. The strains of grass pushing through the snow. The song of buds swelling on the vine. The tender timpani of a baby robin's heart. Spring.
— Diane Frolov and Andrew Schneider; “Wake Up Call,” *Northern Exposure*, season 3, episode 19 (originally aired, CBS, 1992–Mar–23)
- Your pride was most deceived, when you proclaimed
yourself as great, being vainly raised up
by the power of riches. But these are
nothing, their enjoyment is both frail and brief.
Character is firm, not riches; it stays
for ever, and lifts its head in triumph.
But unjust wealth residing with the wicked,
glitters for some short time, then fades away.
— Euripides [Εὐριπίδης]: *Orestes* (408 BCE) [trans., Robert Potter, 1780]
- The Imam Murshid Muhammad Ghazali, upon whom be the mercy of Allah, having been asked in what manner he had attained such a degree of knowledge, replied: “By not being ashamed to ask about things I did not know.”
— Sa'di [Abū-Muhammad Muslih al-Dīn bin Abdallāh Shīrāzī, Saadi Shirazi]: *The Gulistan* [گلستان] (1259)

- Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose.
[The more things change, the more they remain the same.]
— Alphonse Karr: *Les Guêpes* (1849–Jan)
- In our time we have not yet ceased viewing musicians as rare, curious phenomena, half-angels, half-donkeys, who bring heavenly songs to mortals, but who, at the same time, in their day-to-day life, are to be treated in the most ambiguous manner or with the most unambiguous scorn.
— Franz Liszt: *On Beethoven's Music to EGMONT* (1854)
- I refuse to accept the cynical notion that nation after nation must spiral down a militaristic stairway into the hell of nuclear destruction. I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality.
— Martin Luther King, Jr.: speech accepting Nobel Peace Prize (1964–Dec–11)
- Where Europe surpasses China, is not in political philosophy, but in material civilization. The so-called modern living, as well as powerful armies and navies, comes from the development of science. Science is young; it was brought into existence during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries by great experimentalists like Bacon and Newton. Europe of two hundred years ago was not equal to China. What we should learn from the West is not political philosophy, but science.
— Sun Yat-sen: “Nationalism and Cosmopolitanism,” *Doctrine of Nationalism—Lecture 4*; Canton [Guangzhou 广州], China (1924–Feb–17)
- 'Has she no faults then' (Envy says) 'Sir?'
Yes, she has one, I must aver;
When all the world conspires to praise her,
The woman's deaf, and does not hear.
— Alexander Pope (1688–1744): *On A Certain Lady At Court*
- Discovery consists of seeing what everybody has seen and thinking what nobody has thought.
— Albert von Szent-Györgyi: *The Scientist Speculates* [ed., Irving Good] (1962)
- He was like a cock who thought the sun had risen to hear him crow.
— George Eliot [Mary Ann Evans]: *Adam Bede* (1859)
- Cricket — a game which the English, not being a spiritual people, have invented in order to give themselves some conception of eternity.
— Lord Mancroft (1914–1987): *Bees In Some Bonnets* (1997)

- This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby, any Thing in the Constitution or Laws of any State to the Contrary notwithstanding.
— US Constitution: Art. VI, sec. 2
- ...God doth not need
Either man's work or his own gifts; who best
Bear his mild yoke, they serve him best. His state
Is kingly: thousands at his bidding speed,
And post o'er land and ocean without rest;
They also serve who only stand and wait.
— John Milton (1608–1674): *On His Blindness*
- Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore,
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me:
I lift my lamp beside the golden door.
— Emma Lazarus: *The New Colossus* (1883) [inscribed on the Statue of Liberty]
- Je l'al trop aimé pour ne le point haïr!
[I have loved him too much not to feel any hatred for him.]
— Jean Racine: *Andromaque* (1667)
- The length of a meeting rises with the square of the number of people present.
—Eileen Shanahan, in *New York* magazine (1968–Mar–17)
- Wherever you have an efficient government you have a dictatorship.
— Harry S Truman: lecture at Columbia University (1959–Apr–28)
- An aristocracy in a republic is like a chicken whose head has been cut off: it may run around in a lively manner, but in fact it is dead.
— Nancy Mitford: *Noblesse Oblige* (1956)
- There comes a time in every writer's life when they must accept the fact that their work is finished and, for good or bad, ready for publication. This should ideally happen sometime well before the third damned proof... (Just sayin')

- Men of England, wherefore plough
For the Lords who lay ye low?
Wherefore weave with toil and care
The rich robes your tyrants wear?
— Percy Bysshe Shelley (1792–1822): *Song To The Men Of England* [excerpt]
- Popularity, I have always thought, may aptly be compared to a coquette—the more you woo her, the more apt is she to elude your embrace.
— Pres. John Tyler, message to the House (1816–December–18)
- Children’s talent to endure stems from their ignorance of alternatives.
— Maya Angelou: *I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings* (1969)
- Fear not! The war shall end in lasting peace,
And all the rage of haughty Juno cease.
And that this nightly vision may not seem
The effect of fancy, or an idle dream,
A sow beneath an oak shall lie along,
All white herself, and white her thirty young
— Publius Vergilius Maro [called Virgil] (70–19 BCE): *Aenid* [trans., John Dryden (1631–1700)]
- Work is what you do for others,
Liebchen,
Art is what you do for yourself.
— Stephen Sondheim & James Lapine: *Sunday In The Park With George* (1984)
- The most important scientific revolutions all include, as their only common feature, the dethronement of human arrogance from one pedestal after another of previous convictions about our centrality in the cosmos.
— Stephen Jay Gould (1941–2002)
- He most honors my style who learns under it to destroy the teacher.
— Walt Whitman: *Song of Myself* (1855–1882)
- You think you are dying for your country; you die for the industrialists.
— Anatole France [Jacques-Anatole-François Thibault], in *L’Humanité* (1922–Jul–18)
- Quotations are useful in periods of ignorance or obscurantist beliefs.
— Guy Debord: *Panegyric* (1989)

- It is preoccupation with possession, more than anything else, that prevents men from living freely and nobly.
— Bertrand Russell: *Principles of Social Reconstruction* (1917)
- The constitution of the United States is a law for rulers and people, equally in war and in peace, and covers with the shield of its protection all classes of men, at all times, and under all circumstances. No doctrine, involving more pernicious consequences, was ever invented by the wit of man than that any of its provisions can be suspended during any of the great exigencies of government.
— Justice David Davis, for the majority: *Ex parte Milligan* [71 U.S. 2 (Wall.)] (1866)
- When knowledge is genuine and sincere, practice is included; when practice is clear and minutely adjusted, knowledge is present. The two cannot be separated.
— Wang Yangming [王陽明] (1472-1529), in *The Philosophy of Wang Yang-ming* [trans., Frederick Goodrich Henke (1916)]
- Sound opinion is not the exclusive prerogative of those who are paid to give it.
— Frederick E. Morgan: *Overture to Overlord* (1950)
- The economy is not like an individual family. Families earn what they can, and spend as much as they think prudent; spending and earning opportunities are two different things. In the economy as a whole, however, income and spending are interdependent: my spending is your income, and your spending is my income. If both of us slash spending at the same time, both of our incomes will fall too.
— Paul Krugman: “The Story Of Our Time,” *The New York Times* (2013-Apr-29)
- If all be true that I do think,
There are five reasons we should drink:
Good wine, a friend, or being dry,
Or lest we should be by and by,
Or any other reason why.
— Henry Aldrich (1647–1710)
- This is not satire.
[Brawl over spilled punch at kindergarten graduation ceremony in Cleveland results in 8 arrests](http://www.washingtonpost.com)
www.washingtonpost.com
- Science is not a sacred cow. Science is a horse. Don't worship it. Feed it.
— Aubrey Eban, later called Abba Eban [אבא אבא]
(1915-2002) [Attributed to him all over the internet, but no source given.]

- According to our common way of education, teachers undertake with one and the same lesson—and the same measure of direction—to instruct several children of differing and unequal capacities. They need not wonder, therefore, if among the multitude of pupils there are found only two or three who benefit from their time and discipline. Let the teacher not only examine a student about the bare words of his lesson, but also as to the sense and meaning of them, and let him judge of the profit the student has made not by the testimony of his memory, but by that of his understanding.
— Michel Eyquem de Montaigne (1533-1592), trans. in Hazlitt: *The Works of Michael de Montaigne* (1879)
- Hawaii has always been a very pivotal role in the Pacific. It is in the Pacific. It is a part of the United States that is an island that is right here.
— James Danforth Quayle, press comment in Hawaii (1989-Apr-25)
- The Philippines is in a strategic position. It is both East and West, right and left, rich and poor. We are neither here nor there.
— Imelda Romuáldez Marcos, cited in Ang Katipunan (1982–Feb)
- I try to apply colors like words that shape poems, like notes that shape music.
— Joan Miró i Ferrà, quoted in Rowell: *Joan Miro - Selected Writings and Interviews* (1987)
- Walking around in the spotlight having to be me is not something I'm particularly comfortable with or desire. I'd sooner pretend to be someone else.
— Albert Finney, on attending the Academy Awards ceremony, quoted in *The Times* (2001–Mar–24)
- ...there's no better way of exercising the imagination than the study of law. No poet ever interpreted nature as freely as a lawyer interprets the truth.
— Jean Giraudoux: *La Guerre de Troie n'aura pas lieu* [The Trojan War Will Not Take Place] (1935)
- Here lies our sovereign lord the King,
Whose word no man relies on,
Who never said a foolish thing,
And never did a wise one.
— John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester (1647–1680): *King Charles II*
- A leader has to lead, or otherwise he has no business in politics.
— Harry S Truman, quoted in Merle Miller: *Plain Speaking — An Oral Biography of Harry S. Truman* (1974)

- He that hath not the craft let him shut up shop.
— George Herbert: *Outlandish Proverbs* (1640)
- It is the lot of a king to do well and be ill spoken of.
— Marcus Aurelius: *Meditations* (ca. 170)
- Hi! handsome hunting man
Fire your little gun.
Bang! Now the animal
Is dead and dumb and done.
Nevermore to peep again, creep again, leap again,
Eat or sleep or drink again, Oh! what fun!
— Walter de la Mare: *Hi!* (1930)
- I consider, then, the power to annul a law of the United States, assumed by one State, incompatible with the existence of the Union, contradicted expressly by the letter of the Constitution, unauthorized by its spirit, inconsistent with every principle on which It was founded, and destructive of the great object for which it was formed.
— Andrew Jackson: *Proclamation Regarding Nullification* (1832-Dec-10)
- ...any laws or regulations of the Congress, any acts of its President or other officers, are contrary to, or not warranted by, the Constitution, rests only with the judges, who are appointed by Congress, to determine; by whose determinations every state must be bound.
— Luther Martin (1748-1826): letter to Thomas Cockey Deye (1787); quoted in Jonathan Elliot: *Debates in the Several State Conventions on the Adoption of the Federal Constitution* (1836)
- The proposed Government[']s... jurisdiction extends to certain enumerated objects only, and leaves to the several States a residuary and inviolable sovereignty over all other objects. It is true, that in controversies relating to the boundary between the two jurisdictions, the tribunal which is ultimately to decide, is to be established under the General [i.e., National] Government... Some such tribunal is clearly essential to prevent an appeal to the sword, and a dissolution of the compact; and that it ought to be established under the General, rather than under the local Governments... is a position not likely to be combated.
— Publius [James Madison]: *Federalist No. 39* (1788-Jan-16)
- If the legislatures of the several States may, at will, annul the judgments of the courts of the United States, and destroy the rights acquired under those judgments, the Constitution itself becomes a solemn mockery, and the nation is deprived of the means of enforcing its laws by the instrumentality of its own tribunals.
— John Marshall, for the majority: *United States v. Judge Peters*, 9 U.S. 115 (1809)

- The Constitution was not formed merely to guard the States against danger from foreign nations, but mainly to secure union and harmony at home; for if this object could be attained, there would be but little danger from abroad; and to accomplish this purpose, it was felt by the statesmen who framed the Constitution, and by the people who adopted it, that it was necessary that many of the rights of sovereignty which the States then possessed should be ceded to the General Government; and that, in the sphere of action assigned to it, it should be supreme, and strong enough to execute its own laws by its own tribunals, without interruption from a State or from State authorities.
— Roger B. Taney, for the (unanimous) majority: *Ableman v. Booth*, 62 U.S. 506 (1859)
- No state legislator or executive or judicial officer can war against the Constitution without violating his undertaking to support it.
— Unanimous(!) opinion, U.S. Supreme Court: *Cooper v. Aaron*, 358 U.S. 1 (1958)
- Be careful of the high notes of the E-flat Clarinet, as they are seldom in exact accordance with the pitch of the flute...
— Lieut-Col. H. E. Adkins (Ret.): *Treatise On The Military Band* (1941)
- When we don't pitch well and we leave runners in scoring position, we're not very good.
— Milwaukee Brewers manager Ron Roenicke, quoted in *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* (2013-Jun-19)
- When I was young I was called a rugged individualist. When I was in my fifties I was considered eccentric. Here I am doing and saying the same things I did then and I'm labeled senile.
— Oliver Hailey, Leonard Stern, et al. [spoken by George Burns as 'Bill']: *Just You and Me Kid* (1979)
- Of all priesthoods, aristocracies, governing classes at present extant in the world, there is no class comparable for importance to that priesthood of the writers of books.
— Thomas Carlyle: *Heroes and Hero-Worship* (1840)
- Political liberty consists in the power of doing whatever does not injure another. The exercise of the natural rights of every man has no other limits than those which are necessary to secure to every other man the free exercise of the same rights; and these limits are determinable only by law.
— French National Assembly: *Declaration Of The Rights Of Man* (1789)
- Nine-tenths of wisdom consists in being wise in time.
— Theodore Roosevelt, speech in Lincoln, Nebraska (1917-Jun-14)

- There is a prevalent idea that the constructive genius is in itself something grander than the critical, even though the former turns out to have merely made a symmetrical rubbish heap in the middle of the road of science, which the latter has to clear away before anybody can get forward.
— T. H. Huxley: *Government — Anarchy or Regimentation* (1890)
- As one American foundation report expressed the matter, the composer himself subsidizes the art of music. It is only common sense then for the composer to find out for himself exactly how much he can afford.
— Lou Harrison: *Lou Harrison's Music Primer* (1972)
- Books and ideas are important historically not because of their intrinsic value and abstract force, but because of the fertile ground they find in certain readers.
— William Bouwsma: *Venice, Spain, and the Papacy — Paolo Sarpi and the Renaissance Tradition* (1962) [trans., Catherine Enggass]
- Let the king prohibit gambling and betting in his kingdom, for these are the vices that destroy the kingdoms of princes.
— *The Code of Manu* [*Manusmṛti*, मनुस्मृति] (date highly uncertain, est. 1500 BCE - 500 CE)
- You can't stop. Composing's not voluntary, you know. There's no choice, you're not free. You're landed with an idea and you have responsibility to that idea.
— Harrison Birtwistle, in "Sayings of the week" in the *Observer* (1996–Apr–14)
- Rule 2.00: The Strike Zone
The STRIKE ZONE is that area over home plate the upper limit of which is a horizontal line at the midpoint between the top of the shoulders and the top of the uniform pants, and the lower level is a line at the hollow beneath the kneecap. The Strike Zone shall be determined from the batter's stance as the batter is prepared to swing at a pitched ball.
— *Rules of Baseball*
- The trouble with being poor is that it takes up all of your time.
— Willem de Kooning (1904-1997)
- While federal student loan rates are set to hit 6.8% on July 1st, banks can still borrow money from the government for a mere 0.75% interest.
— Howard Dean, email send from info@democracyforamerica.com (2013-Jun-03)

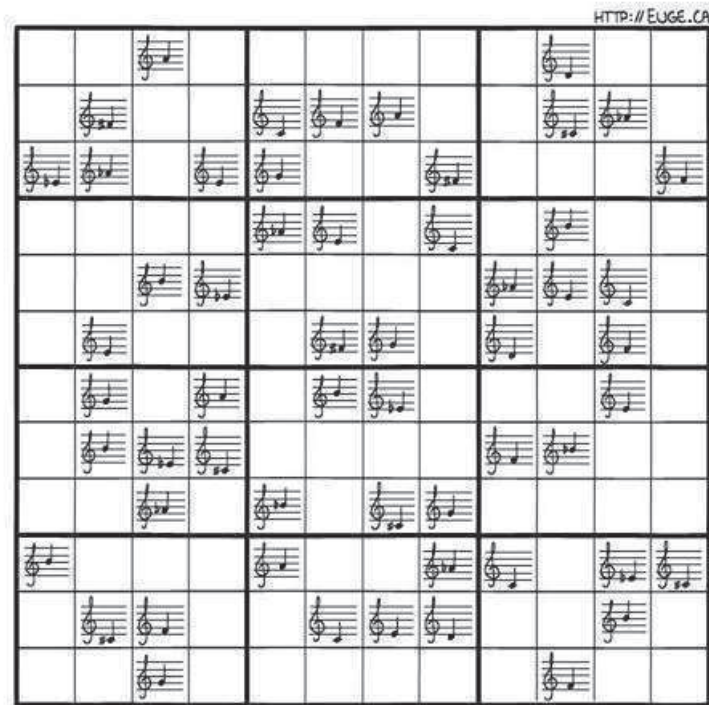
- As is the mainland to the sea,
Thou art to me;
Thou standest stable, while against thy feet
I beat, I beat!
Yet from thy cliffs so sheer, so tall,
Sands crumble and fall;
And golden grains of thee my tides each day
Carry away.
— William Watson (1858-1935): *What Science Says To Truth*
- Music [is] a science peculiarly productive of a pleasure that no state of life, publick or private, secular or sacred; no difference of age or season; no temper of mind or condition of health exempt from present anguish; nor, lastly, distinction of quality, renders either improper, untimely, or unentertaining.
— Samuel Pepys: letter to the Master of University College, Oxford; in J. R. Tanner (ed.): *Private Correspondence and Miscellaneous Papers of Samuel Pepys, 1679-1703* (1926)
- When in the presence of a new acquaintance, to carry on a conversation in fragments, laughing and exchanging meaningful looks with a companion who knows the phrases and names of things you commonly use, makes the stranger feel as if he understood nothing—this is ignorant behavior, and a sure sign of ill breeding.
— Yoshida Kenkō [吉田 兼好] (1283-1350), from *The Tzuredzuregusa [Essays in Idleness] of Yoshida no Kaneyoshi* (trans., George Sansom, 1911)
- If I know my American history, tens of thousands of Americans in uniform gave their lives in war after war just so those kids would have the freedom to do exactly what they are doing. That's what this Country is all about and I am not going to let you throw them out of our Town just because you don't like their dress or their hair or the way they live or what they believe. This is America and they are going to have their festival.
— Max Yasgur (1919-1973), addressing a Bethel, New York, town meeting prior to the Woodstock Music & Art Fair (1969-Aug) [as quoted on *Wikipedia*, but the footnote has a dead link so who knows...]
- We look at the dance to impart the sensation of living in an affirmation of life, to energize the spectator into keener awareness of the vigor, the mystery, the humor, the variety, and the wonder of life. This is the function of the American dance.
— Martha Graham, "The American Dance," in *Modern Dance* [ed., Virginia Stewart] (1935)

- I must say as to what I have seen of Texas, it is the garden spot of the world. The best land and best prospects for health I ever saw is here, and I do believe it is a fortune to any man to come here. There is a world of country to settle.
— David Crockett (1786–1836): letter to his children (1836–January–09)

The distance from Austin to San Antonio is some eighty miles, without a single human habitation on the route. Parties of hostile Indians are continually hovering about in the vicinity of the road, ready to attack any party they may think themselves able to overcome. The bones of many unfortunate white men are now bleaching upon the prairies, between the two cities, where the travellers were waylaid and killed.

— George Wilkins Kendall (1809–1867): *Narrative of the Texan Santa Fé Expedition* (1841) [not published until 1884]

- 12-tone soduku



TWELVE-TONE SUDOKU

Euge

- I find it interesting that many of the repressive voter ID laws being pressed into service these days by Republican-controlled legislatures allow the use of a passport as identification at the polls. How does a passport validate your right to vote somewhere?
- If men could get pregnant, abortion would be a sacrament.
— Florynce Kennedy (1916–2000) [with Diane Schulder]: *Abortion Rap* (1971)

- “What do you fear, lady?” he asked.
 “A cage,” she said. “To stay behind bars, until use and old age accept them, and all chance of doing great deeds is gone beyond recall or desire.”
 — J. R. R. Tolkien: *The Return of the King* (1954)
- The next time I tell you someone from Texas should not be president of the United States, please, pay attention. Bush was replaced by his exceedingly Lite Guv Rick Perry, who has really good hair. Governor Goodhair, or the Ken Doll (see, all Texans use nicknames—it’s not that odd), is not the sharpest knife in the drawer. But the chair of a major House committee says, “Goodhair is much more engaged as governor than Bush was.” As the refrain of the country song goes, “O Please, Dear God, Not Another One.”
 — Mary Tyler ‘Molly’ Ivins (1944–2007): “Shrub Flubs His Dub” in *The Nation* (2001–Jun–18)
- One day I said to myself that it would be better to get rid of all that—melody, rhythm, harmony, etc. This was not a negative thought and did not mean that it was necessary to avoid them, but rather that, while doing something else, they would appear spontaneously. We had to liberate ourselves from the direct and peremptory consequence of intention and effect, because the intention would always be our own and would be circumscribed, when so many other forces are evidently in action in the final effect.
 — Christian Wolff (1934-), quoted in Michael Nyman: *Inauguration 1950-60 — Feldman, Brown, Wolff, Cage* (1974)
- Once upon a time, I, Chuang Chou, dreamt I was a butterfly, fluttering hither and thither, a veritable butterfly, enjoying itself to the full of its bent, and not knowing it was Chuang Chou. Suddenly I awoke, and came to myself, the veritable Chuang Chou. Now I do not know whether it was then I dreamt I was a butterfly, or whether I am now a butterfly dreaming I am a man. Between me and the butterfly there must be a difference. This is an instance of transformation.
 — Zhūangzi [庄子](ca. 369 BCE–286 BCE): *Zhuangzi* [trans., James Legge], quoted in William Edward Soothill’s *The Three Religions of China: Lectures Delivered at Oxford* (1913)
- Whoever the kid had been, whoever had the grand attitude, has finally heeded the admonishment of parents, teachers, governments, religions, and the law: “You just change your attitude now please, young man.” This transformation in kids — from flashing dragonflies, so to say, to sticky water-surface worms slowly slipping downstream — is noticed with pride by society and with mortification by God, which is a fantastic way of saying I don’t like to see kids throw away their truth just because it isn’t worth a dime in the open market.
 — William Saroyan: *The Flashing Dragonfly* (1973)

- A republic cannot succeed, till it contains a certain body of men imbued with the principles of justice and honour.
— Charles Darwin: *The Voyage of the Beagle* (1839)
- I know no method to secure the repeal of bad or obnoxious laws so effective as their stringent execution.
— Ulysses S. Grant: First Inaugural Address (1869–Mar–04)
- [T]he piano is the social instrument par excellence. It is drawing-room furniture, a sign of bourgeois prosperity, the most massive of the devices by which the young are tortured in the name of education and the grown-up in the name of entertainment.
— Jacques Barzun: *Critical Questions* (1984)
- Being in a band is really great when you're 20. When you're 30, it's kind of *Spinal Tap*, and when you're 40, it's just pathetic.
— Mark Mothersbaugh (of Devo), quoted in "Make a Myth, Whip It Good". *New York Times* (2001–04–18)
- Stolen from Huffington Post



- Even brute beasts and wandering birds do not fall into the same traps or nets twice.
— Eusebius Sophronius Hieronymus [St. Jerome] (ca. 347–420): Letter 54

- Then to the King’s Theatre, where we saw *Midsummer’s Night’s Dream*, which I had never seen before, nor shall ever again, for it is the most insipid ridiculous play that ever I saw in my life.
— Samuel Pepys (1633–1703): *Diary* (entry for 1662–Sep–29) [first published, 1825]
- If you really have to be a composer and are attractive and uninhibited, then try to get yourself “kept” — whether by woman or man. This might be easier than undertaking a whole second career in order to be able to afford composing, and you might get a little restorative affection as well.
— Lou Harrison: *Lou Harrison’s Music Primer* (1972)
- The fact that the written words of a state’s laws hold out a promise that no such discrimination will be practiced is not enough. The Fourteenth Amendment requires that equal protection to all must be given — not merely promised.
— Hugo Black, for the majority: *Smith v. Texas*, 311 U.S. 128 (1940)
- In language, the ignorant have prescribed laws to the learned.
— Richard Duppa: *Maxims* (1830)
- Fundamentalism is terrifying because it is based purely on emotion, rather than intelligence. It prevents followers from thinking as individuals and about the good of the world.
— Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama, quoted in Thomson: “Westerners are too self-absorbed,” *The Daily Telegraph* (2006–Mar–1)
- There is probably no one subject of so much importance to this territory, and which will be more conducive to the future happiness and prosperity of the people, than the adoption of a wise and liberal system of common school education.
— *Milwaukee Sentinel* (1837–Oct–13), quoted in Bruce & Currey: *History of Milwaukee, City and County* (1922)
- The banks have but to continue in the same safe course and be content in their appropriate sphere to avoid all interference from the General Government and to derive from it all the protection and benefits which it bestows on other State establishments, on the people of the States, and on the States themselves. In this, their true position, they can not but secure the confidence and good will of the people and the Government, which they can only lose when, leaping from their legitimate sphere, they attempt to control the legislation of the country and pervert the operations of the Government to their own purposes.
— Martin van Buren: Second Annual “State of the Union” Message (1838–Dec–03)

- I'd rather learn from one bird how to sing
than teach ten thousand stars how not to dance.
— E. E. Cummings: *New Poems* 22 in *Collected Poems* (1938)
- Zu 'r-Rumma was a poet of the first rank and enjoyed great celebrity. It is related that as he was reciting his verses in the camel-market he said to al-Farazdak who stopped to hear him: "Well, Abu Firas, what do you think of that which you have just heard?" and that al-Farazdak replied: "What you have uttered is really admirable."
"Why then," said the other, "is my name not mentioned with those of the first-rate poets?"
"You have been prevented from attaining their eminence," answered al-Farazdak, "by your threnodies for dunghills and your rhapsodies on cattle pens and cattle shit."
— Abu-l 'Abbas Ahmad ibn Khallikan (1211-1282): *Ibn Khallikan's Biographical Dictionary* [trans., William McGuckin, Baron de Slane, 1842-1871; reprinted 1961]
- What I mean is, who was it that set up a system, supposedly a democratic system, where you end up always voting for the lesser of two evils? I mean, was George Washington the lesser of two evils? Sometimes I wonder.
— Lionel Goldbart & Ken Weaver: *Wide, Wide River* (as recorded by The Fugs, 1968)
- When a performer stumbles in rehearsal this is frequently because there is something wrong with the layout or the notation.
— Elaine Gould: *Behind Bars — The Definitive Guide To Music Notation* (2011)
- Politics is the skilled use of blunt objects.
— Lester B. Pearson (1897–1972), quoted in a Canadian Broadcasting Corporation tribute (1972)
- Except for half a dozen in each town the citizens are proud of that achievement of ignorance which is so easy to come by. To be 'intellectual' or 'artistic' or, in their own word, to be 'highbrow,' is to be priggish and of dubious virtue.
— Sinclair Lewis: *Main Street* (1920)
- If the second oboe, for instance, or the second clarinet has now and then in the course of the piece a passage in which his instrument comes for a moment into prominence, and he feels that he too is of importance to the general effect, he will blow away contentedly at whole pages of holding notes and accompaniments.
— Ebenezer Prout (1835-1909): *Instrumentation*

- Within the business community itself there were dissident individuals, especially in the underdeveloped areas of the country, who considered that opportunities for local growth were unduly restrained by Wall Street's control of the money market. The farmers felt themselves shut out from the prevailing prosperity. Elements in the labor movement resented their evident second-class citizenship. Members of foreign nationality groups, especially the newer immigration and its children, chafed under the prevalent assumption that the real America was Anglo-Saxon, Protestant, middle-class and white. In time some of the younger people of the nation began to grow restless before the ideals held out to them: while others, in accepting these ideals, acquired a smug mediocrity which even depressed some of their elders.
— Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. (describing the 1920s): "Sources of the New Deal: Reflections on the Temper of a Time," *Columbia University Forum II* (1959)
- A liberal is a conservative who has been arrested.
— Tom Wolfe: *The Bonfire Of The Vanities* (1987)
- Rough wind, that moanest loud
 Grief too sad for song;
 Wild wind, when sullen cloud
Knells all the night long.
Sad storm, whose tears are vain,
Bare woods, whose branches strain,
Deep caves and dreary main, —
 Wail, for the world's wrong.
— Percy Bysshe Shelley: *A Dirge* (1822)
- Though men of delicate taste are rare, they are easily distinguished in society by the soundness of their understanding, and the superiority of their faculties above the rest of mankind. The ascendant, which they acquire, gives a prevalence to that lively approbation with which they receive any productions of genius, and renders it generally predominant.
— David Hume: *Of The Standard Of Taste* (1774)
- We Americans live in a nation where the medical-care system is second to none in the world, unless you count maybe 25 or 30 little scuzzball countries like Scotland that we could vaporize in seconds if we felt like it.
— Dave Barry (1947-)
- La satire ment sur les gens de lettres pendant leur vie, et l'éloge ment après leur mort.
[Satire lies about literary men while they live and eulogy lies about them when they die.]
— Voltaire, lettre à Bordes (1789–Jan–10)

- Rule 2.00: The Strike Zone
The STRIKE ZONE is that area over home plate the upper limit of which is a horizontal line at the midpoint between the top of the shoulders and the top of the uniform pants, and the lower level is a line at the hollow beneath the kneecap. The Strike Zone shall be determined from the batter's stance as the batter is prepared to swing at a pitched ball.
— Rules of Baseball
- The accursèd power which stands on Privilege
(And goes with Women, and Champagne, and Bridge)
Broke — and Democracy resumed her reign:
(Which goes with Bridge, and Women, and Champagne).
— Hilaire Belloc (1870-1953): "On a General Election," *Sonnets And Verse*
- The chartered recountants take the thing to pieces and put it together again. They enjoy it. The artist takes it to pieces and makes a new thing, new things. He must.
— Samuel Beckett (1906–1989): "An Imaginative Work!" in *Dublin Magazine*, xi, n.s. (1936–Jul-Sep)
- Cricket — a game which the English, not being a spiritual people, have invented in order to give themselves some conception of eternity.
— Lord Mancroft (1914-1987): *Bees In Some Bonnets* (1997)
- It appears to me that the subject of music, from Machaut to Boulez, has always been its construction. Melodies of 12-tone rows just don't happen. They must be constructed. ... To demonstrate any formal idea in music, whether structure or stricture, is a matter of construction, in which the methodology is the controlling metaphor of the composition... Only by 'unfixing' the elements traditionally used to construct a piece of music could the sounds exist in themselves—not as symbols, or memories which were memories of other music to begin with.
— Morton Feldman, quoted in Michael Nyman: *Inauguration 1950-60 — Feldman, Brown, Wolff, Cage*
- While the conductor's real duty should be "to make himself seemingly superfluous," as Liszt once remarked, the modern orchestra leader is inclined to think that the composer exists only to permit him to set off his wizardry.
— Paul Henry Lang: *Music In Western Civilization* (1941)
- Ohne Musik wäre das Leben ein Irrtum.
[Without music life would be a mistake.]
— Friedrich Nietzsche: "Sprüche und Pfeile," *Götzen-Dämmerung* (1888)

- Language addresses itself to the ear. No other medium does this. The ear is the most spiritually determined of the senses. That I believe most men will admit. Aside from language, music is the only medium that addresses itself to the ear. Herein is again an analogy and a testimony concerning the sense in which music is a language. ... Language has time as its element; all other media have space as their element. Music is the only other one that takes place in time. ... Music exists only in the moment of its performance, for if one were ever so skillful in reading notes and had ever so lively an imagination, it cannot be denied that it is only in an unreal sense that music exists when it is read. It really exists only being performed. This might seem to be an imperfection in this art as compared with the others whose productions remain, because they have their existence in the sensuous. Yet this is not so. It is rather a proof of the fact that music is a higher, or more spiritual art. — Søren Kierkegaard: *Enten – Eller [Either/Or], Part I* (1843) [trans., David F. Swenson and Lillian Marvin Swenson (1959)]

- It's all the same t'ing, ain'ta?



- Throughout the 470s and 460s B.C., even though the external danger had been greatly diminished, the legions still went out every summer campaigning against the latest forays by the Volscian or Aequian raiders. The total military dominance of Rome over the hill tribes eventually lead the Plebe leaders to suspect that the Patricians were not being totally honest with the threat level posed by the tribes, and with the record the Roman army had it's hard to blame them. Without even breaking a sweat, the legions dispatched every enemy they encountered.

A political pattern began to emerge. Plebe leaders would decry the raising of yet another army to go to battle with the Volscians or whoever, even though they posed no serious threat, and would denounce the Senate for starting wars to put off questions of further economic and political reform. These leaders would always in turn be denounced by the Senate as self-absorbed traitors who were putting personal ambition ahead of Rome's safety. The Plebe leaders would shoot back that the Patricians were sending men out to die for no other reason than to tighten their grip on wealth and power.

— Mike Duncan: "The Twelve Tables," *The History Of Rome* [podcast] (2010–Feb–24)

- In order for music to free itself, it will have to pass over to the other side — there where territories tremble, where the structures collapse, where the ethos get mixed up, where a powerful song of the earth is unleashed, the great ritornelles that transmutes all the airs it carries away and makes return.
— Gilles Deleuze (1925–1995): *Essays Critical and Clinical*
- The right to bear arms is not granted by the Constitution; neither is it in any manner dependent upon that instrument for its existence. The Second Amendment means no more than that it shall not be infringed by Congress, and has no other effect than to restrict the powers of the National Government.
— *United States v. Cruikshank* [92 U.S. 542] (1875)
- All things considered, I could never have survived my youth without Wagnerian music. For I seemed condemned to the society of Germans. If a man wishes to rid himself of a feeling of unbearable oppression, he may have to take to hashish. Well, I had to take to Wagner...
— Friedrich Nietzsche: “Why I am So Clever,” *Ecce Homo* (1888) [trans., Clifton P. Fadiman]
- Non est ab homine nunquam sobrio postulanda prudentia.
[Prudence must not be expected from a man who is never sober.]
— Marcus Tullius Cicero (106–43 BCE): *Philippicæ*. II. 32.
- Well, Aimee Semple McPherson has written a book. And were you to call it a little peach, you would not be so much as scratching its surface. It is the story of her life, and it is called *In the Service of the King*, which title is perhaps a bit dangerously suggestive of a romantic novel. It may be that this autobiography is set down in sincerity, frankness and simple effort. It may be, too, that the Statue of Liberty is situated in Lake Ontario.
— Dorothy Parker: “Our Lady of the Loudspeaker,” *The New Yorker* (1928–Feb–25)
- Wars are not “acts of God.” They are caused by man, by man-made institutions, by the way in which man has organized his society. What man has made, man can change.
— Fred M. Vinson: speech, Arlington National Cemetery (1945–May–31)
- There is evil, ever around, fundamental
System of government quite incidental.
— Tim Rice: “Waltz for Eva and Che,” *Evita* (1976)
- It is a reproach to religion and government to suffer so much poverty and excess.
— William Penn (1644–1718): *Some Fruits Of Solitude* (1693)

- In the 1950s and 1960s, the federal government spent over five percent of GDP annually on investment, and the economy boomed. Over the last 30 years, the government has been cutting back; federal spending on investment is now around three percent of GDP annually, and growth has been tepid.
— Fareed Zakaria: “The New Crisis Of Democracy,” *Foreign Affairs* (2013–Jan/Feb)
- No Minister or Preacher of the Gospel, or of any religious creed or denomination, and no person holding any civil office of profit or trust, under this State, other than Justices of the Peace, shall be eligible as Senator or Delegate.
— Constitution of Maryland, III:11 (1867 version) [later amended; this clause is quite different today]
- If any one trusted your body to the first man he met, you would be indignant, but yet you trust your mind to the chance comer, and allow it to be disturbed and confounded if he revile you: are you not ashamed to do so?
— Epictetus (ca. 50-130): *The Manual of Epictetus* [trans., P. E. Matheson, 1916]
- The barbarous custom of having men beaten who are suspected of having important secrets to reveal must be abolished. It has always been recognized that this way of interrogating men, by putting them to torture, produces nothing worthwhile. The poor wretches say anything that comes into their mind and what they think the interrogator wishes to know.
— Napoléon Bonaparte: letter to Louis Alexandre Berthier (1798–November–11), in *Correspondance Napoleon* [ed., Henri Plon, 1861]
- Apparently, a democracy is a place where numerous elections are held at great cost without issues and with interchangeable candidates.
— Gore Vidal: “Gods and Greens” (1989), *A View from the Diner’s Club* (1991)
- The mark of the immature man is that he wants to die nobly for a cause, while the mark of a mature man is that he wants to live humbly for one.
— Wilhelm Stekel (1868–1940), as quoted in Salinger: *The Catcher in the Rye* (1951)
- Sed quis custodiet ipsos custodes?
[But who will guard the guards themselves?]
— Decimus Iunius Iuvenalis [Juvenal] (ca. 55–ca. 140): *Satires VI* [trans., Lewis Evans: *The Satires of Juvenal, Persius, Sulpicia, and Lucilius* (1861)]
- A professional is someone who can do something twice.
— unsourced, credited to Frank Sinatra by a dj on CBC Radio 2, 2013–July

- A Jerry Falwell does not mind preaching via satellites that could not have been put into orbit if his view of the laws of the universe were true.
— Steven D. Mirsky: “Standing On The Shoulders Of Midgets,” in *The Humanist* (1987–Jan/Feb)
- Too many people, when listing all the perils to be found in the search for lost treasure or ancient wisdom, had forgotten to put at the top of the list ‘the man who arrived just before you’.
— Terry Pratchett: *The Last Hero* (2001)
- My fellow-countrymen, bad laws are evil things, good laws are necessary; and a clean, fearless, common-sense administration of the law is even more necessary; but what we need most of all is to look to our selves to see that our consciences as individuals, that our collective national conscience, may respond instantly to every appeal for high action, for lofty and generous endeavor. There must and shall be no falling off in the national traits of hardihood and manliness; and we must keep ever bright the love of justice, the spirit of strong brotherly friendship for one’s fellow, which we hope and believe will hereafter stand typical of the men who make up this, the mightiest Republic upon which the sun has ever shone.
— Theodore Roosevelt: speech delivered at opening of Pan-American Exposition, Buffalo (1901–May–20)
- A certain woman asked her neighbour, saying, “Why should a man have power to buy a handmaiden and to lie with her and to do whatsoever he pleaseth with her, while a woman hath no power to do any such things freely and openly?” And she said to her, “Because the kings, and the judges, and the lawgivers are all men; and they have therefore acted the parts of advocates of their own causes and have oppressed the women.”
— Gregory Bar Hebraeus (1226–1286): *The Laughable Stories of Bar-Hebraeus* [trans.. E.A.W. Budge, 1897]
- There is not going to be any war in Europe this year. All this hysteria is manufactured and artificial.
— Sen. William Borah, R-Idaho (1939), quoted in Jacob Heilbrunn: “War Torn,” *The New York Times Book Review* (2013–July–28)
- I have always been among those who believed that the greatest freedom of speech was the greatest safety, because if a man is a fool, the best thing to do is to encourage him to advertise the fact by speaking.
— Woodrow Wilson: address at the Institute of France, Paris (1919–May–10)

- A casting call for the new Wisconsin version of GREATER TUNA?



- The command of the Constitution is plain. There is no moral issue. It is wrong—deadly wrong—to deny any of your fellow Americans the right to vote in this country. There is no issue of States rights or National rights. There is only the struggle for human rights.... This great, rich, restless country can offer opportunity and education and hope to all—all black and white, all North and South, sharecropper and city dweller. These are the enemies—poverty, ignorance, disease—they are our enemies, not our fellow man, not our neighbor. And these enemies too—poverty, disease, and ignorance—we shall overcome.
— Lyndon Baines Johnson, address to joint session of Congress (1965–Mar–15)
- If you said to a bunch of average people two hundred years ago “Would you be happy in a world where medical care is widely available, houses are clean, the world’s music and sights and foods can be brought into your home at small cost, traveling even 100 miles is easy, childbirth is generally not fatal to mother or child, you don’t have to die of dental abscesses and you don’t have to do what the squire tells you?” they’d think you were talking about the New Jerusalem and say ‘yes’.
— Terry Pratchett (1948–): on alt.fan.pratchett
- It is accordance with our determination to refrain from aggression and build up a sentiment and practice among nations more favorable to peace ... that we have incurred the consent of fourteen important nations to the negotiation of a treaty condemning recourse to war, renouncing it as an instrument of national policy.
— U. S. President Calvin Coolidge, quoted in *The New York Times* (1928–Aug–16)

- Smart ball players have been pulling stuff like that for all the twenty-five years I've been in baseball and it's perfectly legal as far as I'm concerned... After all, this is not Chinese checkers we're playing.
— Leo Durocher: quoted by Joseph M. Sheehan in *The New York Times* (1950–Aug–12[?])
- Un chanteur ou une cantatrice capable de chanter seize mesures seulement de bonne musique avec une voix naturelle, bien posée, sympathique, et de les chanter sans efforts, sans écarteler la phrase, sans exagérer jusqu'à la charge les accents, sans platitude, sans afféterie, sans mièvreries, sans fautes de français, sans liaisons dangereuses, sans hiatus, sans insolentes modifications du texte, sans transposition, sans hoquets, sans aboiements, sans chevrottements, sans intonations fausses, sans faire boiter le rythme, sans ridicules ornements, sans nauséabondes appoggiatures, de manière enfin que la période écrite par le compositeur devienne compréhensible, et reste tout simplement ce qu'il l'a faite, est un oiseau rare, très-rare, excessivement rare.
[A singer who is able to sing even sixteen measures of good music in a natural and engaging way, effortlessly and in tune, without distending the phrase, without exaggerating accents to the point of caricature, without platitude, affectation, or coyness, without making grammatical mistakes, without illicit slurs, without hiatus or hiccup, without making insolent changes in the text, without barks or bleats, without sour notes, without crippling the rhythm, without absurd ornaments and nauseating appoggiaturas — in short, a singer able to sing these measures simply and exactly as the composer wrote them — is a rare, very rare, exceedingly rare bird.]
— Hector Berlioz: “À travers chants,” [trans., Elizabeth Csicsery-Rónay] in *The Art of Music and Other Essays* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1994)
- In dieser Woche habe ich dreimal die Matthäuspasion gehört, jedesmal mit demselben Gefühl der unermesslichen Verwunderung. Wer das Christentum völlig verlernt hat, der hört es hier wirklich wie ein Evangelium; es ist dies die Musik der Verneinung des Willens, ohne Erinnerung an die Askesis.
[This week, I've heard [Bach's] St. Matthew Passion three times, always with the same feeling of immense astonishment. A person who has completely forgotten Christianity understands it virtually like a gospel: this is the music of the negation of the will, without a hint of asceticism.]
— Friedrich Nietzsche: letter to Erwin Rohde (1870–Apr–30) [My translation; better interpretations are **strongly** encouraged!]
- All religions must be tolerated, and the sole concern of the authorities should be to see that one does not molest another, for here every man must be saved in his own way.
— Frederick the Great: Cabinet order (1740–Jun–22)

- All errors in politics and morals are based on philosophical errors and these in turn are connected with scientific errors. There is not a religious system nor a supernatural extravagance that is not founded on ignorance of the laws of nature. The inventors, the defenders of these absurdities could not foresee the successive perfection of the human mind. Convinced that men in their day knew everything that they could ever know and would always believe what they then believed, they confidently supported their idle dreams on the current opinions of their country and their age.
— Marie Jean Antoine Nicolas Caritat (1743–1794): *A Sketch for a Historical Picture of the Progress of the Human Mind* [trans., June Barraclough, 1955]
- In a recently posted 2011 giving report, GE says it made a contribution of \$50,000 to [Grover] Norquist’s foundation that year. Consider that for a moment: GE gave more to Norquist in 2011 than it reportedly paid the IRS for income taxes in 2010, a year the corporation made \$14.2 billion in profit.
— Lee Fang: “Grover Norquist, Lobbyist,” *The Nation* (2013–Jan–21)
- He forbead þa heortas swylce eac þa baras, swa swiðe he lufode þa headeor swilce he wære heora fæder.
[(William the Conquerer) forbade the killing of boars even as the killing of harts. For he loved the stags as dearly as though he had been their father.]
— *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* (Laud manuscript), annal for 1087 [trans., G. N. Garmonsway]
- Fas et nefas ambulat
pene passu pari.
[Right and wrong they go about
Cheek by jowl together.]
— “Fas et nefas ambulat”, *Carmina Burana* (11th-12th century) [trans., Helen Waddell: *Mediaeval Latin Lyrics* (1929)]
- Nulla iniuria est, quæ in volentem fiat.
[No injury is committed against one who consents.]
— Flavius Petrus Sabbatius Justinianus Augustus [Φλάβιος Πέτρος Σαββάτιος Ἰουστινιανός], called Justinian the Great: *Pandects, Corpus Iuris Civilis* (529–534)
- Il y a beaucoup de bouches qui parlent et fort peu de têtes qui pensent.
[There are many tongues to talk, and but few heads to think.]
— Victor Hugo: *Les Misérables* (1862) [trans., Charles E. Wilbour]

- Gæð ā Wyrð swā hīo seel!
[Fate goes ever as it must.]
— *Beowulf* (ca. 8th–11th century BCE) [trans., John R Clark Hall, C L Wrenn]
- Ja, lang leben will halt alles, aber alt werden will kein Mensch.
[Everyone wants a long life, but no one wants to grow old.]
— Johann Nepomuk Nestroy: *Die Anverwandten* (1848)
- A fo ben, bid bont.
[He who is chief, let him be a bridge.]
— “Branwen Daughter of Llyr,” *The Mabinogion* (12th–14th century CE?) [trans., Gwen Jones and Thomas Jones (1989)]
- No comment...



- It seems to be a general impression with people abroad that Texas is unhealthy; that the climate is excessively hot; and that foreigners especially run a great risk in coming to a State so far south. Nothing can be more remote from the truth, as thousands of foreigners can testify. The temperature in Texas in the hottest days of summer is nearly always several degrees below the greatest heat in the North, and while many deaths in most of the Northern cities occur every year from sun stroke, there is not, perhaps, a well authenticated instance in Texas of a single death from this cause.
— Homar S. Thrall: *A Pictorial History of Texas* (1883)

- The United States of America have exhibited, perhaps, the first example of governments erected on the simple principles of nature; and if men are now sufficiently enlightened to disabuse themselves of artifice, imposture, hypocrisy, and superstition, they will consider this event as an era in their history. Although the detail of the formation of the American governments is at present little known or regarded either in Europe or in America, it may hereafter become an object of curiosity. It will never be pretended that any persons employed in that service had interviews with the gods, or were in any degree under the influence of Heaven, more than those at work upon ships or houses, or laboring in merchandise or agriculture; it will forever be acknowledged that these governments were contrived merely by the use of reason and the senses.
— John Adams: *A Defence of the Constitutions of Government of the United States of America* (1787–1788)
- A man, a plan, a canal: Panama!— Palindrome by Leigh Mercer, in *Notes and Queries*, November 13, 1948
A man, a plan, a canoe, pasta, heros, rajahs, a coloratura, maps, snipe, percale, macaroni, a gag, a banana bag, a tan, a tag, a banana bag again (or a camel), a crepe, pins, Spam, a rut, a Rolo, cash, a jar, sore hats, a peon, a canal — Panama!
— Palindrome by Guy Steele, in *Common LISP: The Language*, Second Edition, 1984
- Wins are really hard to get, especially against the good teams.
— Milwaukee Brewers' manager Ron Roenicke, quoted in *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* (2013–Sep–23)
- Labor is not fighting for a larger slice of the national pie. Labor is fighting for a larger pie.
— Walter Reuther, in *The New Republic*, Vol. 114 (1946)
- Pinky: Russia! I've heard of that place! Isn't it full of cheating, lying and backstabbing intrigue?
Brain: The Cold War is over Pinky. Now Russia is a place of free-market capitalism.
Pinky: What's free-market capitalism?
Brain: Erm... cheating, lying and backstabbing intrigue.
— Tom Ruegger, et al: *Pinky and the Brain*, episode 62[?] (1998)
- Other things being equal, it is better to be smart than to be stupid.
— Carl Edward Sagan (1934–1996): *Cosmos* (1980)
- Through spontaneity we are re-formed into ourselves.
— Viola Spolin (1906–1994): *Improvisation for the Theater* (1963)

- Strongly guarded as is the separation between Religion and Government in the Constitution of the United States, the danger of encroachment by Ecclesiastical Bodies, may be illustrated by precedents already furnished in their short history. (See the cases in which negatives were put by J M on two bills passed by Congress and his signature withheld from another. See also attempt in Kentucky for example, where it was proposed to exempt Houses of Worship from taxes.
— James Madison (1751–1836); *Monopolies, Perpetuities, Corporations, Ecclesiastical Endowments*, included in Elizabeth Fleet: “Madison’s Detached Memoranda,” *William & Mary Quarterly*, Third series: Vol. III, No. 4 (1946–Oct)
- Those people who think they know everything are a great annoyance to those of us who do.
— Isaac Asimov (1920–1992), quoted in Tibballs: *The Mammoth Book of Zingers, Quips, and One-Liners* (2004)
- A creative artist works on his next composition because he was not satisfied with his previous one.
— Dmitri Shostakovich, quoted on “inspiring-composer-quotes” at classicfm.com
- Tea’s proper use is to amuse the idle, and relax the studious, and dilute the full meals of those who cannot use exercise, and will not use abstinence.
— Samuel Johnson: *Essay On Tea* (1757)
- Our future is still ahead of us.
— Rep. James “Jimmy” Henry Quillen [R-TN] (1916–2003), quoted in “Quillen more powerful at home than in D.C.”. Kingsport (TN) *Times-News* (1992-10-04)
- Proper evaluations of words and letters in their phonetic and associated sense can bring the people of earth to the clear light of pure cosmic wisdom.
— Sun Ra (1914–1993): LP liner notes, *Cosmic Tones for Mental Therapy* (1966)
- To achieve great things, two things are needed; a plan, and not quite enough time.
— Leonard Bernstein, quoted on “inspiring-composer-quotes” at classicfm.com
- War is pillage versus resistance and if illusions of magnitude could be transmuted into ideals of magnanimity, peace might be realized.
— Marianne Moore: “Comment” in *The Dial*, no. 86 (1929–Apr)
- If ever I become entirely respectable I shall be quite sure that I have outlived myself.
— Eugene V. Debs: “The Canton, Ohio, Speech, Anti-War Speech” in *The Call* (1918–Jun–16)

- The most difficult subjects can be explained to the most slow-witted man if he has not formed any idea of them already; but the simplest thing cannot be made clear to the most intelligent man if he is firmly persuaded that he knows already, without a shadow of doubt, what is laid before him.
— Leo Tolstoy: *The Kingdom of God is Within You* (1894)
- What we eventually run up against are the forces of humourlessness, and let me assure you that the humourless as a bunch don't just not know what's funny, they don't know what's serious. They have no common sense, either, and shouldn't be trusted with anything.
— Martin Amis: *Political Correctness* -- Robert Bly and Philip Larkin (1997)
- Personally, I have nothing against work, particularly when performed, quietly and unobtrusively, by someone else. I just don't happen to think it's an appropriate subject for an "ethic."
— Barbara Ehrenreich: "Goodbye to the Work Ethic" (1988), in *The Worst Years of Our Lives: Irreverent Notes from a Decade of Greed* (1990)
- Plenty of kind, decent, caring people have no religious beliefs, and they act out of the goodness of their hearts. Conversely, plenty of people who profess to be religious, even those who worship regularly, show no particular interest in the world beyond themselves.
— John Danforth: *Faith and Politics* (2006)
- Neither we nor our officials will seize any land or rent in payment of a debt, so long as the debtor has movable goods sufficient to discharge the debt.
— *Magna carta* (1215)
- They spell it Vinci and pronounce it Vinchy; foreigners always spell better than they pronounce.
— Samuel Clemens [Mark Twain]: *The Innocents Abroad* (1869)
- They fried the fish with bacon and were astonished, for no fish had ever seemed so delicious before.
— Samuel Clemens [Mark Twain]: *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (1876)
- Reader, suppose you were an idiot. And suppose you were a member of Congress. But I repeat myself.
— Samuel Clemens: Draft manuscript (c.1881), quoted by Albert Bigelow Paine in *Mark Twain -- A Biography* (1912)

- Je m'en vais chercher un grand peut-être; tirez le rideau, la farce est jouée.
[I am going to seek a grand perhaps; draw the curtain, the farce is played.]
François Rabelais (ca. 1493–1553), last words according to Peter Anthony Motteux: *Life of Rabelais* (1694)
- As I slowly grow wise I briskly grow cautious.
— Samuel Clemens [Mark Twain]: “English as She Is Taught,” *The Century*, Vol. 33, No. 6 (1887–April)
- Whenever the literary German dives into a sentence, that is the last you are going to see of him till he emerges on the other side of his Atlantic with his verb in his mouth.
— Samuel Clemens [Mark Twain]: *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* (1889)
- Herodotus says, “Very few things happen at the right time, and the rest do not happen at all. The conscientious historian will correct these defects.”
— Samuel Clemens [Mark Twain]: *A Horse's Tale* (1907)
- But the truth is, that when a Library expels a book of mine and leaves an unexpurgated Bible lying around where unprotected youth and age can get hold of it, the deep unconscious irony of it delights me and doesn't anger me.
— Samuel Clemens, letter to Mrs. F. G. Whitmore (1907–Feb–7)
- [I]n a democracy the poor ought to have more power than the rich, as being the greater number; for this is one mark of liberty which all framers of a democracy lay down as a criterion of that state...
— Aristotle [Ἀριστοτέλης] (384–322 BCE): *Politics* [Πολιτικά] 1317.a40, [trans., William Ellis (1912)]
- Purple-robed and pauper-clad,
Raving, rotting, money-mad:
A squirming herd in Mammon's mesh,
A wilderness of human flesh;
Crazed with avarice, lust, and rum,
New York, thy name's Delirium.
— Byron Rufus Newton: *Owed to New York* (1906)
- The term “political correctness” has always appalled me, reminding me of Orwell's “Thought Police” and fascist regimes.
— Helmut Newton, in *American Photo* (2000–January/February)

- An unarmed people are slaves or are subject to slavery at any given moment.
— Huey P. Newton: *In Defense of Self-Defense* (1967–Jun–20)
- The President has paid dear for his White House. It has commonly cost him all his peace and the best of his manly attributes. To preserve for a short time so conspicuous an appearance before the world, he is content to eat dust before the real masters who stand erect behind the throne.
— Ralph Waldo Emerson: *Compensation* (1841)
- No one is exempt from talking nonsense. The great misfortune is to do it solemnly.
— Anthony de Mello: Introduction, *One Minute Nonsense* (1992)
- During the cattle drives, Texas cowboy music came into national significance. Its practical purpose is well known—it was used primarily to keep the herds quiet at night, for often a ballad sung loudly and continuously enough might prevent a stampede. However, the cowboy also sang because he liked to sing... In this music of the range and trail is “the grayness of the prairies, the mournful minor note of a Texas norther, and a rhythm that fits the gait of the cowboy’s pony.”
— Administration in the State of Texas, U.S. public relief program (1935–1943). *Texas: A Guide to the Lone Star State (The WPA Guide to Texas)*, pp. 137–38, in “Music,” Hastings House (1940)
- You do not chop off a section of your imaginative substance and make a book specifically for children, for — if you are honest — you have no idea where childhood ends and maturity begins. It is all endless and all one.
— P. L. Travers
- We are to admit no more causes of natural things than such as are both true and sufficient to explain their appearances.
— Sir Isaac Newton: “Rules of Reasoning in Philosophy,” *Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica* (1687)
- Our own unresolved authority problems from our youth sometimes get transferred to our youthful patients, because we are still “covert adolescent rebels.” In subtle ways, we encourage the adolescent patient to rebel towards parents, school authorities, and society in general.
— Virgil Miller Newton: *Adolescence - Guiding Youth Through the Perilous Ordeal* (1995)
- I am hitting my head against the walls, but the walls are giving way.
— Gustav Mahler, quoted on “inspiring-composer-quotes” at classicfm.com

- If I could explain it to the average person, I wouldn't have been worth the Nobel Prize.
— Richard Feynman (who shared the 1965 Nobel Prize in Physics for “fundamental work in quantum electrodynamics”), quoted in *People* magazine (1985–Jul–22)
- If you go back in history, I can't find a covert fix that solved a problem long term.
— Gen. Stanley McChrystal: “A Conversation with Stanley McChrystal,” *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 92, no. 2 (2013–Mar/Apr)
- When one's expectations are reduced to zero, one really appreciates everything that one does have.
— Steven Hawking, quoted in *Overbye*: “Wizard of Time and Space,” *Omni* magazine (1979–Feb)
- We have abundant reason to rejoice that in this Land the light of truth and reason has triumphed over the power of bigotry and superstition... In this enlightened Age and in this Land of equal liberty it is our boast, that a man's religious tenets will not forfeit the protection of the Laws, nor deprive him of the right of attaining and holding the highest Offices that are known in the United States.
— George Washington, letter to the members of the New Church in Baltimore (1793–Jan–27)
- ...holding onto a resentment [is] like eating rat poison and waiting for the rat to die.
— Anne Lamotte: *Crooked Little Heart* (1997)
- The face of Garbo is an Idea, that of Hepburn an Event.
— Roland Barthes: “The Face of Garbo,” *Mythologies* (1957, trans. 1972)
- I contemplate with sovereign reverence that act of the whole American people which declared that their legislature should make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibit the free exercise thereof, thus building a wall of separation between church and state.
— Thomas Jefferson, letter to the Baptists of Danbury, Connecticut (1802)
- An Ambassador is an honest man sent to lie abroad for the good of his country.
— Sir Henry Wotton (1568–1639), written in the album of Christopher Fleckmore, c. 1612. Quoted in Izaak Walton: *Life of Sir Henry Wotton*, published in *Reliquiae Wottonianae* (1651)
[Wotton wrote the remark while in Germany, en route to Venice where he was serving as James I's envoy. However, he spoiled his pun by writing it in Latin, thus reducing “to lie” (*ad mentiendum*) to one meaning only—and thereby ruining his career.
— Columbia World of Quotations. Columbia University Press, 1996.
quotes.dictionary.com/An_Ambassador_is_an_honest_man_sent_to]

- Thirteen governments thus founded on the natural authority of the people alone, without a pretence of miracle or mystery, and which are destined to spread over the northern part of that whole quarter of the globe, are a great point gained in favor of the rights of mankind.
— John Adams: *A Defence of the Constitutions of Government of the United States of America* (1787–88)
- I may not be a first-rate composer, but I am a first-class second-rate composer.
— Richard Strauss, quoted on “inspiring-composer-quotes” at classicfm.com
- Government regulators should take their cues from the statistics-obsessed scouts of *Moneyball*, favoring data over intuition.
— Cass Sunstein, (b. 1954), quoted in *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 92, no. 3 (2013–May/June)
- It is a golden rule that one should never judge men by their opinions, but rather by what their opinions make of them.
— G. C. Lichtenberg: *Reflections* (1799)
- The belief that we can manage the Earth and improve on nature is probably the ultimate expression of human conceit, but it has deep roots in the past and is almost universal.
— Rene J. Dubos (1901–1982): *The Wooing of the Earth* (1980)
- There is no great harm in the theorist who makes up a new theory to fit a new event. But the theorist who starts with a false theory and then sees everything as making it come true is the most dangerous enemy of human reason.
— G. K. Chesterton: *The Flying Inn* (1914)
- Reason is Life’s sole arbiter, the magic Lady’s single clue.
— Sir Richard Francis Burton (1821–1890): *The Kasidah of Hâjî Abdû El-Yezdî* (1870)
- Magister artis ingenique largitor venter.
[The stomach is the teacher of the arts and the dispenser of invention.]
— Persius [Aulus Persius Flaccus] (34–62): *Satires*
- If this nation is to be wise as well as strong, if we are to achieve our destiny, then we need more new ideas for more wise men reading more good books in more public libraries. These libraries should be open to all — except the censor. We must know all the facts and hear all the alternatives and listen to all the criticisms. Let us welcome controversial books and controversial authors. For the Bill of Rights is the guardian of our security as well as our liberty.
— John F. Kennedy, quoted in *Saturday Review* (1960–Oct–29)

- I believe in an America where the separation of church and state is absolute—where no Catholic prelate would tell the President (should he be Catholic) how to act, and no Protestant minister would tell his parishioners for whom to vote—where no church or church school is granted any public funds or political preference—and where no man is denied public office merely because his religion differs from the President who might appoint him or the people who might elect him.
— John F. Kennedy: speech to the Greater Houston Ministerial Association (1960–Sep–12)
- There is a connection, hard to explain logically but easy to feel, between achievement in public life and progress in the arts. The age of Pericles was also the age of Phidias. The age of Lorenzo de Medici was also the age of Leonardo da Vinci. The age of Elizabeth was also the age of Shakespeare. And the New Frontier for which I campaign in public life, can also be a New Frontier for American art.
— John F. Kennedy: letter to Miss Theodate Johnson, publisher of *Musical America* (1960–Sept–13)
- We cannot expect that everyone, to use the phrase of a decade ago, will “talk sense to the American people”. But we can hope that fewer people will listen to nonsense. And the notion that this Nation is headed for defeat through deficit, or that strength is but a matter of slogans, is nothing but just plain nonsense.
— John F. Kennedy: Remarks Prepared for Delivery at the Trade Mart in Dallas (1963–Nov–22)
- Let’s talk sense to the American people. Let’s tell them the truth, that there are no gains without pains.
— Adlai Stevenson, speech accepting Democratic presidential nomination (1952–Jul–26)
- I was obliged to be industrious. Whoever is equally industrious will succeed equally well.
— Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750), quoted on "inspiring-composer-quotes" at classicfm <dot> com
- The American states have gone far in assisting the progress of truth; but they have stopped short of perfection. They ought to have given every honest citizen an equal right to enjoy his religion and an equal title to all civil emoluments, without obliging him to tell his religion. Every interference of the civil power in regulating opinion, is an impious attempt to take the business of the Deity out of his own hands; and every preference given to any religious denomination, is so far slavery and bigotry.
— Noah Webster: *Sketches of American Policy* (1785)

- Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us
— Marianne Williamson: *A Reason To Love* (1992)
- When you do Shakespeare they think you must be intelligent because they think you understand what you're saying.
— Helen Mirren, interview on “Ruby Wax Meets...”, quoted in *Mail On Sunday* (1997-Feb-16)
- When I was young, the old regarded me as an outrageous young fellow, and now that I'm old the young regard me as an outrageous old fellow.
— Fred Hoyle, in *Scientific American* (1995-Mar)
- Your efforts, therefore, will be devoted exclusively to the cultivation of the most friendly civil relations with the papal government, and to the extension of the commerce between the two countries. You will carefully avoid even the appearance of interfering in ecclesiastical questions, whether these relate to the United States or any other portion of the world. It might be proper, should you deem it advisable, to make these views known, on some suitable occasion, to the papal government, so that there may be no mistake or misunderstanding on the subject.
— James Buchanan, letter to U.S. Chargé d’Affaires to the Papal States (1848)
- It is a very great thing to be able to think as you like; but after all, an important question remains: *what* you think.
— Matthew Arnold: *Democracy* (1861)
- If you want to make peace with your enemy, you have to work with your enemy. Then he becomes your partner.
— Nelson Mandela: *Long Walk to Freedom* (1994)
- Private beneficence is totally inadequate to deal with the vast numbers of the city's disinherited.
— Jane Addams: *Twenty Years At Hull House* (1910)
- If you go long enough without a bath even the fleas will let you alone.
— Ernie Pyle: *Here Is Your War* (1943)
- As a musician I tell you that if you were to suppress adultery, fanaticism, crime, evil, the supernatural, there would no longer be the means for writing one note.
— George Bizet, quoted on “inspiring-composer-quotes” at classicfm.com

- Success and failure on the public level never mattered much to me, in fact I feel more at home with the latter, having breathed deep of its vivifying air all my writing life up to the last couple of years.
— Samuel Beckett (1906–1989): “Beckett’s Letters on Endgame,” *The Village Voice Reader* (1962)
- D--n me, stranger, ef you can’t stay as long as you please, and I’ll give you plenty to eat and drink. Play away, stranger, you kin sleep on the dry spot tonight!
— Part of a version of the “Arkansas Traveler” story; Administration in the State of Arkansas, U.S. public relief program (1935–1943). *Arkansas: A Guide to the State [The WPA Guide to Arkansas]* (1941)
- “Pop” Wyman ruled here with a firm but gentle hand; no drunken man was ever served at the bar; no married man was allowed to play at the tables; across the face of the large clock was written “Please Don’t Swear,” and over the orchestra appeared the gentle admonition, “Don’t Shoot the Pianist — He’s Doing His Damndest.”
— Describing the Wyman Saloon, in 1880s Leadville; Administration in the State of Colorado, U.S. public relief program (1935–1943). *Colorado: A Guide to the Highest State [The WPA Guide to Colorado]* (1941)
- The dance can reveal everything mysterious that is hidden in music, and it has the additional merit of being human and palpable. Dancing is poetry with arms and legs.
— Charles Baudelaire (1821–1867): *La Fanfarlo* (1847) [trans., ?]
- We need a type of theatre which not only releases the feelings, insights and impulses possible within the particular historical field of human relations in which the action takes place, but employs and encourages those thoughts and feelings which help transform the field itself.
— Bertolt Brecht (1898–1956), quoted in *Brecht on Theatre* [ed. and trans. by John Willett] (1964)
- Das volle Herz
Es sucht oft lauter Freude vollen Jubel,
Um in der allgemeinen Lust Gewuehl
Recht unbemerkt, recht stille sich zu freun.
[A heart that overflows may seek out merrymaking and boisterous festivities to quietly rejoice, unnoticed amidst the reveling crowds.]
— Franz Grillparzer: *Sappho* (1819)

- Conservatives feel instinctively that it is new ideas more than anything else that cause change. But, from its point of view rightly, conservatism fears new ideas because it has no distinctive principles of its own to oppose them; and, by its distrust of theory and its lack of imagination concerning anything except that which experience has already proved, it deprives itself of the weapons needed in the struggle of ideas. Unlike liberalism, with its fundamental belief in the long-range power of ideas, conservatism is bound by the stock of ideas inherited at a given time. And since it does not really believe in the power of argument, its last resort is generally a claim to superior wisdom, based on some self-arrogated superior quality.

— Friedrich Hayek: *Individualism and Economic Order* (1948)
- One should respect public opinion in so far as is necessary to avoid starvation and to keep out of prison, but anything that goes beyond this is voluntary submission to an unnecessary tyranny, and is likely to interfere with happiness in all kinds of ways.

— Bertrand Russell: *The Conquest Of Happiness* (1930)
- No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

— *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, Art. 12 (1948)
- Have they chosen you to preside at a banquet?...

Speak, if you are older, for it is your privilege,
 But make sure you know what you are talking about,
 And don't hold up the music.
 It is wrong to keep talking where music is to be played:
 That is the wrong time to display your learning.
 A concert of music at a banquet
 Is a ruby garnet set in a gold signet ring.
 A melody with pleasant wine
 Is an emerald signet in a work of gold.

— Jesus ben Sirach: *The Wisdom of Jesus, son of Sirach* (ca. 200 BCE) [trans., adapted from The English Bible With Apocrypha, Revised Version, 1901]
- There was no one near to confuse me, so I was forced to become original.

— Joseph Haydn, quoted on "inspiring-composer-quotes" at classicfm.com
- It is now life and not art that requires the willing suspension of disbelief.

— Lionel Trilling: "The Novel Alive or Dead," *A Gathering of Fugitives: New Essays* (1956)

- The older we get the less afraid we are.
— Sidney Poitier, interviewed in *AARP The Magazine* (2008-Sep/Oct)
- Sunt pueri pueri, pueri puerilia tractant.
[Children are children, and children do childish things.]
— anonymous proverb, source lost
- The Sea
Will be the Sea
Whatever the drop's philosophy.
— Abū Hamīd bin Abu Bakr Ibrāhīm (c. 1145–c. 1221), quoted in Lewis: *Music of a Distant Drum: Classical Arabic, Persian, Turkish, and Hebrew Poems* (2001)
- A leopard does not change his spots, or change his feeling that spots are rather a credit.
— Ivy Compton-Burnett: *More Women than Men* (1933)
- Thereupon the said Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons, pursuant to their respective letters and elections, being now assembled in a full and free representative of this nation, taking into their most serious consideration the best means for attaining the ends aforesaid, do in the first place (as their ancestors in like case have usually done) for the vindicating and asserting their ancient rights and liberties declare: ... That the subjects which are Protestants may have arms for their defence suitable to their conditions and as allowed by law.
— English Bill of Rights (1689)
- One's ears are weary of the voice of the art teacher who sits like the parrot on his perch, learning the jargon of the studios, making but poor copy and calling it criticism. We have had enough of their omniscience, their parade of technical knowledge, and their predilection for the wrong end of the stick.
— Aubrey Beardsley (1872–1898): *The Art of the Hoarding* (1894)
- It were better that Ten Suspected Witches should escape, than that one Innocent Person should be Condemned.
— Increase Mather (1639–1723): *Cases of Conscience Concerning Evil Spirits Personating Men, Witchcrafts, infallible Proofs of Guilt in such as are accused with that Crime* (1692)
- The man with the real sense of humor is the man who can put himself in the spectator's place and laugh at his own misfortunes. That is what I am called upon to do every day.
— Bert Williams: "The Comic Side of Trouble," *The American Magazine* (1918–January)

- And if any of my barons or other men should wish to give his daughter, sister, niece, or kinswoman in marriage, let him speak with me about it; but I will neither take anything from him for this permission nor prevent his giving her unless he should be minded to join her to my enemy. And if, upon the death of a baron or other of my men, a daughter is left as heir, I will give her with her land by the advice of my barons.
— Henry I of England: *Charter of Liberties* [Coronation Charter] (1100) [trans. in White & Notestein: *Source Problems in English History* (1915)]
- We live in a society exquisitely dependent on science and technology, in which hardly anyone knows anything about science and technology.
— Carl Edward Sagan (1934–1996): “Why We Need To Understand Science,” in *The Skeptical Inquirer*, Vol. 14, Issue 3 (1990–Spring)
- Because religious belief, or non-belief, is such an important part of every person’s life, freedom of religion affects every individual. State churches that use government power to support themselves and force their views on persons of other faiths undermine all our civil rights. Moreover, state support of the church tends to make the clergy unresponsive to the people and leads to corruption within religion. Erecting the “wall of separation between church and state,” therefore, is absolutely essential in a free society. We have solved... the great and interesting question whether freedom of religion is compatible with order in government and obedience to the laws. And we have experienced the quiet as well as the comfort which results from leaving every one to profess freely and openly those principles of religion which are the inductions of his own reason and the serious convictions of his own inquiries.
— Thomas Jefferson, speech to the Virginia Baptists (1808)
- That’s part of our policy, is not to be taken seriously, because I think our opposition, whoever they may be, in all their manifest forms, don’t know how to handle humor. You know, and we are humorous, we are, what are they, Laurel and Hardy. That’s John and Yoko, and we stand a better chance under that guise, because all the serious people, like Martin Luther King, and Kennedy, and Gandhi, got shot.
— John Lennon, in a BBC interview with David Wigg (date uncertain) [Over the years, Wigg conducted four interviews with Lennon, and they seem to have occasionally been edited, mixed, combined, misdated, and released as new product.]
- The dancer of the future will be one whose body and soul have grown so harmoniously together that the natural language of that soul will have become the movement of the body.
— Isadora Duncan: *The Art of the Dance* (1928)

- Laws, like sausages, cease to inspire respect in proportion as we know how they are made.
— John Godfrey Saxe, in *The Chronicle*. University of Michigan (1869–Mar–27)
- Il y a de certaines choses dont la médiocrité est insupportable: la poésie, la musique, la peinture, le discours public. Quel supplice que celui d’entendre déclamer pompeusement un froid discours, ou prononcer de médiocres vers avec toute l’emphase d’un mauvais poète!
[There are certain things in which mediocrity is intolerable: poetry, music, painting, public eloquence. What torture it is to hear a frigid speech being pompously declaimed, or second-rate verse spoken with all a bad poet’s bombast!]
— Jean de La Bruyère: “Des Ouvrages de l’Esprit”. *Les Caractères* (1688)
- Without craftsmanship, inspiration is a mere reed shaken in the wind.
— Johannes Brahms, quoted on “inspiring-composer-quotes” at classicfm.com
- Not long before Horowitz died, he called [his manager Peter] Gelb and told him he was like family now and he didn’t have to call him “Mr. Horowitz,” he could call him “Maestro.”
— Brown, Chip: “The Operatic Reign of Peter Gelb,” *The New York Times Magazine* (2013–03–24)
- We can no longer maintain any distinction between music and discourse about music, between the supposed object of analysis and the terms of analysis.
— Bruce Horner: “Discourse,” *Key Terms in Popular Music and Culture* (1999)
- When you are angry, it means you, yourself are unhappy. Even if you are wronged, you are still making yourself unhappy if you feel anger.
— Michio Kushi (久司 道夫): *Spiritual Journey: Michio Kushi’s Guide to Endless Self-Realization and Freedom* (1994) [with Edward Esko]
- It turns out your conscious mind — the part you think of as you — is really the smallest part of what’s happening in your brain, and usually the last one in line to find out any information.
— David Eagleman, quoted in Blake Wilson: “Stray Questions for David Eagleman,” *The New York Times* (2009–Jul–10)
- In short, if newspapers were written by people whose sole object in writing was to tell the truth about politics and the truth about art we should not believe in war, and we should believe in art.
— Virginia Woolf: *The Three Guineas* (1938)

- The State can always afford to finance what its citizens can soundly produce.
— Benjamin Graham (1894–1976): *Storage and Stability* (1937)
- In Europe, you do philosophy by performing discourse on another guy’s text, and so Derrida will go over Heidegger, and Habermas will extend Marx’s corpus; but in America you could never get away with kinky stuff like that, for you have to generate philosophy from real things—like computers or television. You need to look at *Omni* magazine to get a feel for this new kind of mail-order, *Popular Mechanics* science of mind. It’s full of articles about meditation helmets and downloading the soul into computers so that when your body wears out you can live forever. What is completely missing in Europe is precisely what you will find in America: namely, an electronic Umwelt in which history is replaced with movies, education is replaced with entertainment, and nature is replaced with technology. This peculiar wedding of low kitsch and high tech generates a posthistoric world that no European literary intellectual can quite fathom.
— William Irwin Thompson: “Fast Foreword,” *The American Replacement of Nature—The Everyday Acts and Outrageous Evolution of Economic Life* (1991)
- Literature is in no way injured by the follies of collectors, since though they preserve the worthless, they necessarily protect the good.
— Isaac D’Israeli: *Curiosities of Literature* (1834)
- Th’ dead ar-re always pop’lar. I knowed a society wanst to vote a monyment to a man an’ refuse to help his fam’ly, all in wan night.
— Finley Peter Dunne: “On Charity” in *Mr Dooley in Peace and War* (1898)
- Creativity makes life valuable. Man is the sole creator; he stands out from the swarming masses of petty little folks. It doesn’t matter what kind of creativity it is - whether scientific or socio-political - it’s of equal value.
— Igor Yevgenyevich Tamm (1895–1971), as quoted by Gennadii Efimovich Gorelik, Antonina W. Bouis: *The world of Andrei Sakharov — a Russian physicist’s path to freedom* (2005)
- Wherever snow falls there is usually civil freedom.
— R. W. Emerson: *Society and Solitude* (1870)
- If sugar is so fattening, how come so many kids are thin?
— Full-page color advertisement for “Sugar Information, General P.O. Box 94, New York, New York 10001” in *National Geographic*, Vol. 140, no. 4 (1971–Oct)
- We would often be sorry if our wishes were gratified.
— Aesop (c. 620 BC–c. 560 BC): *The Old Man and Death*

- [A]ny religion that professes to be concerned about the souls of men and is not concerned about the slums that cripple the souls—the economic conditions that stagnate the soul and the city governments that may damn the soul—is a dry, dead, do-nothing religion in need of new blood.
— Martin Luther King, Jr.: “Why Jesus Called A Man A Fool,” speech delivered at Mount Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church, Chicago (1967–Aug–27)
- Analysis of the food consumption of harvest workers at Sedgeford [north-east of Cambridge in Norfolk, England] in 1424 shows that the daily food intake was 1 lb. of meat and at least 6 pints of ale for every 2 lb. of bread consumed.
— Martyn Whittock: *A Brief History of Life in the Middle Ages* (Running Press, 2009)
- The musician is perhaps the most modest of animals, but he is also the proudest.
— Erik Satie, quoted on “inspiring-composer-quotes” at classiefm.com
- A man owns a horse, a carriage worth \$100 more than the horse, and a harness. The horse and harness are together worth three-fourths the value of the carriage, and the carriage and harness are together worth \$50 less than twice the value of the horse. Find the value of each. [Answer: horse, \$180; carriage, \$280; harness, \$30]
— Webster Wells: *New Higher Algebra* (1897; 1902 edition)
- The Congress shall have Power... To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries...
— Constitution of the United States, Art. I, Sect. 8 (1789)
- What is needed is courage: it is always so much easier to accept what you are being told than to think for yourself.
— Ivar Ekeland: *The Best of All Possible Worlds* (2006)
- How unpleasant a beggar's pleading can become,
Until one sees his face, so sweetly pleased.
— Tiruvalluvar (uncertain, birth as early as 200 BCE or as late as 800 CE): *The Holy Kural* [trans. under the guidance of Gurudeva, Sivaya Subramuniaswami] (Himalayan Academy, 1995)
- That amid our highest civilization men faint and die with want is not due to the niggardliness of nature, but to the injustice of man.
— Henry George: *Progress and Poverty* (1879)

- Musick and women I cannot but give way to, whatever my business is.
— Samuel Pepys: *Diary* (1666–Mar–09)
- Works of art make rules; rules do not make works of art.
— Claude Debussy, quoted on “inspiring-composer-quotes” at classicfm.com
- Mankind owes to the child the best it has to give.
— United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989)
- Nine-tenths of the value of a sense of humor in writing is not in the things it makes one write but in the things it keeps one from writing. It is especially valuable in this respect in serious writing, and no one without a sense of humor should ever write seriously. For without knowing what is funny, one is constantly in danger of being funny without knowing it.
— Robert Benchley (1889-1945), in *Life* magazine (1929-Mar-8)
- I played over the music of that scoundrel Brahms. What a giftless bastard! It annoys me that this self-inflated mediocrity is hailed as a genius.
— Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky: diary entry for October 9, 1886. Quoted in Nicolas Slonimsky: *Lexicon of Musical Invective* (1953)
- The greatest advantage in gambling lies in not playing at all.
— Gerolamo Cardano (1501-1576): *Liber de ludo aleae*
- Teaching literature is impossible; that is why it is difficult.
— Northrop Frye (1912-1991): *The Stubborn Structure — Essays on Criticism and Society*
- The sound of tireless voices is the price we pay for the right to hear the music of our own opinions. But there is also, it seems to me, a moment at which democracy must prove its capacity to act. Every man has a right to be heard; but no man has the right to strangle democracy with a single set of vocal chords.
— Adlai E. Stevenson II (1900-1965), speech in New York City (1952–Aug–28)
- You Olympians, however, know you didn’t get here solely on your own power. For most of you, loving parents, sisters or brothers, encouraged your hopes, coaches guided, communities built venues in order to organize competitions. All Olympians stand on the shoulders of those who lifted them. We’ve already cheered the Olympians, let’s also cheer the parents, coaches, and communities.
— Mitt Romney, speech at opening ceremony, 2002 Winter Olympics

- With usenet gone, we just don't teach our kids entertainment-level hyperbole any more.
— Paul Vixie, in NANOG (North American Network Operators Group) mailing list (Thu Jan 26 10:14:24 2006)
- Anything that is in the world when you're born is normal and ordinary and is just a natural part of the way the world works. Anything that's invented between when you're fifteen and thirty-five is new and exciting and revolutionary and you can probably get a career in it. Anything invented after you're thirty-five is against the natural order of things.
— Douglas Adams: *The Salmon of Doubt — Hitchhiking the Galaxy One Last Time* (2002)
- Actually if a writer needs a dictionary he should not write. He should have read the dictionary at least three times from beginning to end and then have loaned it to someone who needs it. There are only certain words which are valid and similies (bring me my dictionary) are like defective ammunition (the lowest thing I can think of at this time).
— Ernest Hemingway (1899–1961): letter to the critic Bernard Berenson (1953–Mar–20)
- I rather would entreat thy company,
To see the wonders of the world abroad
Than living, dully sluggardized at home,
Wear out thy youth with shapeless idleness.
— William Shakespeare, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (ca. 1590)
- He believes without reservation that Kentucky is the garden spot of the world, and is ready to dispute with anyone who questions his claim. In his enthusiasm for his State he compares with the Methodist preacher whom Timothy Flint heard tell a congregation that “Heaven is a Kentucky of a place.”
— For the State of Kentucky, U.S. public relief program (1935-1943): “Kentucky: A Guide to the Bluegrass State (The WPA Guide to Kentucky)”, in *Kentuckians*, Harcourt, Brace (1939)
- In life you must often choose between getting a job done or getting credit for it.
— Leó Szilárd, quoted in “Some Szilardisms on War, Fame, Peace,” *Life* magazine (1961–Sept–1)
- Far better an approximate answer to the right question, which is often vague, than an exact answer to the wrong question, which can always be made precise.
— John Tukey: “The future of data analysis,” *Annals of Mathematical Statistics* 33/1 (1962)
- Make a show of this one! Arrange pre-measured ingredients on a tray and ask the man-of-your-house to toss the salad at the table.
— “Caesar Salad,” *Betty Crocker's Cookbook* (1969)

- We all have a tendency to think that the world must conform to our prejudices. The opposite view involves some effort of thought, and most people would die sooner than think — in fact they do so.
— Bertrand Russell: *The ABC of Relativity* (1925)
- Just because we don't understand doesn't mean that the explanation doesn't exist.
— Madeleine L'Engle: *A Wrinkle in Time* (1962)
- The advance from drawing to painting should be gradual, and no serious attempts in colour should be made until the student has obtained proficiency in outline and in light and shade. If the artist cannot draw objects in a rather masterly way there is no point in his attempting colour.
— Ogden Rood: *Students' Text-book of Color, Or, Modern Chromatics, with Applications to Art and Industry* (1881)
- It cannot be emphasized too strongly that art, as such, does not “pay,” to use an American expression — at least, not in the beginning — and that the art that has to pay its own way is apt to become vitiated and cheap.
— Antonín Dvořák [with Edwin Emerson, Jr.]: “Music in America,” *Harper's New Monthly Magazine* (1895–Feb)
- Ther nis no werkman, whatsoever he be,
That may bothe werke wel and hastily.
— Geoffrey Chaucer: “The Merchant's Tale,” *The Canterbury Tales* (late 14th century)
- A baby is expected. A trip is expected. News is expected. Forgetfulness is expected. An invitation is expected. Hope is expected. But memories are not expected. They just come.
— Giannina Braschi: “Pastoral; or, The Inquisition of Memories,” *Empire of Dreams* (1994)
- Never treat your audience as customers, always as partners.
— Jimmy Stewart, quoted in Skip Press: *The Ultimate Writer's Guide to Hollywood* (2004)
- There are two kinds of fools: one says, “This is old, therefore it is good”; the other says, “This is new, therefore it is better.”
— Dean Inge: *More Lay Thoughts of a Dean* (1931)
- Die Liebe herrscht nicht, aber sie bildet; und das ist mehr!
[Love does not dominate, it cultivates. And that is more.]
— Johann Wolfgang von Goethe: *Das Märchen* (1795) [trans., Hermann J. Weigand: *Wisdom and Experience* (1949)]

- Recent international research suggests that the countries that top international education rankings owe their success to approaches that are in many ways the inverse of the American one. Such countries—which include Canada, Finland, Japan, Singapore, and South Korea, top scorers on the Program for International Student Assessment, an internationally recognized test for 15-year-olds that measures higher-order problem solving in math, reading, and science—all do certain things similarly. They choose their teachers from among their most talented graduates, train them extensively, create opportunities for them to collaborate with their peers within and across schools to improve their practice, provide them the external supports that they need to do their work well, and underwrite all these efforts with a strong welfare state.
— Jal Mehta: “Why American Education Fails (And How Lessons From Abroad Could Improve It),” *Foreign Affairs* (2013-May/June)
- The worst sin towards our fellow creatures is not to hate them, but to be indifferent to them: that’s the essence of inhumanity.
— George Bernard Shaw: *The Devil’s Disciple* (1897)
- Now everything is funny as long as it is happening to somebody Else, but when it happens to you, why it seems to lose some of its Humor, and if it keeps on happening, why the entire laughter kinder Fades out of it.
— Will Rogers: “Warning to Jokers: Lay off the Prince,” *The Illiterate Digest* (1924)
- Do not, under any circumstances belittle a work of fiction by trying to turn it into a carbon copy of real life: what we search for in fiction is not so much reality but the epiphany of truth.
— Azar Nafisi: *Reading Lolita in Tehran* (2003)
- It is not our affluence, or our plumbing, or our clogged freeways that grip the imagination of others. Rather, it is the values upon which our system is built. These values imply our adherence not only to liberty and individual freedom, but also to international peace, law and order, and constructive social purpose. When we depart from these values, we do so at our peril.
— J. William Fulbright, remarks in the Senate (1961–Jun–29) [*Congressional Record*, vol. 107, p. 11703]
- Since human beings are highly adaptable it may be possible for an individual with any sort of competence to learn, in the end, according to any teaching strategy. But the experiments show, very clearly indeed, that the rate, quality and durability of learning is crucially dependent upon whether or not the teaching strategy is of a sort that suits the individual.
— Gordon Pask: *Learning Strategies and Individual Competence* (1972)

- In all these things we are left, I must say, with the picture of a civilization on the verge of decay. Education had become stagnant and counterproductive, the elites were either withdrawing into weird mystery cults or esoteric philosophy, and everyone else was focused on just trying to stay alive. The vision, dedication and camaraderie of the Republic was all but gone, leaving in its wake an ignorant, self-absorbed society that had no idea what horrors were lurking beyond the frontiers, just waiting to smash the comfortable world the Romans had begun to take for granted.

— Mike Duncan: “Thinking and Feeling”, episode 87, *The History of Rome* [podcast] (2010)
- We, therefore, the delegates with plenary powers of the people of Texas, in solemn convention assembled, appealing to a candid world for the necessities of our condition, do hereby resolve and declare, that our political connection with the Mexican nation has forever ended, and that the people of Texas do now constitute a free, Sovereign, and independent republic, and are fully invested with all the rights and attributes which properly belong to independent nations; and, conscious of the rectitude of our intentions, we fearlessly and confidently commit the issue to the decision of the Supreme arbiter of the destinies of nations.

— The Unanimous Declaration of Independence made by the Delegates of the People of Texas in General Convention at the town of Washington on the 2nd day of March 1836
- In looking at the history of societies we shall have had occasion to observe that there is often a great difference between the rights that the law allows its citizens and the rights that they actually enjoy, and, again, between the equality established by political codes and that which in fact exists amongst individuals: and we shall have noticed that these differences were one of the principal causes of the destruction of freedom in the ancient republics, of the storms that troubled them, and of the weakness that delivered them over to foreign tyrants.

These differences have three main causes: inequality in wealth; inequality in status between the man whose means of subsistence are hereditary and the man whose means are dependent on the length of his life (or, rather, on that part of his life in which he is capable of work); and, finally, inequality in education.

We therefore need to show that these three sorts of real inequality must constantly diminish without however disappearing altogether: for they are the result of natural and necessary causes which it would be foolish and dangerous to wish to eradicate; and one could not even attempt to bring about the entire disappearance of their effects without introducing even more fecund sources of inequality, without striking more direct and more fatal blows at the rights of man.

— Marie Jean Antoine Nicolas Caritat, Marquis de Condorcet (1743–1794): *A Sketch for a Historical Picture of the Progress of the Human Mind* (1794) [trans., June Barraclough]

- Hold somebody's hand and feel its warmth. Gram per gram, it converts 10 000 times more energy per second than the sun. You find this hard to believe? Here are the numbers: an average human weighs 70 kilograms and consumes about 12 600 kilojoules / day; that makes about 2 millijoules / gram.second, or 2 milliwatts / gram. For the sun it's a miserable 0.2 microjoules / gram.second. Some bacteria, such as the soil bacterium "Azotobacter" convert as much as 10 joules / gram.second, outperforming the sun by a factor 50 million. I am warm because inside each of my body cells there are dozens, hundreds or even thousands of mitochondria that burn the food I eat.
— Gottfried Schatz: *Jeff's view on science and scientists* (2006)
- A man may be a heretic in the truth; and if he believe things only because his pastor says so, or the assembly so determines, without knowing other reason, though his belief be true, yet the very truth he holds becomes his heresy.
— John Milton: *Areopagitica — a Speech for the Liberty of Unlicensed Printing to the Parliament of England* (1644)
- Where men are the most sure and arrogant, they are commonly the most mistaken, and have there given reins to passion, without that proper deliberation and suspense, which can alone secure them from the grossest absurdities.
🔗 David Hume: *An Enquiry Concerning the Principles of Morals* (1751)
- A Computer is a state machine. Threads are for people who can't program state machines.
— Alan Cox (*1968), quoted at lkml.iu.edu//hypermail/linux/kernel/0106.2/0405.html
- This very remarkable man
Commends a most practical plan:
You can do what you want
If you don't think you can't,
So don't think you can't — think you can.
— Rev. Charles Cuthbert Inge: "On Monsieur Coué," *The Week-end Book* (1928)
- The measure of your quality as a public person, as a citizen, is the gap between what you do and what you say.
— Ramsey Clark, quoted in *International Herald Tribune* (1991–June–18)
- [U]ntil we consider animal life to be worthy of the consideration and reverence we bestow upon old books and pictures and historic monuments, there will always be the animal refugee living a precarious life on the edge of extermination, dependent for existence on the charity of a few human beings.
— Gerald Durrell: *Encounters with Animals* (1958)

- Art is the symbol of the two noblest human efforts: to construct and to refrain from destruction.
— Simone Weil (1909–1943): *The Pre-War Notebook* (1933–1939), published in *First and Last Notebooks*, edited by Richard Rees (1970)
- The study a posteriori of the distribution of consciousness shows it to be exactly such as we might expect in an organ added for the sake of steering a nervous system grown too complex to regulate itself.
— William James: *The Principles of Psychology* (1890)
- One murder made a villain,
Millions a hero. Princes were privileged
To kill, and numbers sanctified the crime.
— Rt. Rev. Beilby Porteus: *Death—A Poetical Essay* (1759)
- Egoism is a sin the human being carries with him from birth; it is the most difficult to redeem.
— Akira Kurosawa [黒澤 明] (1910–1998): *Akira Kurosawa on Rashōmon*
[www.criterion.com/current/posts/196-akira-kurosawa-on-rashomon]
- If they're not kind of gay, they're not really a parade. A heterosexual parade seems to me an organized walk in the traffic lane.
— Reknown Irish drag queen Panti Bliss [Rory O'Neill], quoted by Maureen Dowd in *The New York Times* (2014–Feb–26)
- My idea, my dream, my goal, is to go out and legitimize this sport and compete at the Olympic Games with my peers in the football arena.
— Emmitt Smith (*1969), quoted in Doug Robinson: “Honest! Emmitt Is Going For Gold,” *The Deseret News* (1996–Feb–10)
- You have a lot of attention on a foolish sport like American football and you waste a lot of talent, athletic talent, on a sport that is meant to kill each other, to injure each other. You're so narrow minded and then you want to compete against the world when you waste a lot of time, good talent on a sport that sucks.
— Dutch speedskating coach Jilbert Anema (*1955), quoted by Gary D'Amato in *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* (2014–Feb–23)
- We have to have fun while trying to stave off the forces of darkness because we hardly ever win, so it's the only fun we get to have.
— Molly Ivins, in *The Nation* magazine (2003–Nov–17)

- In oneself lies the whole world and if you know how to look and learn, the door is there and the key is in your hand. Nobody on earth can give you either the key or the door to open, except yourself.
— Jiddu Krishnamurti (1895–1986), as quoted in Aaron Hoopes: *Perfecting Ourselves — Coordinating Body, Mind, and Spirit* (2002)
- We might make a public moan in the newspapers about the decay of conscience, but in private conversation, no matter what crimes a man may have committed or how cynically he may have debased his talent or his friends, variations on the answer “Yes, but I did it for the money” satisfy all but the most tiresome objections.
— Lewis H. Lapham: *Money and Class in America* (1988)
- The most important part of education is not to communicate knowledge, but to form the mind and give a salutary direction to those constitutional impulses or innate propensities which are discoverable in childhood and developed in youth. If these be neglected, all is neglected: and the happiness of millions is left to the guidance of chance.
— Piomingo: *The Savage* (1838)
- I believe the right question to ask, respecting all ornament, is simply this: Was it done with enjoyment—was the carver happy while he was about it?
— John Ruskin: *The Seven Lamps of Architecture* (1849)
- Today, every inhabitant of this planet must contemplate the day when this planet may no longer be habitable. Every man, woman and child lives under a nuclear sword of Damocles, hanging by the slenderest of threads, capable of being cut at any moment by accident, or miscalculation, or by madness. The weapons of war must be abolished before they abolish us.
— John F. Kennedy: Address before the General Assembly of the United Nations (1961–Sept–25)
- Treat your friend as if he will one day be your enemy, and your enemy as if he will one day be your friend.
— Decimus Laberius (ca. 105–43 BCE): fragment
- Genius differs from talent not by the amount of original thoughts, but by making the latter fertile and by positioning them properly, in other words, by integrating everything into a whole, whereas talent produces only fragments, no matter how beautiful.
— Franz Grillparzer (1791–1872)

- At the risk of appearing disingenuous, I don't really think of myself as "writing humor." I'm simply reporting on the world I observe, which is frequently hilarious. Here's the thing. Most of what we witness in life is too complex to take in whole. Because of this we unconsciously edit what we see, select what to really record and what to ignore, which is why people who look at the same thing don't necessarily see the same thing.... Comic writers don't so much invent funny things as strip away the distractions, the impediments to laughter.
— Richard Russo (*1949), *Interview with Richard Russo* at www.failbetter.com/04/Russo.htm
- The choice is not between order and liberty. It is between liberty with order and anarchy without either. There is danger that if the Court does not temper its doctrinaire logic with a little practical wisdom, it will convert the constitutional Bill of Rights into a suicide pact.
— Justice Robert H. Jackson (dissenting), *Terminiello v. Chicago*, 337 U.S. 1 (1949)
- A mouse never trusts his life to one hole only.
— Titus Maccius Plautus: *Truculentus* (ca. 190 BCE)
- Witticism. A sharp and clever remark, usually quoted and seldom noted; what the Philistine is pleased to call a "joke."
— Ambrose Bierce (1842-1914): *The Devil's Dictionary*
- Wise people are in want of nothing, and yet need many things. On the other hand, nothing is needed by fools, for they do not understand how to use anything, but are in want of everything.
— Chrysippus (c. 279–c. 206 BCE), as quoted in Seneca the Younger (c. 4 BC–AD 65): *Epistulae morales ad Lucilium* [Moral Epistles]
- Even happiness itself may become habitual. There is a habit of looking at the bright side of things, and also of looking at the dark side. Dr. Johnson has said that the habit of looking at the best side of a thing is worth more to a man than a thousand pounds a year.
— Samuel Smiles: *Self-Help — with Illustrations of Character and Conduct* (1859)
- There is but one indefectibly certain truth, and that is the truth that pyrrhonic scepticism itself leaves standing, — the truth that the present phenomenon of consciousness exists.
— William James: *The Will to Believe* (1897)
- The wisdom of the wise, and the experience of ages, may be preserved by quotation.
— Isaac D'Israeli (1766–1848): "Quotation" in *Curiosities of Literature*

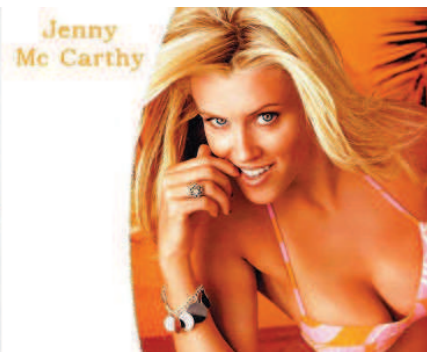
- The civil government functions with complete success by the total separation of the Church from the State.
— James Madison: *Writings*, 8:432 (1819); quoted in Gene Garman: *Essays In Addition to America's Real Religion*
- Everything was twice repeated,
Sometimes more than twice repeated,
As they worked through the agenda
(It seemed elastic, that agenda,
Becoming longer, never shorter),
Their utterances grew long, not shorter,
It was just like spreading butter.
— Gavin Ewart: “The Meeting”, from *The New Ewart* (1982)
- [The stars’] influence on our fate is considerably less than the influence of a banana peel, on which you can slip and break your leg. But there is no interest in banana peels, whereas serious periodicals include horoscopes...
— Stanislaw Lem: *Peace on Earth [Pojój na Zemi]* (1987); trans., Elinor Ford (1994)
- That man’s silence is wonderful to listen to.
— Thomas Hardy: *Under the Greenwood Tree* (1872). [Some editions have, “That man’s dumbness is wonderful to listen to.”]
- Neither the artist nor the mathematician may be able to tell you what constitutes the difference between a significant piece of work and an inflated trifle; but if he is not able to recognise this in his own heart, he is no artist and no mathematician.
— Norbert Wiener: *Ex-Prodigy: My Childhood and Youth* (1964)
- The key thing about all the world’s big problems is that they have to be dealt with collectively. If we don’t get collectively smarter, we’re doomed.
— Douglas C. Engelbart (1925–2013): “Intelligence in the Internet Age” in *The New York Times* (2005–Sep–19)
- दूर के ढोल सुहावने लगते हैं [Dūra kē dhōla suhāvanē lagatē haiṁ]
[The pleasant sound of distant drumming; or, The drums sound better at a distance. (As in: We always like the things we don’t have.)]
— Hindi proverb, quoted at indif.com/kids/hindi_proverbs/hindi_proverbs.aspx

- The problem in our country isn't with books being banned, but with people no longer reading. Look at the magazines, the newspapers around us — it's all junk, all trash, tidbits of news. The average TV ad has 120 images a minute. Everything just falls off your mind. [...] You don't have to burn books to destroy a culture. Just get people to stop reading them.
— Ray Bradbury, quoted in Misha Berson: “Bradbury Still Believes in Heat of Fahrenheit 451”, *The Seattle Times* (1993–Mar–12)
- The nightingale, if she should sing by day,
When every goose is cackling, would be thought
No better a musician than the wren.
How many things by season season'd are
To their right praise, and true perfection!
— William Shakespeare: *The Merchant of Venice*
- Military cemeteries in every corner of the world are silent testimony to the failure of national leaders to sanctify human life.
— Yitzhak Rabin: 1994 Nobel Peace Prize lecture (1994–Dec–10)
- No comment...



- Yesterday, a funny thing happened to me on my way to the Conclave.
— Pope John Paul I [Albino Luciani] (1912–1978), speech in St Peter's Square the day after his election; quoted in David Yallo: *In God's Name* (1987)

- When a poet is being a poet — that is, when he is writing or thinking about writing — he cannot be concerned with anything but the making of a poem. If the poem is to turn out well, the poet cannot have thought of whether it will be saleable, or of what its effect on the world should be; he cannot think of whether it will bring him honor, or advance a cause, or comfort someone in sorrow. All such considerations, whether silly or generous, would be merely intrusive; for, psychologically speaking, the end of writing is the poem itself.
— Richard Wilbur: National Book Award Acceptance Speech (1957)
- People don't want to buy a quarter-inch drill, they want a quarter-inch hole.
— Theodore Levitt (1925–2006), attrib. in Christensen & Raynor: *The innovator's solution—creating and sustaining successful growth* (2003)
- For it is said, “You shall strengthen the stranger and the dweller in your midst and live with him,” that is to say, strengthen him until he needs no longer fall upon the mercy of the community or be in need.
— Moses Maimonides (1135–1204): *Mishneh Torah* [משנה תורה] [trans., Jonathan J. Baker]
- Fight the tendency to become complacent and do one kind of music - that is the death of a musician.
— Georg Solti (1912–1997)
- You want to love everyone equally, and that's worse than impossible—it's wrong.
— E.M. Forster: *The Longest Journey* (1907)
- One of the greatest difficulties in civil war is, that more art is required to know what should be concealed from our friends, than what ought to be done against our enemies.
— Philip Dormer Stanhope, 4th Earl Chesterfield (1694–1773), letter to his son, Philip Stanhope, possibly quoting Jean-Francois Paul de Gondi, Cardinal de Retz (1613–1679)
- And the award for Greater Threat To Public Health goes to...?



- A good conductor ought to be a good chauffeur; the qualities that make the one also make the other. They are concentration, an incessant control of attention, and presence of mind; the conductor only has to add a little sense to the music.
— Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873–1943), quoted in Oskar von Riesemann: *Rachmaninoff's Recollections* (1934) [trans., Dolly Rutherford]
- Renowned Spenser lie a thought more nigh
To learned Chaucer, and rare Beaumont lie
A little nearer Spenser, to make room
For Shakespeare in your threefold, fourfold tomb.
To lodge all four in one bed make a shift
Until doomsday, for hardly will a fifth
Betwixt this day and that by Fate be slain,
For whom your curtains may be drawn again.

If your precedency in death doth bar
A fourth place in your sacred sepulchre,
Under this carvéd marble of thine own,
Sleep, rare tragedian, Shakespeare, sleep alone;
Thy unmolested peace, unsharéd cave,
Possess as Lord, not tenant, of thy grave,
That unto us and others it may be
Honour hereafter to be laid by thee.
— William Basse (ca. 1583–1653?): On Mr. Wm. Shakespeare (ca. 1620)
- Oh, what a tangled web do parents weave
When they think that their children are naive.
— Ogden Nash (1902–1971): *Baby, What Makes The Sky Blue?*
- Auferre, trucidare, rapere, falsis nominibus imperium; atque, ubi solitudinem faciunt, pacem apellant.
[They plunder, they slaughter, and they steal: this they falsely name Empire, and where they make a wasteland, they call it peace.]
— Calgacus, addressing his Caledonian warriors before the Battle of Mons Graupius (83), quoted in Tacitus: *Agricola* (96)
- Christianity neither is, nor ever was a part of the common law.
— Thomas Jefferson, letter to Dr. Thomas Cooper (1814–Feb–10)

- my grandmother used to say
before you moan
about the muck on someone else's glasses
make sure you're not on about the muck on your own
her glasses were filthy
— John Hegley: "Grandma's Glasses," *Glad To Wear Glasses* (1990)
- So long as there are earnest believers in the world, they will always wish to punish opinions, even if their judgment tells them it is unwise, and their conscience that it is wrong.
— Walter Bagehot (1826–1877): *Literary Studies, II* (1879)
- Mexicans now established in territories previously belonging to Mexico, and which remain for the future within the limits of the United States, as defined by the present treaty, shall be free to continue where they now reside, or to remove at any time to the Mexican Republic, retaining the property which they possess in the said territories, or disposing thereof, and removing the proceeds wherever they please, without their being subjected, on this account, to any contribution, tax, or charge whatever.
Those who shall prefer to remain in the said territories may either retain the title and rights of Mexican citizens, or acquire those of citizens of the United States. But they shall be under the obligation to make their election within one year from the date of the exchange of ratifications of this treaty; and those who shall remain in the said territories after the expiration of that year, without having declared their intention to retain the character of Mexicans, shall be considered to have elected to become citizens of the United States.
In the said territories, property of every kind, now belonging to Mexicans not established there, shall be inviolably respected. The present owners, the heirs of these, and all Mexicans who may hereafter acquire said property by contract, shall enjoy with respect to it guarantees equally ample as if the same belonged to citizens of the United States.
— Article VIII, Treaty of Peace, Friendship, Limits, and Settlement between the United States of America and the United Mexican States (1848)
- The whole object of science is to synthesize, and so simplify; and did we but know the uttermost of a subject we could make it singularly clear.
— Percival Lowell: *Mars and its Canals* (1906)
- I would rather have men ask, after I am dead, why I have no monument than why I have one.
— attrib., Marcus Porcius [Cato the Elder] (234–149 BCE)

- In the field of modern business, so rich in opportunity for the exercise of man's finest and most varied mental faculties and moral qualities, mere money-making cannot be regarded as the legitimate end. Neither can mere growth of bulk or power be admitted as a worthy ambition. Nor can a man nobly mindful of his serious responsibilities to society view business as a game; since with the conduct of business human happiness or misery is inextricably interwoven.

— Louis Brandeis (1856-1941): "Business—The New Profession," *La Follette's Weekly Magazine*, Volume 4, No. 47 (1912–Nov–23)
- The moment a mere numerical superiority by either states or voters in this country proceeds to ignore the needs and desires of the minority, and for their own selfish purpose or advancement, hamper or oppress that minority, or debar them in any way from equal privileges and equal rights — that moment will mark the failure of our constitutional system.

— Franklin D. Roosevelt, radio address (1930–Mar–02)
- There is a beauty in discovery. There is mathematics in music, a kinship of science and poetry in the description of nature, and exquisite form in a molecule. Attempts to place different disciplines in different camps are revealed as artificial in the face of the unity of knowledge. All literate men are sustained by the philosopher, the historian, the political analyst, the economist, the scientist, the poet, the artisan and the musician.

— Glenn T. Seaborg (1912–1999): statement upon being appointed as UC Berkeley chancellor (1958), quoted in *Biographical Memoirs* (2000), edited by Darleane C. Hoffman
- All art is propaganda. It is universally and inescapably propaganda; sometimes unconsciously, but often deliberately, propaganda.

— Upton Sinclair (1878–1968): *Mammonart — an Essay in Economic Interpretation* (1925)
- In all modern history, interference with science in the supposed interest of religion, no matter how conscientious such interference may have been, has resulted in the direst evils both to religion and to science, and invariably; and, on the other hand, all untrammelled scientific investigation, no matter how dangerous to religion some of its stages may have seemed for the time to be, has invariably resulted in the highest good both of religion and of science.

— Andrew Dickson White: *A History Of The Warfare Of Science With Theology In Christendom* (1896)

- The minority must have involvement in society. You can have different cultural practices that you accept. But if you are going to adopt democracy in government, then the government itself must allow the minority to be heard.
— Sheila Jackson Lee, as quoted in an interview by Rami Eljundi in *World Internet News* (2006–Apr–26)
- Well, I cannot run the political machine; I have enough on my hands without that. It is the people's business, —the election is in their hands. If they turn their backs to the fire, and get scorched in the rear, they'll find they have to "sit" on the "blister!"
— Abraham Lincoln, informal remarks on the election; recorded by White House artist-in-residence Francis B. Carpenter (1864–Aug)
- The problem with people who have no vices is that generally you can be pretty sure they're going to have some pretty annoying virtues.
— Elizabeth Taylor, quoted in Steven Schwartz: *The Seven Deadly Sins* (2000)
- There are problems to whose solution I would attach an infinitely greater importance than to those of mathematics, for example touching ethics, or our relation to God, or concerning our destiny and our future; but their solution lies wholly beyond us and completely outside the province of science.
— Carl Friedrich Gauss (1777–1855), as quoted in J. R. Newman, ed.: *The World of Mathematics* (1956)
- How senseless is the sordid love of gain;
Blind to all else the mind that's set on profit.
— Diphilus [Δίφιλος] of Sinope: Fragment 13 (ca. 300 BCE)
- Printer's ink has been running a race against gunpowder these many, many years. Ink is handicapped, in a way, because you can blow up a man with gunpowder in half a second, while it may take twenty years to blow him up with a book. But the gunpowder destroys itself along with its victim, while a book can keep on exploding for centuries.
— Christopher Morley (1890–1957): *The Haunted Bookshop* (1919)
- If you are poor today you will always be poor,
Only the rich now acquire riches.
— Martial (Marcus Valerius Martialis, 40–ca. 103): *Epigrams*, book V
- Even in times of war, you can see current events in their historical perspective, provided that your passion for the truth prevails over your bias in favor of your own nation.
— Leó Szilárd: speech at Harvard Law School (1961–Nov–17)

- He says, “My reign is peace,” so slays
A thousand in the dead of night.
“Are you happy now,” he says,
And those he leaves behind cry “quite.”
He swears he will have no contention,
And set all nations by the ears:
He shouts aloud, “No intervention!”
Invades, and drowns them all in tears.
— Walter Savage Landor (1775–1864): *A Foreign Ruler*
- Eine erfolgreiche Industrienation, das heißt eine Nation mit Zukunft, lässt sich nicht als
kollektiver Freizeitpark organisieren.
[A successful industrial nation, meaning a nation with future, can not be organized as a
collective holiday resort.]
— Helmut Kohl (1930–), speech to the Bundestag (1993–March)
- We often pardon those who weary us, but we cannot pardon those whom we weary.
— François VI, Duc de La Rochefoucauld (1613–1680): *Maxims*
- In the new code of laws which I suppose it will be necessary for you to make I desire you
would remember the ladies and be more generous and favorable to them than your
ancestors.
— Abigail Adams, letter to John Adams (1776–Mar–31)
- The moment a mere numerical superiority by either states or voters in this country
proceeds to ignore the needs and desires of the minority, and for their own selfish purpose
or advancement, hamper or oppress that minority, or debar them in any way from equal
privileges and equal rights — that moment will mark the failure of our constitutional
system.
— Franklin D. Roosevelt, radio address (1930–Mar–02)
- Nemo enim fere saltat sobrius, nisi forte insanit.
[No one dances sober, unless he is insane.]
— Cicero: *Pro Murena* (Ch. vi, Section 13)
- Girls in this way fall everyday,
And have been falling for ages.
Who is to blame? You know his name:
It’s the boss that pays starvation wages.
— Joe Hill: *The White Slave* (ca. 1907)

- In the modern corporation the decisive power, that of the managers, is derived from no one but the managers themselves controlled by nobody and nothing and responsible to no one. It is in the most literal sense unfounded, unjustified, uncontrolled and irresponsible power.
— Peter Drucker: *The Future of Industrial Man* (1942)
- The nature of business is swindling.
— August Bebel, speech in Zürich (1892–Dec.)
- Ce n'est point l'observation mais la théorie qui m'a conduit à ce résultat que l'expérience a ensuite confirmé.
[It's not observation but theory that led me to this result that experience has confirmed afterwards.]
— Augustin-Jean Fresnel (1788–1827): *Œuvres complètes d'Augustin Fresnel* (1866)
- Universal suffrage could not long exist in a community where there was great inequality of property. The holders of estates would be obliged in such case either in some way to restrain the right of suffrage, or else such right of suffrage would ere long divide the property.
— Daniel Webster, speech in Boston (1820)
- Any foreigner, already in the limits of the state of Coahuila and Texas who wishes to settle himself in it, shall make a declaration to that effect, before the Ayuntamiento of the place, which he selects as his residence; the Ayuntamiento in such case, shall administer to him the oath which he must take to obey the federal and state constitutions, and to observe the religion which the former prescribes; the name of the person, and his family if he has any, shall then be registered in a book kept for that purpose, with a statement of where he was born, and whence from, his age, whether married, occupation, and that he has taken the oath prescribed, and considering him from that time and not before, as domiciled.
— Colonization Law, State of Coahuila and Texas, Art. 3 (1825)
- Among theologians heretics are those who are not backed with a sufficient array of batallions to render them orthodox.
— Voltaire: *Philosophical Dictionary* (1764)
- Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter.
— Thomas Jefferson, letter to Edward Garrington (1787–Jan–16)
- Hydrogen is a light, odorless gas, which, given enough time, turns into people.
— Edward R. (Ted) Harrison, in *Smithsonian* magazine (1995–December)

- Some problems are so complex that you have to be highly intelligent and well informed just to be undecided about them.
— Laurence J. Peter: *Peter's Almanac* (1982)
- In the city of Denver, while I was vice-president [of the U.S., 1913–1921], a big husky policeman kept following me around until I asked him what he was doing. He said he was guarding my person. I said: “Your labor is in vain. Nobody was ever crazy enough to shoot at a vice-president. If you will go away and find somebody to shoot at me, I’ll go down in history as the first vice-president who ever attracted enough attention even to have a crank shoot at him.”
— Thomas R. Marshall: *Recollections of Thomas R. Marshall — A Hoosier Salad* (1925)
- A library is not worth anything without a catalogue — it is a Polyphemus without any eye in its head.
— Thomas Carlyle, testimony before the Commissioners Appointed to Inquire Into the Constitution and Government of the British Museum (1849–Feb)
- Raw in the fields the rude militia swarms,
Mouths without hands; maintain’d at vast expense,
In peace a charge, in war a weak defence.
— John Dryden: *Cumon and Iphigenia* (1699)
- Thought is deeper than all speech,
Feeling deeper than all thought:
Souls to souls can never teach
What unto themselves was taught.
— Christopher Pearse Cranch (1813–1892): *Gnosis*
- It was once said that democracy is the regime that stands or falls by virtue: a democracy is a regime in which all or most adults are men of virtue, and since virtue seems to require wisdom, a regime in which all or most adults are virtuous and wise, or the society in which all or most adults have developed their reason to a high degree, or the rational society. Democracy, in a word, is meant to be an aristocracy which has broadened into a universal aristocracy. ... Liberal education is the ladder by which we try to ascend from mass democracy to democracy as originally meant.
— Leo Strauss: “What is liberal education,” *Liberalism, Ancient and Modern* (1968)
- Nothing so easily persuades people of little sense as that which they cannot understand.
— Jean Cardinal Retz: *Conjuration de Fiesque* (1632)

- The grave is a very small hillock, but we can see farther from it, when standing on it, than from the highest mountain in all the world.
— August Tholuck (1799–1877), quoted in Josiah Hotchkiss Gilbert: *Dictionary of Burning Words of Brilliant Writers* (1895)
- Laws and institutions must go hand in hand with the progress of the human mind. As that becomes more developed, more enlightened, as new discoveries are made, new truths disclosed, and manners and opinions change with the change of circumstances, institutions must advance also, and keep pace with the times.
— Thomas Jefferson, letter to Samuel Kercheval (1816–Jul–12)
- The arts, in general, have need of a king. They glow only under the influence of the scepter. In free states they never shine save when liberty is declining.
— Joseph de Maistre: *Étude sur la souveraineté* (1794)
- Men are we, and must grieve when even the Shade
Of that which once was great is passed away.
— William Wordsworth (1770–1850): *On the extinction of the Venetian Republic*
- Only by not forgetting the past can we be the master of the future.
— Li Yaotang [李尧棠] (1904–2005), best known as Ba Jin [巴金], quoted in “Literary witness to century of turmoil,” *China Daily* (2003–Nov–24)
- Knowledge and liberty are so prevalent in this country, that I do not believe that the United States would ever be disposed to establish one religious sect, and lay all others under legal disabilities. But as we know not what may take place hereafter, and any such test would be exceedingly injurious to the rights of free citizens, I cannot think it altogether superfluous to have added a clause, which secures us from the possibility of such oppression.
— Oliver Wolcott, speech at Connecticut Ratifying Convention (1788–Jan–09)
- I fired him [General Douglas MacArthur] because he wouldn't respect the authority of the president. That's the answer to that. I didn't fire him because he was a dumb son of a bitch, although he was, but that's not against the law for generals. If it was, half to three-quarters of them would be in jail.
— Harry S. Truman, quoted in Merle Miller: *Plain Speaking — An Oral Biography of Harry S Truman* (1974)
- If you want to see your plays performed the way you wrote them, become President.
— Václav Havel, address to the Institute of Contemporary Arts, London; quoted in *The Independent*, London (1990–Mar–24)

- I used to say to our audiences: “It is difficult to get a man to understand something, when his salary depends upon his not understanding it!”
— Upton Sinclair: *I, Candidate for Governor — And How I Got Licked* (1935)
- You simply cannot invent any conspiracy theory so ridiculous and obviously satirical that some people somewhere don’t already believe it.
— Robert Anton Wilson: *Everything Is Under Control — Conspiracies, Cults, and Cover-Ups* (1998)
- The Constitution, in all its provisions, looks to an indestructible Union composed of indestructible States. When, therefore, Texas became one of the United States, she entered into an indissoluble relation. All the obligations of perpetual union, and all the guaranties of republican government in the Union, attached at once to the State. The act which consummated her admission into the Union was something more than a compact; it was the incorporation of a new member into the political body. And it was final. The union between Texas and the other States was as complete, as perpetual, and as indissoluble as the union between the original States. There was no place for reconsideration or revocation, except through revolution or through consent of the States.
— Salmon Chase, for the majority, *Texas v. White* [74 U.S. 700] (1868)
- Today’s comedian has a cross to bear that he built himself. A comedian of the older generation did an “act” and he told the audience, “This is my act.” Today’s comic is not doing an act. The audience assumes he’s telling the truth. What is truth today may be a damn lie next week.
— Lenny Bruce, quoted in *The Essential Lenny Bruce* (1967)
- The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired labor. The freedmen are advised to remain quietly at their present homes and work for wages. They are informed that they will not be allowed to collect at military posts and that they will not be supported in idleness either there or elsewhere.
— General Order No. 3, read to the people of Galveston, Texas, from the balcony of Ashton Villa by Maj-Gen. Gordon Granger (1865—June—19)
- The history of Western science confirms the aphorism that the great menace to progress is not ignorance but the illusion of knowledge.
— Daniel J. Boorstin: *Cleopatra’s Nose* (1995)

- Thirty dayes hath Nouember,
Aprill, June and September,
February hath xxviii alone,
And all the rest haue xxxi.
— Richard Grafton: *Chronicles of England* (1562)
- My Lord Tomnoddy is thirty-four;
The Earl can last but a few years more.
My Lord in the Peers will take his place:
Her Majesty's councils his words will grace.
Office he'll hold and patronage sway;
Fortunes and lives he will vote away;
And what are his qualifications?—ONE!
He's the Earl of Fitzdotterel's eldest son.
— Robert Barnabas Brough (1828–1860): *My Lord Tomnoddy*
- I don't preach a social gospel: I preach the Gospel, period. The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ is concerned for the whole person. When people were hungry, Jesus didn't say, "Now is that political or social?" He said, "I feed you." Because the good news to a hungry person is bread.
— Desmond Tutu, quoted in The Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America: *God's Mission in the World — An Ecumenical Christian Study Guide on Global Poverty and the Millennium Development Goals* (2006)
- They always say that time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself.
— Andy Warhol: *The Philosophy of Andy Warhol — From A to B and Back Again* (1975)
- The top 1 percent have the best houses, the best educations, the best doctors, and the best lifestyles, but there is one thing that money doesn't seem to have bought: an understanding that their fate is bound up with how the other 99 percent live. Throughout history, this is something that the top 1 percent eventually do learn. Too late.
— Joseph E. Stiglitz: "Of the 1%, by the 1%, for the 1%", *Vanity Fair*, (2011–May)
- In the early '60s, Marty [Allen] and I opened for Sinatra. I went to his dressing room. I said, "Frank. We're very nervous. Can you give us some advice?"
He said, "Yeah, kid. First: Do the best you can. Second: Give 'em all you got. Third and most important: Remember, they didn't come to see you in the first place."
— Steve Rossi [Joseph Charles Michael Tarafella] (1932–2014), in a 2011 interview with Kliph Nesteroff; quoted in *The New York Times* (2014–Jun–24)

- People who originally have no means but are ultimately able to earn a great deal through whatever talents they may possess, almost always come to think that these are permanent capital and that what they gain through them is interest. Accordingly, they do not put aside part of their earnings to form a permanent capital, but spend their money as fast as they earn it. But they are then often reduced to poverty because their earnings decrease or come to an end after their talent, which was of a transitory nature, is exhausted, as happens, for example, in the case of almost all the fine arts; or because it could be brought to bear only under a particular set of circumstances that has ceased to exist.
— Arthur Schopenhauer (1788–1860): *Parerga and Paralipomena* (1851); “Aphorismen zur Lebensweisheit [Aphorisms on the Wisdom of Life]”, trans., E. Payne (1974)
- All Fundamentalists are conservatives, but not all conservatives are Fundamentalists. The best conservatives can often give lessons to the liberals in true liberality of spirit, but the Fundamentalist program is essentially illiberal and intolerant.
— Harry Emerson Fosdick: “Shall the Fundamentalists Win?” in *Christian Work* #102 (1922–June–10)
- Deliberately and calculatedly, McCarthyism has set before itself the task of undermining the faith of the people in their Government. It has undertaken to sow suspicion everywhere, to set friend against friend and brother against brother. It deals in coercion and in intimidation, tying the hands of citizens and officials with the fear of the smear attack.
— Emanuel Celler (1888–1981), speech at the 1952 Democratic National Convention
- People in their right minds never take pride in their talents.
— Harper Lee: *To Kill a Mockingbird* (1960)
- All definite knowledge—so I should contend—belongs to science; all dogma as to what surpasses definite knowledge belongs to theology. But between theology and science there is a No Man’s Land, exposed to attack by both sides; this No Man’s Land is philosophy.
— Bertrand Arthur William Russell, 3rd Earl Russell (1872–1970): *A History of Western Philosophy*
- I wish to propose for the reader’s favourable consideration a doctrine which may, I fear, appear wildly paradoxical and subversive. The doctrine in question is this: that it is undesirable to believe a proposition when there is no ground whatever for supposing it true.
— Bertrand Russell: *Sceptical Essays* (1928)

- The essence of liberalism is an attempt to secure a social order not based on irrational dogma, and insuring stability without involving more restraints than are necessary for the preservation of the community.
— Bertrand Russell: *A History of Western Philosophy* (1945)
- Children are made to learn bits of Shakespeare by heart, with the result that ever after they associate him with pedantic boredom. If they could meet him in the flesh, full of jollity and ale, they would be astonished, and if they had never heard of him before they might be led by his jollity to see what he had written. But if at school they had been inoculated against him, they will never be able to enjoy him. The same sort of thing applies to music lessons. Human beings have certain capacities for spontaneous enjoyment, but moralists and pedants possess themselves of the apparatus of these enjoyments, and having extracted what they consider the poison of pleasure they leave them dreary and dismal and devoid of everything that gives them value. Shakespeare did not write with a view to boring school-children; he wrote with a view to delighting his audiences. If he does not give you delight, you had better ignore him.
— Bertrand Russell: *New Hopes for a Changing World* (1951)
- One of the painful things about our time is that those who feel certainty are stupid, and those with any imagination and understanding are filled with doubt and indecision.
— Bertrand Russell: *New Hopes for a Changing World* (1951)
- Most of us are not neutral in feeling, but, as human beings, we have to remember that, if the issues between East and West are to be decided in any manner that can give any possible satisfaction to anybody, whether Communist or anti-Communist, whether Asian or European or American, whether White or Black, then these issues must not be decided by war.
— Bertrand Russell, et al.: *The Russell-Einstein Manifesto* (1955)
- He asked my religion and I replied “agnostic.” He asked how to spell it, and remarked with a sigh: “Well, there are many religions, but I suppose they all worship the same God.” This remark kept me cheerful for about a week.
— Bertrand Russell: *The Autobiography of Bertrand Russell* (1967–1969)
- There are only two forces that can carry light to all corners of the globe — the sun in the heavens and the Associated Press.
— Samuel L. Clemens, speech in New York (1906–Sep–19)

- There exists in human nature a strong propensity to depreciate the advantages, and to magnify the evils, of the present times.
— Edward Gibbon (1737–1794): *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*
- That which distinguishes this day from all others is that then both orators and artillerymen shoot blank cartridges.
— John Burroughs: *Journal* (1859–Jul–4)
- Whenever the legislature attempts to regulate the differences between masters and their workmen, its counsellors are always the masters. When the regulation, therefore, is in favor of the workmen, it is always just and equitable; but it is sometimes otherwise when in favor of the masters.
— Adam Smith: *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations* (1776)
- We always wear a great big smile
We never do look sour
We travel all over the country
Playing by the hour
— Tommy Duncan & James Robert Wills: *Take Me Back To Tulsa* (1940)
- The only rule is, do what you really, impulsively, wish to do. But always act on your own responsibility, sincerely. And have the courage of your own strong emotion.
— D. H. Lawrence (1885–1930): *Fantasia of the Unconscious* (1922)
- No comment...



- [T]he supremacy of the national power in the general field of foreign affairs, including power over immigration, naturalization and deportation, is made clear by the Constitution, was pointed out by the authors of *The Federalist* in 1787, and has since been given continuous recognition by this Court. When the national government by treaty or statute has established rules and regulations touching the rights, privileges, obligations or burdens of aliens as such, the treaty or statute is the supreme law of the land. No state can add to or take from the force and effect of such treaty or statute, for Article 6 of the Constitution provides that “This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby, any Thing in the Constitution or Laws of any State to the Contrary notwithstanding.”
— Hugo L. Black, for the majority: *Hines v. Davidowitz*, 312 U.S. 52 (1941)
- [E]veryone knows they’re going to die, but no one really believes it.
— Spalding Gray (1941–2004): *And Everything Is Going Fine* [posthumous documentary, 2010]
- When I sing, I close my eyes. If I see a feather, everything is fine. Without this image in my mind, the sound is not ‘truthful’ enough and I must begin again. I have to. I first had this feeling, this instinct with *Phantom of the Opera* and since then have always listened to it.
— Sarah Brightman, notes in the CD booklet for *The Trees They Grow So High* (1988)
- We forbid any priest, secular or religious, to discuss in public any question dealing with legislation of a political nature or affecting candidates for political office.
— The Most Rev. John Gregory Murray (Roman Catholic archbishop of St. Paul, 1931–1956): letter to his clergy (1933–Mar–8)
- Born in iniquity and conceived in sin, the spirit of nationalism has never ceased to bend human institutions to the service of dissension and distress.
— Thorstein Veblen: *Absentee Ownership – Business Enterprise in Recent Times* (1923)
- A politician, for example, is a man who thinks of the next election; while the statesmen thinks of the next generation.
— James Freeman Clarke: “Wanted, a Statesman!”, *Old and New* magazine, Edward Everett Hale, ed. (1870–Dec)

- We need a little more compassion, and if we cannot have it then no politician or even a magician can save the planet.
— Tenzin Gyatso [14th Dalai Lama], as quoted in *Words Of Wisdom — Selected Quotes by His Holiness the Dalai Lama*, Margaret Gee, ed. (2001)
- Name a new Play, and he's the Poet's Friend,
Nay show'd his Faults--but when wou'd Poets mend?
No Place so Sacred from such Fops is barr'd,
Nor is Paul's Church more safe than Paul's Church-yard:
Nay, fly to Altars; there they'll talk you dead;
For Fools rush in where Angels fear to tread.
— Alexander Pope: *An Essay on Criticism* (1711)
- The poor are gettin' poorer, the rich are gettin' rich,
If I don't starve, I'm a son of a gun.
— American folk song "Cotton Mill Colic," as performed by Joe Sharp on Decca 5559 (1939)
- Lonely people keep up a ceaseless flow of commentary on themselves.
— Mason Cooley (1927–2002): *City Aphorisms* (1984)
- I straightway went into the baptismal font and called upon brother McCallister to baptize me for the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and fifty other eminent men, making one hundred in all, including John Wesley, Columbus, and others; I then baptized him for every President of the United States, except three; and when their cause is just, somebody will do the work for them.
— Wilford Woodruff (1807–1898): *Journal of Discourses* 19:229 (1877)
- While fame impedes and constricts, obscurity wraps about a man like a mist; obscurity is dark, ample, and free; obscurity lets the mind take its way unimpeded. Over the obscure man is poured the merciful suffusion of darkness. None knows where he goes or comes. He may seek the truth and speak it; he alone is free; he alone is truthful, he alone is at peace.
— Virginia Woolf: *Orlando—A Biography* (1928)
- I hear babies cryin'. I watch them grow.
They'll learn much more than I'll ever know
And I think to myself,
What a wonderful world.
— Bob Thiele ["George Douglas"] & George David Weiss: "What a Wonderful World" (1967)

- Iron rusts from disuse; stagnant water loses its purity and in cold weather becomes frozen; even so does inaction sap the vigour of the mind.
— Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519), in *Leonardo da Vinci's Notebooks* [trans., Edward McCurdy] (1906)
- What is exaggeration to one class of minds and perceptions, is plain truth to another. That which is commonly called a long-sight, perceives in a prospect innumerable features and bearings non-existent to a short-sighted person. I sometimes ask myself whether there may occasionally be a difference of this kind between some writers and some readers; whether it is ALWAYS the writer who colours highly, or whether it is now and then the reader whose eye for colour is a little dull?
— Charles Dickens: *Martin Chuzzlewit* [preface] (1844)
- If thou canst not make thine own self what thou desireth, how shalt thou be able to fashion another to thine own liking. We are ready to see others made perfect, and yet we do not amend our own shortcomings.
— Thomas à Kempis: *De Imitatione Christi [Imitation of Christ]* (ca. 1418) [trans., William Benham, 1886]
- It is not really strange, then, that some people call today's Radical Rightism anarchic, while others call it fascist. Neither term fits the complex actuality; and we have found none that does. Our current choice, till we find a better, is anarchic totalitarianism — which is self-contradictory enough to cover both the Rightists' fierce fierce objection to being controlled in any way and their readiness to control and coerce others by all expedient means.
— Harry & Bonaro Overstreet: *The Strange Tactics Of Extremism* (1964)
- To pass prohibitory laws to govern localities where the sentiment does not sustain them is simply equivalent to allowing free liquor, plus lawlessness.
— Theodore Roosevelt, letter to William Howard Taft (1908–Jul–16)
- Poverty, of course is no disgrace, but it is damned annoying.
— William Pitt the Younger (1759–1806), quoted in H. L. Mencken: *A New Dictionary of Quotations* (1942/1960)
- No thing vndir the sunne is newe...
— Anonymous: *Ecclesiastes [Koheleth]* (3rd century BCE?); from John Purvey's "Later Version" of John Wycliffe's translation (1394)
- My definition of a free society is a society where it is safe to be unpopular.
— Adlai E. Stevenson II, speech in Detroit, Michigan (1952–Oct–7)

- The work of a director can be summed up in two very simple words. Why and How.
— Peter Brook: “Forward” in Gabriella Giannachi: *On Directing* (1999)
- The moment a little boy is concerned with which is a jay and which is a sparrow, he can no longer see the birds or hear them sing.
— Eric Berne: *Games People Play — The Psychology of Human Relations* (1964)
- There is nothing more regenerating than music.
— Epifanio de los Santos y Cristóbal, sometimes known as Don Pañong (1871–1928), quoted in *Philippine Free Press* (1928–Apr–28)
- Political extremism involves two prime ingredients: an excessively simple diagnosis of the world’s ills, and a conviction that there are identifiable villains back of it all.
— John W. Gardner: “A Nation Is Never Finished” in *ABA Journal* (1967–November)
- If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and never will be.
— Thomas Jefferson, letter to Colonel Charles Yancey (1816–Jan–06)
- The central idea is that government fiscal policy, its spending and taxing, its borrowing and repayment of loans, its issue of new money and withdrawal of money, shall be undertaken with an eye only to the results of these actions on the economy and not to any established traditional doctrine what is sound and what is unsound... Government should adjust its rates of expenditure and taxation such that total spending is neither more or less than that which is sufficient to purchase the full employment level of output at current prices. If this means there is deficit, greater borrowing, “printing money,” etc., then these things in themselves are neither good or bad, they are simply the means to the desired ends of full employment and price stability.
— Abba Ptachya Lerner: *On Functional Finance* (1943)
- Gestern liebt’ ich,
Heute leid’ ich,
Morgen sterb’ ich:
Dennoch denk’ ich
Heut und morgen
Gern an gestern.
[Yesterday I loved, today I suffer, tomorrow I die; I still think fondly, today and tomorrow, of yesterday.]
— Gotthold Ephraim Lessing: *Lied aus dem Spanischen* (1780)

- Tout ce que nous connaissons de grand nous vient des nerveux. Ce sont eux et non pas d'autres qui ont fondé les religions et composé les chefs-d'œuvre.
[Everything great in the world comes from neurotics. They alone have founded our religions and composed our masterpieces.]
— Valentin-Louis-Georges-Eugène-Marcel Proust: *À la recherche du temps perdu [In Search of Lost Time, or, Remembrance of Things Past]*, vol. III “Le Côté de Guermantes [The Guermantes Way]” (1920) [trans., C. K. Scott-Moncrieff]
- It is the great glory of the quest for human knowledge that, while making some small contribution to that quest, we can also continue to learn and to take pleasure in learning.
— William A. 'Willie' Fowler, speech at the Nobel banquet (1983–Dec–10)
- Were I called upon to decide whether the people had best be omitted in the Legislative or Judiciary department, I would say it is better to leave them out of the Legislative. The execution of the laws is more important than the making of them.
— Thomas Jefferson, letter to the Abbé Arnoux (1789) in *The Papers of Thomas Jefferson* (Princeton University Press, 1958)
- Just as the wave cannot exist for itself, but is ever a part of the heaving surface of the ocean, so must I never live my life for itself, but always in the experience which is going on around me. It is an uncomfortable doctrine which the true ethics whisper into my ear. You are happy, they say; therefore you are called upon to give much.
— Albert Schweitzer (1875–1965): *Kulturphilosophie* (1923) [trans., C. T. Campion: *Philosophy of Civilisation* (1949)]
- Every two years the American politics industry fills the airwaves with the most virulent, scurrilous, wall-to-wall character assassination of nearly every political practitioner in the country — and then declares itself puzzled that America has lost trust in its politicians.
— Charles Krauthammer, quoted in Cal Thomas and Bob Beckel: *Common Ground — How to Stop the Partisan War that is Destroying America* (2007)
- If we keep on with business as usual, the Earth will be warmed more every year; drought and floods will be endemic; many more cities, provinces, and whole nations will be submerged beneath the waves — unless heroic worldwide engineering countermeasures are taken. In the longer run, still more dire consequences may follow, including the collapse of the West Antarctic ice sheet, and the inundation of almost all the coastal cities on the planet.
— Carl Sagan: *Billions and Billions — Thoughts on Life and Death at the Brink of the Millenium* (1997)

- If all the ways I have been along were marked on a map and joined up with a line, it might represent a minotaur.
— Pablo Picasso (1881–1973), quoted in Romuald Dor de la Souchère: *Picasso in Antibes* (1960)
- People say that what we're all seeking is a meaning for life. I don't think that's what we're really seeking. I think what we're seeking is an experience of being alive, so that our life experiences on the purely physical plane will have resonance within our own innermost being and reality, so that we actually feel the rapture of being alive. That's what it's all finally about.
— Joseph Campbell: *Joseph Campbell and The Power of Myth with Bill Moyers* (PBS, 2001)
- We are rapidly entering the age of no privacy, where everyone is open to surveillance at all times; where there are no secrets from government. The aggressive breaches of privacy by the Government increase by geometric proportions.
— William O. Douglas, dissenting: *Osborn v. United States*, 385 U.S. 341 (1966)
- The fellow who is able to get the grants and contracts is the fellow who gets the doctoral students. Each student publishes two or three papers on his thesis, in each of which he cites his professor's work. Then he goes on and does his own subsequent work, in which, of course, he cites those thesis papers which were coauthorised by his professor.
— Robert Machol: "Now it is to be cited or perish" in *New Scientist* (1974–Aug–28)
- It is a very rare thing for a man of talent to succeed by his talent.
— Joseph Roux, *Pensées [Meditations of a Parish Priest]*, trans. Florence Hapgood] (1886)
- All Wars are Follies, very expensive, and very mischievous ones. When will Mankind be convinced of this, and agree to settle their Differences by Arbitration? Were they to do it, even by the Cast of a Dye, it would be better than by Fighting and destroying each other.
— Benjamin Franklin, letter to Mary Hewson (1783–Jan–27)
- As a result of a thousand million years of evolution, the universe is becoming conscious of itself, able to understand something of its past history and its possible future. This cosmic self-awareness is being realized in one tiny fragment of the universe — in a few of us human beings. Perhaps it has been realized elsewhere too, through the evolution of conscious living creatures on the planets of other stars. But on this our planet, it has never happened before.
— Julian Huxley: *Transhumanism* (1957)
- Governments need armies to protect them against their enslaved and oppressed subjects.
— Leo Tolstoy: *The Kingdom of God Is Within You* (1893)

- The ambition of the greatest men of our generation has been to wipe every tear from every eye. That may be beyond us, but so long as there are tears and suffering, so long our work will not be over.
— Jawaharlal Nehru, speech in the Constituent Assembly of India (1947—Aug—14)
- The business world is about business, about customers. It is interesting, but discussions with artists give a different view of life. The world of going out and discovering art is so much more fun.
— Joop van Caldenborgh, quoted in *The New York Times* (2014—Aug—14)
- What is scarce is money. The lack of money to spend on goods is what keeps the unemployed resources from producing more goods. Work, moreover, instead of being a curse, is desired more than anything else because the alternative is not enjoyment of leisure but the suffering of unemployment and deprivation. Of course, if people could get income without they would not object too much (although their self-respect in feeling they are useful members in society who are earning their income is too easily underestimated). But it is only by finding work they can obtain the necessary income they need.
— Abba Ptachya Lerner: *On The Causes Of Unemployment* (1951)
- [W]e often observe that there is abundance of capital to be had at low rates of interest, while there are also large numbers of artisans starving for want of employment.
— William Stanley Jevons: *The Theory of Political Economy* (1871; 2nd ed., 1879)
- Take the initiative. Go to work, and above all co-operate and don't hold back on one another or try to gain at the expense of another. Any success in such lopsidedness will be increasingly short-lived. These are the synergetic rules that evolution is employing and trying to make clear to us. They are not man-made laws. They are the infinitely accommodative laws of the intellectual integrity governing universe.
— Buckminster Fuller: *Operating Manual for Spaceship Earth* (1963)
- We must get the American public to look past the glitter, beyond the showmanship, to the reality, the hard substance of things. And we'll do it not so much with speeches that sound good as with speeches that are good and sound; not so much with speeches that will bring people to their feet as with speeches that will bring people to their senses.
— Mario Cuomo: Democratic National Convention Keynote Address (1984—Jul—16)
- There can be no greater error than to expect or calculate upon real favors from nation to nation. It is an illusion, which experience must cure, which a just pride ought to discard.
— George Washington: "Farewell Address," *American Daily Advertiser* [Philadelphia] (1796—Sep—19)

- You look up and down the bench and you have to say to yourself, “Can’t anybody here play this game?” There comes a time in every man’s life and I’ve had plenty of them.
— attributed to Casey Stengel at caseystengel <dot> com/quotes_by <dot> htm
- The development of the doctrine of international arbitration, considered from the standpoint of its ultimate benefits to the human race, is the most vital movement of modern times. In its relation to the well-being of the men and women of this and ensuing generations, it exceeds in importance the proper solution of various economic problems which are constant themes of legislative discussion or enactment.
— William Howard Taft: “Dawn of World Peace,” *U. S. Bureau of Education Bulletin, No. 8*. (1912)
- Shun not the mead, but drink in measure;
Speak to the point or be still;
For rudeness none shall rightly blame thee
If soon thy bed thou seekest.
— Anon. (13th cent. CE): “Hovamol” in *The Poetic Edda* (a/k/a the Elder Edda (trans., Henry Adams Bellows, 1936)
- There’s class warfare, all right, but it’s my class, the rich class, that’s making war, and we’re winning.
— Warren Buffett, quoted in Ben Stein: “In Class Warfare, Guess Which Class Is Winning,” *The New York Times* (2006—Nov—26)
- It is the relentless onward march of the texters, the SMS (Short Message Service) vandals who are doing to our language what Genghis Khan did to his neighbours 800 years ago. They are destroying it: pillaging our punctuation; savaging our sentences; raping our vocabulary. And they must be stopped.
— John Humphrys: “I h8 txt msgs: How texting is wrecking our language,” *The Daily Mail* (2007—Sep—24)
- We dissect nature along lines laid down by our native language. Language is not simply a reporting device for experience but a defining framework for it.
— B. L. Whorf and John B. Carroll (ed.): *Language, Thought and Reality — Selected Writings of Benjamin Lee Whorf* (1956)
- The reasonable man adapts himself to the world: the unreasonable one persists in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore all progress depends on the unreasonable man.
— George Bernard Shaw (1856—1950), quoted in Stanley Marcus: *Quest for the Best* (1979)

- When I speak of reason or rationalism, all I mean is the conviction that we can learn through criticism of our mistakes and errors, especially through criticism by others, and eventually also through self-criticism. A rationalist is simply someone for whom it is more important to learn than to be proved right; someone who is willing to learn from others — not by simply taking over another’s opinions, but by gladly allowing others to criticize his ideas and by gladly criticizing the ideas of others. The emphasis here is on the idea of criticism or, to be more precise, critical discussion. The genuine rationalist does not think that he or anyone else is in possession of the truth; nor does he think that mere criticism as such helps us achieve new ideas. But he does think that, in the sphere of ideas, only critical discussion can help us sort the wheat from the chaff. He is well aware that acceptance or rejection of an idea is never a purely rational matter; but he thinks that only critical discussion can give us the maturity to see an idea from more and more sides and to make a correct judgment of it.

— Karl Popper: “On Freedom” (1958; 1967); essay republished in *Alles Leben ist Problemlösen* (1994) [*All Life is Problem Solving*, trans. by Patrick Camiller] (1994)
- Because of the Turing completeness theory, everything one Turing-complete language can do can theoretically be done by another Turing-complete language, but at a different cost. You can do everything in assembler, but no one wants to program in assembler anymore.

— Yukihiro Matsumoto, quoted in Bill Venner: *The Philosophy of Ruby — A Conversation with Yukihiro Matsumoto, Part I* (2003)
- A foreign policy aimed at the achievement of total security is the one thing I can think of that is entirely capable of bringing this country to a point where it will have no security at all. And a ruthless, reckless insistence on attempting to stamp out everything that could conceivably constitute a reflection of improper foreign influence in our national life, regardless of the actual damage it is doing to the cost of eliminating it, in terms of other American values, is the one thing I can think of that should reduce us all to a point where the very independence we are seeking to defend would be meaningless, for we would be doing things to ourselves as vicious and tyrannical as any that might be brought to us from outside.

— George F. Kennan: Radcliffe Commencement Address (1954—Jun—16), published as “The Illusion of Total Security” in *The Atlantic Monthly* (1954—Aug)
- The violent have been victorious for most of history because they kindled the fear with which everyone is born.

— Theodore Zeldin: *An Intimate History of Humanity* (1994)

- Quemad viejos leños, leed viejos libros, bebed viejos vinos, tened viejos amigos.
[Burn old wood, read old books, drink old wines, have old friends.]
— Alfonso X, King of Galicia, Castile and León (1221–1284), as quoted in *Aire puro para el amor y la amistad* Betancourt, Luis Fernando 7a. reim., p. 165
- Tragedy is when I cut my finger. Comedy is when you fall into an open sewer and die.
— Mel Brooks: *The 2,000 Year Old Man* (1961)
- It's not the microwave that's the problem, it's what people put into them. I know people lead busy lives but they should try to sit their children down at the table once a week and cook them simple food.
— Raymond Blanc, quoted in the *Daily Telegraph* (2001–Oct–02)
- The City Council of Baltimore is taking steps to prevent trapeze performances in that city.
— “Current Notes,” *The New York Times* (1870–Feb–25)
- The ability of so many people to live comfortably with the idea of capital punishment is perhaps a clue to how so many Europeans were able to live with the idea of the Holocaust: Once you accept the notion that the state has the right to kill someone and the right to define what is a capital crime, aren't you halfway there?
— Roger Ebert: “Mr. Death — The Rise And Fall Of Fred A. Leuchter, Jr.”, *Chicago Sun-Times*, (2000–Feb–04)
- The difference between patriotism and nationalism is that the patriot is proud of his country for what it does, and the nationalist is proud of his country no matter what it does; the first attitude creates a feeling of responsibility, but the second a feeling of blind arrogance that leads to war.
— Sydney J. Harris: *Strictly Personal* (1953)
- If there is one law for the Government and another for its subjects, one for noble and another for commoner, one for rich and another for poor, the law does not guarantee liberty for all.
— Leonard Trelawny Hobhouse: *Liberalism* (1911)
- Many years ago a very wise man named Bernard Baruch took me aside and put his arm around my shoulder. “Harpo my boy,” he said, “I'm going to give you three pieces of advice, three things you should always remember.” My heart jumped and I glowed with expectation. I was going to hear the magic password to a rich, full life from the master himself. “Yes sir?” I said. And he told me the three things. I regret that I've forgotten what they were.
— Harpo Marx: *Harpo Speaks* (1961)

- Every American citizen must have an equal right to vote. There is no reason which can excuse the denial of that right. There is no duty which weighs more heavily on us than the duty we have to ensure that right.
— Lyndon B. Johnson, Voting Rights Act Address, Washington, DC (1965–Mar–15)
- Be a craftsman in speech that thou mayest be strong, for the strength of one is the tongue, and speech is mightier than all fighting.
— Ptahhotep: *The Maxims of Ptahhotep* (ca. 2350 BC)
- But what do we mean by the American Revolution? Do we mean the American war? The Revolution was effected before the war commenced. The Revolution was in the minds and hearts of the people; a change in their religious sentiments of their duties and obligations.
— John Adams, letter to Hezekiah Niles (1818–Feb–13)
- Anyway, I have to argue about flying saucers on the beach with people, you know. And I was interested in this: they keep arguing that it is possible. And that's true. It is possible. They do not appreciate that the problem is not to demonstrate whether it's possible or not but whether it's going on or not.
— Richard Feynman: *The Meaning of It All—Thoughts of a Citizen Scientist* (1998)
- People cited violation of the First Amendment when a New Jersey schoolteacher asserted that evolution and the Big Bang are not scientific and that Noah's ark carried dinosaurs. This case is not about the need to separate church and state; it's about the need to separate ignorant, scientifically illiterate people from the ranks of teachers.
— Neil deGrasse Tyson, letter to the editor, *The New York Times* (2006–Dec–21)
- ...el respeto al derecho ajeno es la paz.
[Peace is respect for the rights of others.]
— Benito Juárez (1806–1872), statement inscribed on the State Flag of Oaxaca
- I believe quite simply that the small company of the future will be as much a research organization as it is a manufacturing company, and that this new company is the frontier for the next generation.
— Edwin H. Land: "Research by the Business Itself" in *The Future of Industrial Research — Papers and Discussion*, ed. Thomas Midgley (1945)
- Don't worry about people stealing an idea. If it's original, you will have to ram it down their throats.
— Howard H. Aiken (1900–1973), quoted in Robert Slater: *Portraits in Silicon* (1987)

- American wheat, sold in Europe at lower prices than the domestic product, brought on a crisis in European peasant agriculture, sending a migrant stream of ruined peasants to seek new sources of livelihood in the burgeoning Americas. Ironically many of them made the journey westward on the same ships that carried to Europe the wheat that proved their undoing.
— Eric Wolf (1923–1999): *Europe and the People Without History*
- Self-destructive addiction is merely the medium for desperate people to internalize their frustration, resistance, and powerlessness. In other words, we can safely ignore the drug hysteria that periodically sweeps through the United States. Instead we should focus our ethical concerns and political energies on the contradictions posed by the persistence of inner-city poverty in the midst of extraordinary opulence. In the same vein, we need to recognize and dismantle the class- and ethnic-based apartheid that riddle the U.S. landscape.
— Philippe Bourgois: *In Search of Respect — Selling Crack in El Barrio* (1995)
- No person, demeaning himself in a peaceable and orderly manner, shall ever be molested on account of his mode of worship or religious sentiments, in the said territory.
— Northwest Ordinance, Art. I (agreed to by Congress, 1787–Jul–13)
- ¿Qué es la vida? Un frenesí.
¿Qué es la vida? Una ilusión,
una sombra, una ficción,
y el mayor bien es pequeño;
que toda la vida es sueño,
y los sueños, sueños son.
[What is life? A madness. What is life? An illusion, a shadow, a story. And the greatest good is little enough: for all life is a dream, and dreams themselves are only dreams.]
— Pedro Calderón de la Barca (1600–1681): *Segismundo*
- The history of mankind is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations on the part of man toward woman, having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over her.
— Declaration of Sentiments, set forth by the First Woman’s Rights Convention, Seneca Falls, NY (1848–Jul–20)
- The mortal enemies of man are not his fellows of another continent or race; they are the aspects of the physical world which limit or challenge his control, the disease germs that attack him and his domesticated plants and animals, and the insects that carry many of these germs as well as working notable direct injury. This is not the age of man, however great his superiority in size and intelligence; it is literally the age of insects.
— Warder Clyde Allee (1885–1955): *The Social Life of Animals* (1938)

- Expect of the young the very best of which they are capable, and you will get it. Expect less, and it is only too likely that you will get no more than you expect.
— Bertrand Russell: “On National Greatness,” *Mortals and Others* (1935)
- Paranoia strikes deep
Into your life it will creep
It starts when you're always afraid
Step out of line, the man come and take you away
— Stephen Stills: *For What It's Worth* (1966) [Recorded by Buffalo Springfield]
- Silence, according to western and eastern tradition alike, is necessary for the emergence of persons. It is taken from us by machines that ape people. We could easily be made increasingly dependent on machines for speaking and for thinking, as we are already dependent on machines for moving.
— Ivan Illich: “Silence is a Commons” (1982), in *The CoEvolution Quarterly* (1983–Winter)
- There is a strange kind of tragic enigma associated with the problem of racism. No one, or almost no one, wishes to see themselves as racist; still racism persists, real and tenacious.
—Albert Memmi: *Racism* (1982)
- You are never dedicated to something you have complete confidence in. No one is fanatically shouting that the sun is going to rise tomorrow. They know it's going to rise tomorrow. When people are fanatically dedicated to political or religious faiths or any other kinds of dogmas or goals, it's always because these dogmas or goals are in doubt.
— Robert M. Pirsig: *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* (1974)
- “Order some golf shoes,” I whispered. “Otherwise, we'll never get out of this place alive...”
— Hunter S. Thompson: *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* (1971)
- The length of a film should be directly related to the endurance of the human bladder.
— Alfred Hitchcock, quoted in Dana Ullman (1951–): *The One-minute (or So) Healer — 500 Simple Ways to Heal Yourself Naturally*
- Under the production model Mr. Chase and Mr. Capalbo negotiated with Actors' Equity, actors hired for [the 1954 Off-Broadway production of] *The Threepenny Opera* received \$5 a week for rehearsals and \$25 a week for performances. The pay scale inspired turnover.
— Paul Vitello: “Stanley Chase Dies at 87; Gave New York Macheath,” *The New York Times* (2014–Oct–14)

- Tolerance is not only the acceptance that people, as diverse they may be, have the right to be as they are and to live in peace together. Tolerance — in the context of business — is also the recognition that to get what you want, you have to give something in return.
— The Begum Aga Khan [a/k/a Her Highness Princess Gabriele Inaara Begum Aga Khan], speech to the European Parliament, International Business and Leadership Symposium, Brussels (2006—Nov—10)
- 'Practice makes perfect' is bullshit. Only perfect practice makes perfect.
— Ron Barassi, Jr., quoted in John Powers: *The Coach* (1977)
- Plainly the central idea of secession is the essence of anarchy. A majority held in restraint by constitutional checks and limitations, and always changing easily with deliberate changes of popular opinions and sentiments, is the only true sovereign of a free people. Whoever rejects it does of necessity fly to anarchy or to despotism.
— Abraham Lincoln, first inaugural address (1861—Mar—04)
- Never do today what intuition says to do tomorrow.
— Florence Scovel Shinn: *Your Word Is Your Wand* (1928)
- The best way to get the better of temptation is just to yield to it.
— Clementina Stirling Graham (1782—1877): *Mystifications* (1859)
- It is impossible to calculate the moral mischief, if I may so express it, that mental lying has produced in society. When a man has so far corrupted and prostituted the chastity of his mind, as to subscribe his professional belief to things he does not believe, he has prepared himself for the commission of every other crime.
— Thomas Paine: *The Age of Reason* (1793)
- A conference is a gathering of important people who singly can do nothing but together can decide that nothing can be done.
— Fred Allen, letter to William McChesney Martin, Jr. (1940—Jan—25)
- Beneath the blossoms with a pot of wine,
No friends at hand, so I poured alone;
I raised my cup to invite the moon,
Turned to my shadow, and we became three.
— Li Po (701—762): *Drinking Alone In The Midnight* [trans., Elling Eide]
- Americans are conservative. What they want to conserve is the New Deal.
— George F. Will, quoted in Lou Cannon: *President Reagan — The Role of a Lifetime* (1991)

- No government has the right to decide on the truth of scientific principles, nor to prescribe in any way the character of the questions investigated. Neither may a government determine the aesthetic value of artistic creations, nor limit the forms of literacy or artistic expression. Nor should it pronounce on the validity of economic, historic, religious, or philosophical doctrines. Instead it has a duty to its citizens to maintain the freedom, to let those citizens contribute to the further adventure and the development of the human race.
— Richard Feynman: “The Uncertainty of Values” in *The Meaning of It All — Thoughts of a Citizen Scientist* (1999)
- Music is the outward and audible signification of inward and spiritual realities.
— Peter Warlock [Philip Arnold Heseltine], ed., in *The Sackbut* (1920)
- Some people say I ought not to talk so much about the Republican 80th “do-nothing” Congress in this campaign. I will tell you why I will talk about it. If two-thirds of the people stay at home again on election day as they did in 1946, and if we get another Republican Congress like the 80th Congress, it will be controlled by the same men who controlled that 80th Congress--the Tabers and the Tafts, the Martins and the Hallecks-- would be the bosses. The same men would be the bosses, the same as those who passed the Taft-Hartley Act, and passed the rich man’s tax bill, and took Social Security away from a million workers. Do you want that kind of administration? I don’t believe you do — I don’t believe you do.
— Harry S Truman, speech in Elizabeth, New Jersey (1948—Oct—7)
- The attitude above all others which I feel sure is no longer valid is the arrogance of power, the tendency of great nations to equate power with virtue and major responsibilities with a universal mission.
— J. William Fulbright: *The Arrogance of Power* (1967)
- “Vous me voyez là, madame, honnête homme, de cinq pieds et neuf pouces.”
“Madame est persuadée de vos cinq pieds, mais elle n’est pas si sûre de vos neuf pouces.”
— Harriette Wilson: *Memoirs* (1825)
- When I die, my epitaph should read, “She Paid the Bills.” That’s the story of my life.
— Gloria Swanson, quoted in *Saturday Evening Post* (1950—Jul—22)
- It can hardly be a coincidence that no language on Earth has ever produced the expression “as pretty as an airport.”
— Douglas Adams: *The Long Dark Tea-Time of the Soul* (1988)

- If work was a good thing the rich would have it all and not let you do it.
— Elmore Leonard: *Split Images* (1981)
- There is no limit to what a man can do so long as he does not care a straw who gets the credit for it.
— Charles Edward Montague: *Disenchantment* (1922)
- There's nothing surer,
The rich get rich and the poor get children,
In the meantime,
In between time,
Ain't we got fun?
—Gus Kahn & Raymond B. Egan: *Ain't We Got Fun?* (1920) [Music by Richard A. Whiting]
- All of us share this world for but a brief moment in time. The question is whether we spend that time focused on what pushes us apart, or whether we commit ourselves to an effort — a sustained effort — to find common ground, to focus on the future we seek for our children, and to respect the dignity of all human beings.
— Barack Obama, speech “A New Beginning” delivered at Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt (2009–Jun–04)
- If I owned hell and Texas, I would rent Texas and live at the other place!
— Gen. Philip Henry Sheridan (1831–1888), quoted in *Wisconsin State Register* (1866–Apr–14)
- At a very early stage I realised that it's a real problem to perform electronic music on stage because electronic instruments are not particularly convincing on a visual point of view: somebody behind his computer, it's not particularly visual. So I was inspired by the opera. And what was the opera in the 19th century? It was the idea for a musician to join and to work, to collaborate with a stage director, with carpenters, painters, people doing decors, graphic artists to have a visual prolongation, a visual correspondence to their work. That's what I tried to do with the tools of my generation: electronics and video and lights and all that.
— Jean-Michel Jarre, interviewed on the Danish *Monitor* radio program (2005–Nov–30)
- Qui se sibi magistrum constituit, stulto se discipulum subdit.
[He that will teach himself in school, becomes a scholar to a fool.]
Bernard of Clairvaux (1090–1153): Epistola LXXXVII, sect. 7 [trans. from *Notes and Queries*, 3rd series, vol. 11, p. 192]

- Do you think that mere words are strategy and power for war?
— 2 Kings 18:20; also, Isaiah 36:5 [English Standard Version]
- A specialist is a man who knows more and more about less and less.
— William J. Mayo, quoted in *Reader's Digest* (1927–Nov)
- Each morning sees some task begin,
Each evening sees it close;
Something attempted, something done,
Has earned a night's repose.
— Henry Wadsworth Longfellow: *The Village Blacksmith* (1839)
- Whoever could make two Ears of Corn, or two Blades of Grass to grow upon a Spot of Ground where only one grew before; would deserve better of Mankind, and do more essential Service to his Country, than the whole Race of Politicians put together.
— Jonathan Swift: "A Voyage to Brobdingnag," *Gulliver's Travels* (1726)
- It may be that when the angels go about their task praising God, they play only Bach. I am sure, however, that when they are together en famille, they play Mozart.
— Karl Barth: *Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart* (1956) [trans., Clarence K. Pott]
- Let me recommend to you the practice of always verifying your references, sir.
— Martin Joseph Routh (1755–1854), quoted in John W. Burgon: *The Last Twelve Verses of the Gospel According To S. Mark* (1851)
- Somebody once said that Washington was a city of Northern charm and Southern efficiency.
— John F. Kennedy, remarks to trustees and advisory committee of national cultural center (1961–Nov–14)
- Error is not a mere accident of an untrained intellect, but a necessary stage or feature or moment of the expression of the truth.
— Josiah Royce: *Lectures on Modern Idealism* (1919)
- Say not you know another entirely, till you have divided an inheritance with him.
— Johann Kaspar Lavater: *Aphorisms on Man* (ca. 1788)
- I know that you believe that you understood what you think I said, but I am not sure you realize that what you heard is not what I meant.
— Robert McCloskey, remark at a State Department press briefing during the Vietnam war, quoted in *TV Guide* (1984–Mar–31)

- I must confess that I am unable to appreciate the merits of Confucius. His writings are largely occupied with trivial points of etiquette, and his main concern is to teach people how to behave correctly on various occasions. When one compares him, however, with the traditional religious teachers of some other ages and races, one must admit that he has great merits, even if they are mainly negative. His system, as developed by his followers, is one of pure ethics, without religious dogma; it has not given rise to a powerful priesthood, and it has not led to persecution. It certainly has succeeded in producing a whole nation possessed of exquisite manners and perfect courtesy. Nor is Chinese courtesy merely conventional; it is quite as reliable in situations for which no precedent has been provided. And it is not confined to one class; it exists even in the humblest coolie. It is humiliating to watch the brutal insolence of white men received by the Chinese with a quiet dignity which cannot demean itself to answer rudeness with rudeness. Europeans often regard this as weakness, but it is really strength, the strength by which the Chinese have hitherto conquered all their conquerors.
— Bertrand Russell: *The Problem of China* (1922)
- I was born into it [wealth] and there was nothing I could do about it. It was there, like air or food or any other element. The only question with wealth is what to do with it. It can be used for evil purposes or it can be an instrumentality for constructive social living.
— John D. Rockefeller, Jr., quoted in Raymond Blaine Fosdick: *John D. Rockefeller, Jr — A Portrait* (1956)
- Given enough eyeballs, all bugs are shallow.
— Eric S. Raymond: *The Cathedral and the Bazaar* (1997)
- Alas, irreverence has been subsumed by mere grossness, at least in the so-called mass media. What we have now—to quote myself at my most pretentious—is a nimity of scurrility with a concomitant exiguity of taste. For example, the freedom (hooray!) to say almost anything you want on television about society’s problems has been co-opted (alas!) by the freedom to talk instead about flatulence, orgasms, genitalia, masturbation, etc., etc., and to replace real comment with pop-culture references and so-called “adult” language. Irreverence is easy—what’s hard is wit.
— Tom Lehrer: Rhino Records online chat (1997–June–17)
- Cats seem to go on the principle that it never does any harm to ask for what you want.
— Joseph Wood Krutch: *The Twelve Seasons — A Perpetual Calendar for the Country* (1949)
- If more politicians knew poetry, and more poets knew politics, I am convinced the world would be a little better place in which to live.
— John F. Kennedy, remarks at Harvard University (1956–June–14)

- The wisest thing to do with a fool is to encourage him to hire a hall and discourse to his fellow-citizens. Nothing chills nonsense like exposure to the air.
— Woodrow Wilson: *Constitutional Government in the United States* (1908)
- A democracy cannot function effectively when its constituent members believe laws are being bought and sold.
— John Paul Stevens, dissenting: *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, 558 U.S. ____ (2010) (Docket No. 08-205)
- They (corporations) cannot commit treason, nor be outlawed nor excommunicate, for they have no souls.
— Edward Coke (1552–1634): *Case of Sutton’s Hospital*, 10 Rep. 32.; 77 Eng Rep 960, 973 (K.B. 1612)
- Teaching is successful only as it causes people to think for themselves. What the teacher thinks matters little; what he makes the child think matters much.
— Alice Moore Hubbard: *Life Lessons – Truths Concerning People Who Have Lived* (1909)
- I’d like to thank everyone who made this day necessary.
— Yogi Berra, remarks, Yogi Berra Day, St. Louis, Missouri (1947); quoted in Berra: *The Yogi Book* (1998)
- There are only four ways in which a ruling class can fall from power. Either it is conquered from without, or it governs so inefficiently that the masses are stirred to revolt, or it allows a strong and discontented Middle Group to come into being, or it loses its own self-confidence and willingness to govern. These causes do not operate singly, and as a rule all four of them are present in some degree. A ruling class which could guard against all of them would remain in power permanently. Ultimately the determining factor is the mental attitude of the ruling class itself.
— Eric Arthur Blair [‘George Orwell’]: *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (1948)
- No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.
— Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Art. 12 (adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, 1948–Dec–10)
- Humility is the most difficult of all virtues to achieve; nothing dies harder than the desire to think well of oneself.
— T. S. Eliot: *Shakespeare and the Stoicism of Seneca* (1927)

- His Majesty’s Government view with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavors to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country.
— Arthur James Balfour, letter to Lionel Walter, Lord Rothschild (1917–Nov–2) [known as the “Balfour Declaration”]
- Age, n. That period of life in which we compound for the vices that remain by reviling those that we have no longer the vigor to commit.
— Ambrose Bierce: *The Cynic’s Word Book* (1906)
- The most potent weapon in the hands of the oppressor is the mind of the oppressed.
— Stephen Biko: *White Racism and Black Consciousness* (1971)
- Freedom for the pike is death for the minnow.
— R. H. Tawney: *Equality* (1931)
- When a man tells you that he got rich through hard work, ask him: “Whose?”
— Don Marquis (1878–1937), quoted in Edward Anthony: *O Rare Don Marquis* (1962)
- Si te dan papel rayado, escribe de través.
[If they give you ruled paper, write the other way.]
— Juan Ramón Jiménez: *España* (1920–Nov–20)
- We enact many laws that manufacture criminals, and then a few that punish them.
— Benjamin R. Tucker, address to Unitarian Ministers’ Institute, Salem MA (1890–Oct–14)
- The more laws and orders are made prominent,
The more thieves and bandits there will be.
— Lao Tzu (ca. 604–ca. 531 BCE): *Tao-te Ching* (trans., Wing-Tsit Chan)
- When I first went into the movies Lionel Barrymore played my grandfather. Later he played my father and finally he played my husband. If he had lived, I’m sure I would have played his mother. That’s the way it is in Hollywood. The men get younger and the women get older.
— Lillian Gish (1896–1993), quoted in Abby Adams: *An Uncommon Scold* (1989)
- A man hath no better thing under the sun, than to eat, and to drink, and to be merry.
— Ecclesiastes 8:15 [KJV]

- Salus populi suprema est lex.
[The good of the people is the supreme law.]
— Marcus Tullius Cicero (106 BCE–43 BCE): *De legibus*
- I know it is the fashion to say that most of recorded history is lies anyway. I am willing to believe that history is for the most part inaccurate and biased, but what is peculiar to our own age is the abandonment of the idea that history *could* be truthfully written.
— George Orwell [Eric Blair]: *Looking Back on the Spanish War* (1942)
- For my part, I consider that it will be found much better by all Parties to leave the past to history, especially as I propose to write that history myself.
— Winston Churchill, speech in House of Commons (1948–Jan–23)
- In my youth... there were certain words you couldn't say in front of a girl; now you can say them, but you can't say "girl."
— Tom Lehrer, quoted in *Washington Post* (1982–Jan–03)
- As I grow older and older
And totter towards the tomb,
I find that I care less and less
Who goes to bed with whom.
— Dorothy L. Sayers (1893–1957), quoted in Janet Hitchman: *Such A Strange Lady* (1975)
- Every compulsion is put upon writers to become safe, polite, obedient, and sterile. In protest I declined election to the National Institute of Arts and Letters some years ago, and now I must decline the Pulitzer Prize.
— Sinclair Lewis, letter declining Pulitzer Prize in fiction (1926)
- A memorandum is written not to inform the reader but to protect the writer.
— Dean Acheson, quoted in *Wall Street Journal* (1977–Sep–08)
- First, you know, a new theory is attacked as absurd; then it is admitted to be true, but obvious and insignificant; finally it is seen to be so important that its adversaries claim that they themselves discovered it.
— William James: *Pragmatism — A New Name for Some Old Ways of Thinking* (1907)
- There's no better way of exercising the imagination than the study of law. No poet ever interpreted nature as freely as a lawyer interprets the truth.
— Jean Giraudoux: *La guerre de Troie n'aura pas lieu* (1935) [tran., unknown]

- But the fact that some geniuses were laughed at does not imply that all who are laughed at are geniuses. They laughed at Columbus, they laughed at Fulton, they laughed at the Wright Brothers. But they also laughed at Bozo the Clown.
— Carl Sagan: *Broca's Brain* (1979)
- They would very strongly advise that in selecting children for higher education care should be taken to avoid creating, as was done, for example, in India, a large class of persons whose education is unsuitable for the employment they eventually enter.
— R. H. Tawney: *Secondary Education For All* (1922)
- When two men in a business always agree, one of them is unnecessary.
— William Wrigley, Jr. (1861–1932), quoted in *Reader's Digest* (1940–July)
- When I was a sophomore [at Yale] and W. was a senior, I illustrated an article for the newspaper about hazing at Bush's fraternity — D.K.E. had been branding initiates with a red-hot iron. It became a national story. The Times assigned a reporter, who came up to New Haven and interviewed Bush. And Bush described the branding as no worse than a cigarette burn. His first interview in the national media was in defense of torture.
— Garry Trudeau, quoted in Jim Rutenberg: "Comics Have Become Marginalized," *The New York Times Magazine* (2014–Nov–09)
- A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul.
— George Bernard Shaw: *Everybody's Political What's What?* (1944)
- My ancestors were Puritans from England. They arrived here in 1648 hoping to find greater restrictions than were permissible under English law at that time.
— Garrison Keillor, quoted in *The New York Times* (1990–Mar–30)
- When bad men combine, the good must associate; else they will fall, one by one, an unpitied sacrifice in a contemptible struggle.
— Edmund Burke: *Thoughts on the Cause of the Present Discontents* (1770)
- Writing is turning one's worst moments into money
— J. P. Donlevy, quoted in *Playboy* (1979–May)
- We have had a bad banking situation. Some of our bankers had shown themselves either incompetent or dishonest in their handling of the people's funds. They had used the money entrusted to them in speculations and unwise loans.
— Franklin D. Roosevelt: *The Banking Crisis* [first Fireside Chat] (1933–Mar–12)

- The chances are that a man cannot get into congress now without resorting to arts and means that should render him unfit to go there.
— Mark Twain [Samuel Clemens] & Charles Dudley Warner: *The Gilded Age* (1873)
- “I hate you, I hate you!” cried Madeline, a thing I didn’t know anyone ever said except in the second act of a musical comedy.
— P. G. Wodehouse: *Stiff Upper Lip, Jeeves* (1963)
- It is for us... to inquire constantly and persistently, when theories of national power or states’ rights are propounded: “What interests are behind them and to whose advantage will changes or the maintenance of old forms accrue?” By refusing to do this we become victims of history — clay in the hands of its makers.
— Charles A. Beard: *An Economic Interpretation of the Constitution of the United States* (1935)
- “Marilla, isn’t it nice to think that tomorrow is a new day with no mistakes in it yet?”
— Lucy Maud Montgomery: *Anne of Green Gables* (1908)
- Firm, united, let us be,
Rallying round our Liberty;
As a band of brothers joined,
Peace and safety we shall find
— Joseph Hopkinson: *Hail, Columbia* (1798)
- Whereas it has long been known and declared that the poor have no right to the property of the rich, I wish it also to be known and declared that the rich have no right to the property of the poor.
— John Ruskin: *Unto This Last* (1862)
- We should all remember that, no matter how American we are now, our ancestors, even if they were English speaking, had their own problems of adjustment here too—physical, social, economic. Even well-bred English who settle here today feel our hostility or experience our ridicule of their manners and customs—as any English-born bride of an American can tell you. So it isn’t language that is the principal difficulty at all. It is just the perversity of human nature. We all hate to move over, as others had to move over for us.
— Amy Vanderbilt: *Amy Vanderbilt’s Complete Book Of Etiquette* (1958)
- I don’t know why it is we are in such a hurry to get up when we fall down. You might think we would lie there and rest a while.
— Max Eastman: *The Enjoyment of Laughter* (1935)

- A mathematician is a machine for turning coffee into theorems.
— Paul Erdős, quoted in *Atlantic* magazine (1987–Nov)
- We’re confronted all the time with evolving viruses and bacteria. The Red Queen really rules the biological world, and we have to keep running just to keep up pace with the changing microorganisms. Yet policymakers and the public deny vaccination, and evolution itself, and question the value of biomedical research. Maybe they don’t believe in evolution, but the microorganisms trying to kill us are taking full advantage of it.
— Paul Zachary “PZ” Myers, speech at National Mall, Washington, DC (2012–Mar–24)
- Englishwomen’s shoes look as if they had been made by someone who had often heard shoes described, but had never seen any.
— Margaret Halsey: *With Malice Toward Some* (1938)
- The physician can bury his mistakes, but the architect can only advise his client to plant vines...
— Frank Lloyd Wright, quoted in *The New York Times Magazine* (1953–Oct–4)
- The greatest deception men suffer is from their own opinions.
— Leonardo da Vinci, in *The Notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci* [trans., Jean Paul Richter, 1888]
- The juvenile sea squirt wanders through the sea searching for a suitable rock or hunk of coral to cling to and make its home for life. For this task, it has a rudimentary nervous system. When it finds its spot and takes root, it doesn’t need its brain anymore so it eats it! (It’s rather like getting tenure.)
— Daniel Dennett: *Consciousness Explained* (1991)
- For some years I have had in mind a plan of development which would make radio a “household utility” in the same sense as a piano or phonograph.
— David Sarnoff: memorandum to Owen D. Young (1920–Jan–31)
- [A banker is] a man who will lend you money if you can prove to him that you don’t need it.
— Joe E. Lewis, quoted in *Washington Post* (1944–Oct–16)
- Remember, remember always that all of us, and you and I especially, are descended from immigrants and revolutionists.
— Franklin D. Roosevelt, remarks before Daughters of the American Revolution Convention, Washington, DC (1938–Apr–21)

- Thus, the distance between any two galaxies increases in time, creating the illusion of mechanical motion. But in reality, galaxies just sit there, contemplating the spectacle of the universe creating more and more space in between them.
— João Magueijo: *Faster than the Speed of Light—the Story of a Scientific Speculation* (2003)
- The important thing for Government is not to do things which individuals are doing already, and to do them a little better or a little worse; but to do those things which at present are not done at all.
— John Maynard Keynes: *The End of Laissez-Faire* (1926)
- It would be useful for a Host to be able to decline messages from sources it believes are misbehaving or are simply annoying.
— Jon Postel: *Request For Comments #706* [“On the Junk Mail Problem”], NIC #33861 (1975–Nov)
- In the labs, the young make things move, and the older ones follow like parents evolving with their children.
— Catherine Bréchnac, quoted in “At the centre of revolution in research,” *The Times Higher Education* (2000–Apr–14)
- The nice thing about quotes is that they give us a nodding acquaintance with the originator which is often socially impressive.
— Kenneth Williams: *Acid Drops* (1980)
- I want the whole of Europe to have one currency; it will make trading much easier.
— Napoleon I, letter to Louis Bonaparte (1807–May–06) [trans., unknown]
- Religion is to mysticism what popularization is to science.
— Henri Bergson: *Two Sources of Morality and Religion* (1932) [trans., R. Ashley Audra and Cloudesley Brereton]
- The single and most dangerous word to be spoken in business is no. The second most dangerous word is yes. It is possible to avoid saying either.
— Lois Wyse: *Company Manners* (1987)
- I know their game. First, the traders and the missionaries: then the ambassadors: then the cannon. It’s better to go straight to the cannon.
— Tewodros II (1820–1868), quoted in Basil Davidson: *Africa in Modern History—the Search for a New Society* (1978)

- Population, when unchecked, increases in a geometrical ratio. Subsistence increases only in an arithmetical ratio. A slight acquaintance with numbers will shew the immensity of the first power in comparison of the second.
— Thomas Malthus: *An Essay on the Principle of Population* (1798)
- Law is merely the expression of the will of the strongest for the time being, and therefore laws have no fixity, but shift from generation to generation.
— Brooks Adams: *The Law of Civilization and Decay — An Essay on History* (1895)
- The English speaking world may be divided into (1) those who neither know nor care what a split infinitive is; (2) those who do not know, but care very much; (3) those who know and condemn; (4) those who know and approve; and (5) those who know and distinguish. Those who neither know nor care are the vast majority and are a happy folk, to be envied by most of the minority classes.
— H. W. Fowler: *A Dictionary Of Modern English Usage* (1926)
- For my part, I consider that it will be found much better by all Parties to leave the past to history, especially as I propose to write that history myself.
— Winston Churchill, speech in House of Commons (1948—Jan—23)
- It is tempting, if the only tool you have is a hammer, to treat everything as if it were a nail.
— Abraham Maslow: *The Psychology of Science—A Reconnaissance* (1966)
- He who stifles free discussion, secretly doubts whether what he professes to believe is really true.
— Wendell Phillips, speech, Daniel O’Connell celebration, Boston (1870—Aug—06), published in William Carlos Martyn: *Wendell Phillips—The Agitator* (1890)
- We look at the dance to impart the sensation of living in an affirmation of life, to energize the spectator into keener awareness of the vigor, the mystery, the humor, the variety, and the wonder of life. This is the function of the American dance.
— Martha Graham: *The American Dance* (1935)
- Poetry is about as much a “criticism of life” as red-hot iron is a criticism of fire.
— Ezra Pound: *The Spirit Of Romance* (1910)
- When, in countries that are called civilized, we see age going to the workhouse and youth to the gallows, something must be wrong in the system of government.
— Thomas Paine: *The Rights of Man* (1792)

- Gort! Klaatu barada nikto!
— Edmund H. North: *The Day The Earth Stood Still* [screenplay] (1951)
- There is a limit to the success of conservative populism and the exploitation of “little guy” or “silent majority” rhetoric, and it is very often reached because of the emaciated, corrupted personalities of the demagogues themselves.
— Christopher Hitchens: *Nixon — Maestro of Resentment* (1990)
- The first person who, having fenced off a plot of ground, took it into his head to say “this is mine” and found people simple enough to believe him, was the true founder of civil society.
— Jean-Jacques Rousseau: *Discourse on the Origins and Foundations of Inequality Among Men* [trans. unknown] (1755)
- I abhor, loathe, and despise these long discourses, and agree with Carducci the Italian poet who died some years ago that a man who takes half a page to say what can be said in a sentence will be damned.
— Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., letter to Frederick Pollock (1917—Jun—01)
- Non-violence leads to the highest ethics, which is the goal of all evolution. Until we stop harming all other living beings, we are still savages.
— Thomas Edison, quoted in Michael J. Gelb and Sarah Miller Caldicott: *Innovate Like Edison —The Five-Step System for Breakthrough Business Success* (2007)
- The nineteenth century was the century of the United States. I think we can claim that it is Canada that shall fill the twentieth century.
— Wilfrid Laurier, address to Canadian Club, Ottawa (1904—Jan—18)
- Those who want the Government to regulate matters of the mind and spirit are like men who are so afraid of being murdered that they commit suicide to avoid assassination.
— Harry S. Truman, address at National Archives (1952—Dec—15)
- Facts and theories are different things, not rungs in a hierarchy of increasing certainty. Facts are the world’s data. Theories are structures of ideas that explain and interpret facts. Facts do not go away while scientists debate rival theories for explaining them.
— Stephen Jay Gould: “Evolution as Fact and Theory,” *Discover Magazine* (1981—May)
- Ain’t nothing in the middle of the road but yellow stripes and dead armadillos.
— Jim Hightower, quoted in *The New York Times* (1984—Jul—22)

- “A planet doesn't explode of itself,” said drily
The Martian astronomer, gazing off into the air —
“That they were able to do it is proof that highly
Intelligent beings must have existed there.”
— John Hall Wheelock: *Earth* (1970)
- Sonnet — A short poem consisting of fourteen lines, of which the rhymes are adjusted by a particular rule. It is not very suitable to the English language, and has not been used by any man of eminence since Milton.
— Samuel Johnson: *Dictionary* (1755)
- In the first place God made idiots. This was for practice. Then He made proofreaders.
— Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens), *Notebook* (1893)
In the first place God made idiots. This was for practice. Then He made School Boards.
— Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens): *Following the Equator*, “Pudd'nhead Wilson's New Calendar” (1897)
- All the things I really like to do are either immoral, illegal, or fattening.
— Alexander Woolcott, quoted in *Reader's Digest* (1933—Dec)
- A science is said to be useful if its development tends to accentuate the existing inequalities in the distribution of wealth, or more directly promotes the destruction of human life.
— G. H. Hardy: *A Mathematician's Apology* (1940)
- Dieu créa l'homme, et ne le trouvant pas assez seul, il lui donne une compagne pour lui faire mieux sentir sa solitude.
[God created man and, finding him not sufficiently alone, gave him a companion to make him feel his solitude more keenly.]
— Paul Valéry: “Moralités,” *Tel Quel* (1941)
- O MEN, why do ye vainly think on things
Too lofty, as if ye immortal were?
— The Sibylline Oracles, Book XIV. The Internet Sacred Text Archive.
- The truth is, that the law is always approaching, and never reaching, consistency. It is forever adopting new principles from life at one end, and it always retains old ones from history at the other, which have not yet been absorbed or sloughed off. It will become entirely consistent only when it ceases to grow.
— Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.: *The Common Law* (1881)

- Thy way of thinking is indeed pleasing to the Creator, but not thy way of acting.
— Judah Halevi [יהודה הלוי] (ca.1075–1141): *The Kuzari* (1140) [trans. unknown]
- ...you have to explain to them that censorship is part of our puritanical ethics, and it's something that they're going to have to deal with. There has to be a point at which you don't compromise anymore, but that may mean that you won't get anyone to sell your painting or perform your musical. You have to deal with reality.
-- Stephen Sondheim, quoted in Adam Herrick & Michael Gioia: "Sondheim Reveals Plot Changes For Disney In *Into The Woods*" at <http://m.playbill.com/news/article/sondheim-reveals-plot-changes-for-disney-into-the-woods-film-322631> (2014–Jun–18)
- Now, finally at peace with her neighbors, Afghanistan marshals strength for the most important battle in her long and turbulent history. With modern weapons this time—with roads and bridges, with dams and ditches and canals, with factories and schools—this rugged land will be conquered once more. This time by the Afghan people themselves.
— Thomas J. Abercrombie: "Afghanistan — Crossroad of Conquerors," *National Geographic* (1968–Sept)
- Sitting with my gin or whisky afterwards I would often manage to get into conversation with some lonely man or other — usually an exile like myself — and the talk would be about the world, air-routes and shipping-lines, drinking-places thousands of miles away. Then I felt happy, felt I had come home, because home to people like me is not a place but all places, all places except the one we happen to be in at the moment.
— Anthony Burgess: *The Right to an Answer* (1960)
- Evolution... is—a change from an indefinite, incoherent homogeneity, to a definite coherent heterogeneity.
— Herbert Spencer: *First Principles* (1862)
- It is a proposition too plain to be contested, that the constitution controls any legislative act repugnant to it; or, that the legislature may alter the constitution by an ordinary act.
— John Marshal (1755–1835), for the unanimous majority: *Marbury v. Madison*, 5 U.S. 137 (1803)
- I am bound by my own definition of criticism: a disinterested endeavor to learn and propagate the best that is known and thought in the world.
— Matthew Arnold: "The Function of Criticism at the Present Time" in *Essays in Criticism* (1865)

- A lawyer with his briefcase can steal more than a hundred men with guns.
— Mario Puzo: *The Godfather* (1969)
- Well the people, I would say. There is no patent. Could you patent the sun?
— Jonas E. Salk, when asked by Edward R. Murrow who held the patent to his vaccine against polio, *See It Now* [TV show] (1955—Apr—12)
- Meek young men grow up in libraries, believing it their duty to accept the views, which Cicero, which Locke, which Bacon have given, forgetful that Cicero, Locke, and Bacon were only young men in libraries, when they wrote these books.
— Ralph Waldo Emerson: *The American Scholar* (1837)
- ...unless a people are educated and enlightened, it is idle to expect the continuance of civil liberty, or the capacity for self government.
— The Texas Declaration of Independence (1836—Mar—2)
- If I have learned anything as a scientist it is that one should not make things complicated when a simple explanation will do.
— Ivar Giaever: *Electron Tunneling and Superconductivity* [Nobel Lecture] (1973—Dec—12)
- I have been correcting the proofs of my poems. In the morning, after hard work, I took a comma out of one sentence.... In the afternoon, I put it back again.
— Oscar Wilde (1854—1900), quoted in Robert Sherard: *The Life of Oscar Wilde* (1906)
- My first act of free will shall be to believe in free will.
— William James (1842—1910), diary entry (1870—Apr—30)
- Paul Moore: It must be nice to always believe you know better, to always think you're the smartest person in the room.
Jane Craig: No. It's awful.
— James L. Brooks: *Broadcast News* [movie] (1987)
- You should invest in a business that even a fool can run, because someday a fool will.
— Warren Buffett, quoted in *Fortune* (1996—Feb—05)
- Le secret de la liberté est d'éclairer les hommes, comme celui de la tyrannie et de les retenir dans l'ignorance.
[The secret of freedom lies in educating people, whereas the secret of tyranny is in keeping them ignorant.]
— Maximilien François Marie Isidore de Robespierre (1758—1794): *Oeuvres*, vol. 2

- A pretty air in an opera is prettier there than it could be anywhere else, I suppose, just as an honest man in politics shines more than he would elsewhere.
— Mark Twain [Samuel Clemens]: *A Tramp Abroad* (1880)
- I think classical music is a great, beautiful art as long as people recognize it. But first we need to calm down and listen to it with heart. In this technologically advanced time, too many things are drawing peoples' attention. Sometimes we need to slow down, look back and feel the beauty of art and life.
— Lang Lang [朗朗, Láng Lǎng], quoted by Kathleen Massara; “Lang Lang, Chinese Pianist, Talks Chopin, Classical Music, And Mr. Bean” at http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/09/26/lang-lang_n_1912686.html (2012)
- Don't you see that the whole aim of Newspeak is to narrow the range of thought? In the end we shall make thoughtcrime literally impossible, because there will be no words in which to express it.
— George Orwell [Eric Blair]: *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (1949)
- τάχ' αὔριον ἔσσειτ' ἄμεινον ἐλπίδες ἐν ζωῶσιν, ἀνέλπιστοι δὲ θανόντες
[While there's life there's hope, and only the dead have none.]
— Theocritus (3rd century BCD): *Idyll 4* [trans. in A. S. F. Gow: *Theocritus* (1952)]
- Although we may never know with complete certainty the identity of the winner of this year's presidential election, the identity of the loser is perfectly clear. It is the nation's confidence in the judge as an impartial guardian of the rule of law.
— John Paul Stevens, dissenting: *Bush v. Gore*, 531 U.S. 98 (2000)
- 'You're not going to die, are you sir?' he said.
'Of course I am. Everyone is. That's what being alive is all about.'
— Terence David John Pratchett (1948–2015): *Truckers* (1990)
- We have already begun to fly; several persons, here and there, have found the secret to fitting wings to themselves, of setting them in motion, so that they are held up in the air and are carried across streams... The art of flying is only just being born; it will be perfected, and some day we will go as far as the moon.
— Bernard de Fontenelle: *Entretiens sur la Pluralité des Mondes Habités* (1686) [trans., unknown]
- Wa de goat du, de kid falla.
— Jamaican proverb, quoted at www.nlj.gov.jm/?q=jamaican-proverbs [[National Library of Jamaica](http://www.nlj.gov.jm/?q=jamaican-proverbs)]

- Every man takes the limits of his own field of vision for the limits of the world.
— Arthur Schopenhauer: “Psychological Observations,” *Studies in Pessimism* (1851) [tran., T. Bailey Saunders]
- Children begin by loving their parents; as they grow older they judge them; sometimes they forgive them.
— Oscar Wilde: *The Picture of Dorian Gray* (1891)
- Washington Irving wrote that “redundancy of language is never found with deep reflection. Verbiage may indicate observation, but not thinking. He who thinks much says but little in proportion to his thoughts.” Those words are worth reflecting on.
— Bryan A. Garner: *A Dictionary of Modern American Usage* (1998)
- Better is a poor man who walks in his integrity than a rich man who is perverse in his speech and is a [self-confident] fool.
— Proverbs 19:1 (AMP)
- I want to like him but Scott Walker is kind of a dumb ass.
— [Mark Salter](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Salter) <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Salter>, comment on Facebook quoted in *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel* (2015—Feb—28)
- All right, but apart from the sanitation, medicine, education, wine, public order, irrigation, roads, the fresh water system, and public health, what have the Romans ever done for us?
— Graham Chapman, John Cleese, Terry Gilliam, Eric Idle, Terry Jones, & Michael Palin: *Life of Brian* [movie] (1979)
- The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired, in value.
— Theodore Roosevelt, speech before the Colorado Live Stock Association, Denver, Colorado (1910—Aug—29) [inscribed on Cox Corridor II, a first floor House corridor, U.S. Capitol]
- Only a free society... can produce the technology that makes tyranny possible.
— John Keith Laumer: *Test to Destruction* (1967)
- God is love, but get it in writing.
— Gypsy Rose Lee [Rose Louise Hovick], quoted in *The New York Times* (1988—Dec—01)
- Once you get it into your head that somebody is controlling events, you can interpret everything in that light and find no reasonable certainty anywhere.
— Isaac Asimov: *Foundation's Edge* (1982)

- Consider the situation. There you are, forehead like a set of balconies, worrying about the long-term effects of all this new “fire” stuff on the environment, you’re being chased and eaten by most of the planet’s large animals, and suddenly tiny versions of one of the worst of them wanders into the cave and starts to purr.
— Terry Pratchett: *The Unadulterated Cat* (1989)
- True ease in writing comes from art, not chance,
As those move easiest who have learn’d to dance.
— Alexander Pope: *An Essay on Criticism* (1711)
- Rock journalism is people who can’t write interviewing people who can’t talk for people who can’t read.
— Frank Zappa, quoted in *Chicago Tribune* (1978—Jan—18)
- Oh, she’s all right, if you like talent.
— Ethel Merman (referring to Mary Martin), quoted in *Theater Arts* [magazine], (1958—Sep)
- We will see that the true miracle was not the birth of the Constitution, but its life, a life nurtured through two turbulent centuries of our own making, and a life embodying much good fortune that was not. Thus, in this bicentennial year, we may not all participate in the festivities with flag-waving fervor. Some may more quietly commemorate the suffering, struggle, and sacrifice that has triumphed over much of what was wrong with the original document, and observe the anniversary with hopes not realized and promises not fulfilled.
— Thurgood Marshall (1908—1993), speech, Maui, Hawaii (1987—May—06)
- A lawyer should never ask a witness on cross-examination a question unless in the first place he knew what the answer would be, or in the second place he didn't care.
— David Graham, quoted in Francis L. Wellman: *The Art Of Cross-Examination* (1903)
- To be conscious that you are ignorant is a great step to knowledge.
— Benjamin Disraeli, First Earl of Beaconsfield: *Sybil* (1845)
- I’m living so far beyond my means that we may almost be said to be living apart.
— Saki [H. H. Munro]: *The Unbearable Bassington* (1912)
- Learning will be cast into the mire and trodden down under the hoofs of a swinish multitude.
— Edmund Burke: *Reflections on the Revolution in France* (1790)

- Nothing is more dangerous than an idea, when you have only one idea.
— Alain [Émile-Auguste Chartier]: *Propos sur le Religion* no. 74 (1938) [tran. unknown]
- I myself have never been able to find out precisely what Feminism is: I only know that people call me a Feminist whenever I express sentiments that differentiate me from a doormat or a prostitute.
— Rebecca West [Cicily Isabel Fairfield], in *The Clarion* (1913–Nov–14)
- There are, at the present time, two great nations in the world, which seem to tend towards the same end, although they started from different points: I allude to the Russians and the Americans... Their starting-point is different, and their courses are not the same; yet each of them seems marked out by the will of Heaven to sway the destinies of half the globe.
— Alexis de Tocqueville: *Democracy in America* (1835) [trans., Henry Reeve]
- If we do discover a complete theory [of the universe], it should in time be understandable in broad principle by everyone, not just a few scientists. Then we shall all, philosophers, scientists, and just ordinary people, be able to take part in the discussion of the question of why it is that we and the universe exist. If we find the answer to that, it would be the ultimate triumph of human reason — for then we would know the mind of God.
— Stephen W. Hawking: *A Brief History Of Time* (1988)
- The first man to compare the cheeks of a young woman to a rose was obviously a poet; the first to repeat it was possibly an idiot.
— Salvador Dali: Preface to *Dialogues with Marcel Duchamp* by Pierre Cabanne (1968)
- No society, certainly not a large and heterogeneous one, can fail in time to explode if it is deprived of the arts of compromise, if it knows no ways of muddling through. No good society can be unprincipled; and no viable society can be principle-ridden.
— Alexander M. Bickel: *The Least Dangerous Branch* (1962)
- Good sense is the best distributed thing in the world: for everyone thinks himself so well endowed with it that even those who are the hardest to please in everything else do not usually desire more of it than they possess.
— René Descartes: *Le Discours de la Méthode* [Discourse on the Method] (1637) [trans., unknown]
- Dictionaries are like watches; the worst is better than none, and the best cannot be expected to go quite true.
— Samuel Johnson, letter to Francesco Sastres (1784–Aug–21)

- Siegen macht gelegentlich dumm.
[Winning sometimes makes you stupid.]
— Günter Grass (1927-2015—Apr—13), quoted in interview, “Siegen macht dumm,” *Der Spiegel* (2003—Aug—25)
- Has anyone ever seen both of them in the same room?



- Death and taxes and childbirth! There's never any convenient time for any of them!
— Margaret Mitchell: *Gone With The Wind* (1936)
- What is the difference between a taxidermist and a tax collector? The taxidermist takes only your skin.
— Mark Twain [Samuel L. Clemens], notebook (1902—Dec)

- In every organization there is a considerable accumulation of dead wood in the executive level
— Laurence J. Peter: “Up against the Peter principle,” in *Life* [magazine] (1969—Jul—18)
- Why spend a day in the library when you can learn the same thing by working in the laboratory for a month?
— Frank Westheimer, quoted in “Frank H. Westheimer, major figure in 20th century chemistry, dies at 95,” *Harvard Gazette* (2007—Apr—19)
- May we venture to hope that when Bacon’s next centenary is celebrated the great work which he set going will be completed; and that Inductive Reasoning, which has long been the glory of Science, will have ceased to be the scandal of Philosophy?
— C. D. Broad (1887–1971): *The philosophy of Francis Bacon* — An address delivered at Cambridge on the occasion of the Bacon tercentenary (1926—Oct—05)
- If those in charge of our society — politicians, corporate executives, and owners of press and television — can dominate our ideas, they will be secure in their power. They will not need soldiers patrolling the streets. We will control ourselves.
— Howard Zinn, quoted in Ian A. Freeman: *Seeds of Revolution — A Collection of Axioms, Passages and Proverbs* (2014)
- A genuine first-hand religious experience... is bound to be a heterodoxy to its witnesses, the prophet appearing as a mere lonely madman. If his doctrine prove contagious enough to spread to any others, it becomes a definite and labeled heresy. But if it then still prove contagious enough to triumph over persecution, it becomes itself an orthodoxy, its day of inwardness is over: the spring is dry; the faithful live at second hand exclusively and stone the prophets in their turn.
— William James: *The Varieties of Religious Experience* (1902)
- All night in the unmade park
After the railings and shrubberies
The birds the grass the trees the lake
And the wild boys innocent as strawberries
Had followed the hunchback
To his kennel in the dark.
— Dylan Thomas (1914–1953): *The Hunchback in the Park*
- Fanaticism consists in redoubling your efforts when you have forgotten your aim.
— George Santayana: *The Life of Reason* (1906)

- Good laws lead to the making of better ones; bad one bring about worse. As soon as any man says of the affairs of the State “What does it matter to me?” the State may be given up for lost.
— Jean-Jacques Rousseau: *Du Contrat Social [The Social Contract]* (1762) [trans., unknown]
- The conventional army loses if it does not win. The guerrilla army wins if he does not lose.
— Henry Kissinger, in *Foreign Affairs* [magazine] (1969—Jan.)
- Being published by the Oxford University Press is rather like being married to a duchess: the honor is almost greater than the pleasure.
— G. M. Young, quoted in Rupert Hart-Davis, letter to George Lyttleton (1956—Apr—29)
- It iz better tew know nothing than two know what ain’t so.
— Josh Billings [Henry Wheeler Shaw]: *Everybody’s Friend, or Josh Billing’s Encyclopedia and Proverbial Philosophy of Wit and Humor* (1874)
- As long as politics is the shadow cast on society by big business, the attenuation of the shadow will not change the substance.
— John Dewey (1889—1952), quoted in Robert Westbrook: *John Dewey and American Democracy* (1991)
- The beauty of a move lies not in its appearance but in the thought behind it.
— Aron Nimzowitsch (1886—1935), quoted in Fred Reinfeld: *Nimzovich—The Hypermodern* (1948)
- There’s a time when the operation of the machine becomes so odious, makes you so sick at heart, that you can’t take part: you can’t even passively take part. And you’ve got to put your bodies on the gears and on the levers, and on all the apparatus, and you’ve got to make it stop.
— Mario Savio, speech, Berkeley, California (1964—Nov—03)
- Politician, *n.* An eel in the fundamental mud upon which the superstructure of organized society is reared. When he wriggles he mistakes the agitation of his tail for the trembling of the edifice. As compared with the statesman, he suffers the disadvantage of being alive.
— Ambrose Bierce: *The Devil’s Dictionary* (1911)
- Les affaires, c’est bien simple, c’est l’argent des autres.
[Business? It’s very simple. It’s other people’s money.]
— Alexandre Dumas, fils: *La Question d’Argent* (1857) [trans. unknown]

- When we were children, we used to think that when we were grown-up we would no longer be vulnerable. But to grow up is to accept vulnerability... To be alive is to be vulnerable.
—Madeleine L'Engle: *Walking on Water: Reflections on Faith and Art* (1980)
- In a rationally ordered society, all work would have the quality of art, all enjoyment would have the immediate and glamorous character of aesthetic appreciation.
— Irwin Edman: *Arts and the Man* (1939)
- The tools of conquest do not necessarily come with bombs and explosions and fallout. There are weapons that are simply thoughts, attitudes, prejudices — to be found only in the minds of men. For the record, prejudices can kill and suspicion can destroy, and a thoughtless, frightened search for a scapegoat has a fallout all its own — for the children, and the children yet unborn. And the pity of it is that these things cannot be confined to the Twilight Zone.
— Rod Serling: *The Twilight Zone* [television show] (1960—Mar—4)
- For men use, if they have an evil turn, to write it in marble: and whoso doth us a good turn we write it in dust.
— Thomas More (1478-1535): *Richard III and His Miserable End* (1543)
- The principal goal of education in the schools should be creating men and women who are capable of doing new things, not simply repeating what other generations have done; men and women who are creative, inventive and discoverers, who can be critical and verify, and not accept, everything they are offered.
— Jean Piaget (1896-1980), quoted in *Education for Democracy* [Proceedings from the Cambridge School Conference on Progressive Education] (1988)
- Education is what is left after all that has been learnt is forgotten.
— James Bryant Conant (1893–1978), diary entry (ca. 1911)
- To convince someone of the truth, it is not enough to state it, but rather one must find the path from error to truth.
— Ludwig Wittgenstein (1889–1951): “Remarks on Frazer’s Golden Bough” in *Philosophical Occasions 1912-1951* [ed., James Carl Klagge and Alfred Nordmann (1993)
- The sanitary and mechanical age we are now entering makes up for the mercy it grants to our sense of smell by the ferocity with which it assails our sense of hearing.
— Havelock Ellis: *Impressions and Comments* (1914)

- Oh, for the rebirth of an educational system where understanding was an essential part of knowledge.
— Samuel R. Delany: *Nova* (1968)
- A statesman is a politician who's been dead 10 or 15 years.
— Harry S. Truman, speech to Reciprocity Club, Washington, D.C. (1958—Apr—11)
- Laws are like Cobwebs, which may catch small Flies, but let Wasps and Hornets break through.
— Jonathan Swift: *A Critical Essay upon the Faculties of the Mind* (1709)
- I think without question the hardest single thing to do in sport is to hit a baseball. A .300 hitter, that rarest of breeds these days, goes through life with the certainty that he will fail at his job seven out of ten times.
— Theodore S. "Ted" Williams: *My Turn At Bat* (1969)
- ...there is something about everything that you can be glad about, if you keep hunting long enough to find it.
— Eleanor H. Porter: *Pollyanna* (1913)
- There was a reviewer a while back who wrote that my pictures didn't have any beginning or any end. He didn't mean it as a compliment, but it was. It was a fine compliment.
— Jackson Pollock, interview in *New Yorker* [magazine] (1950—Aug—05)
- Wir sind keine Erwählten, wir sind Gewählte. Deshalb suchen wir das Gespräch mit allen, die sich um diese Demokratie bemühen.
[We are not chosen by God, but by the voters—therefore we seek dialogue with all those who put effort into this democracy.]
— Willy Brandt: [West German] government policy statement, 28. October, 1969, once seen at bwbs.de
- Unskilled am I in the oratory that pleases the mob; but amongst the few that are my equals I am reckoned rather wise. For those who are little thought of by the wise, seem to hit the taste of the vulgar.
— Euripides (ca. 480–406 BCE): *Hippolytus*, quoted in Plutarch: *Moralia [Morals]*, trans., Arthur Richard Shilleto (1898)
- Wise words will appear foolishness — to an idiot.
— Euripides: *Bacchæ*, trans., Michael A. Valerie (2005)

- If you introduce new, intelligent ideas to fools, you will be thought frivolous, not intelligent. On the other hand, if you do get a reputation for surpassing those who are supposed to be intellectually sophisticated, you will seem to be a thorn in the city's flesh.
— Euripides: *Medea*, trans., B. M. Knox in *The Cambridge History of Classical Literature* (1985)
- Whoso neglects learning in his youth,
Loses the past and is dead for the future.
— Euripides: *Phrixus* [fragment], trans., Morris Hickey Morgan
- Every man is like the company he is wont to keep.
— Euripides: *Phoenix* [fragment], trans., Morris Hickey Morgan
- I am not proud of the part I played in it. I did it because it was necessary for the safety of this country. That's why I am such a great exponent of stopping this whole nonsense of war. Unfortunately limits — attempts to limit war have always failed. The lesson of history is when a war starts every nation will ultimately use whatever weapon it has available.
— Hyman G. Rickover (1900–1986), testimony to Congress on developing the nuclear arsenal of the US (1982–Jan–28). Published in *Economics of Defense Policy: Hearing before the Joint Economic Committee, Congress of the United States, 97th Cong., 2nd sess., Pt. 1* (1982)
- Vietnam was the first war ever fought without any censorship. Without censorship, things can get terribly confused in the public mind.
— William C. Westmoreland, quoted in *The Washington Post* (1982–Mar–19)
- Not even a Harvard School of Business can make greed into a science.
— W. E. B. Du Bois: *In Battle For Peace* (1952)
- If a man has talent and cannot use it, he has failed. If he has a talent and uses only half of it, he has partly failed. If he has a talent and learns somehow to use the whole of it, he has gloriously succeeded, and won a satisfaction and a triumph few men ever know.
— Thomas Wolfe: *The Web And The Rock* (1939)
- Some one said: “The dead writers are remote from us because we *know* so much more than they did.” Precisely, and they are that which we know.
— T. S. Eliot: “Tradition and the Individual Talent,” *The Sacred Wood* (1921)
- Memory is not just the imprint of the past time upon us; it is the keeper of what is meaningful for our deepest hopes and fears.
— Rollo May: *Man's Search for Himself* (1953)

- No society, certainly not a large and heterogeneous one, can fail in time to explode if it is deprived of the arts of compromise, if it knows no ways of muddling through. No good society can be unprincipled; and no viable society can be principle-ridden.
— Alexander M. Bickel: *The Least Dangerous Branch* (1962)
- The complexity for minimum component costs has increased at a rate of roughly a factor of two per year.... Certainly over the short term this rate can be expected to continue, if not to increase.
— Gordon E. Moore, in *Electronics* magazine (1965—Apr—19) [generally known as “Moore’s Law”]
- When five or six men are together, it is curious to observe the anxiety every one has to speak. No one wishes to hear: all he desires is an auditor. Rather than defer telling their respective stories, they frequently all speak at the same time.
Every one has a subject of his own that he wishes to introduce; therefore he is miserable until he has an opportunity to drag it in. One is desirous to discuss some religious subject; another would engage in a political disquisition. One would talk of the price of stocks; and another would expatiate on the merits of a favorite horse. The glass circulates, and the confusion becomes general.
The Tower of Babel would be an excellent sign for a modern tavern.
— Piomingo [John Robertson]: *The Savage* (1810)
- Time is what keeps everything from happening at once.
— Ray Cummings: *The Time Professor* (1921)
- While still a child I often amused myself with a schoolboy’s mischievous pranks, and my public never failed to fall into my trap. For example, I played one and the same piece now as a composition by Beethoven, now as a composition by Czerny, and now as my own. On the day when I presented it as my own work, I received the most encouraging applause (“That wasn’t bad for his age!”); on the day when I performed it under Czerny’s name, they hardly listened to me; if I performed it with Beethoven’s authority, then at long last I had a sure way of obtaining bravos from the whole audience.
— Franz Liszt, letter to George Sand (1837), quoted in liner notes on MDG compact disc 301 0518-2 *Czerny—Nonet/Grande Sérénade Concertante* [trans. Susan Marie Praeder] (1994)
- In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist.
— Dwight D. Eisenhower: *Farewell Radio and Television Address to the American People* (1961—Jan—17)

- A great statesman is he who knows when to depart from traditions, as well as when to adhere to them.
— John Stuart Mill: *Considerations on Representative Government* (1861)
- He is the only animal that loves his neighbor as himself, and cuts his throat if his theology isn't straight.
— Mark Twain [Samuel L. Clemens]: *Man's Place in the Animal World* (ca. 1896)
- Never put off until tomorrow what should have been done early in the Seventies.
— George Ade: "The Third and Last Call," *Forty Modern Fables* (1901)
- I was a member of a group that was led by Niels Bohr, after the test in Alamogordo, that was very much opposed to the use of this new weapon on civilian cities. ... But by and large we were in a minority, but a rather distinguished minority. But the trouble was that this second memorandum to Roosevelt went off to him, but he never read it, he died before he read it. And Truman, of course, was a different kettle of fish.
— Mark Oliphant, interview published in Ann Moyal: *Portraits in Science* (1994)
- We are inclined to confuse freedom and democracy, which we regard as moral principles, with the way in which these are practiced in America — with capitalism, federalism and the two-party system, which are not moral principles, but simply the accepted practices of the American people.
— J. William Fulbright, speech in the Senate (1964—Mar—27)
- I have always read that the world, both land and water, was spherical, as the authority and researches of Ptolemy and all the others who have written on this subject demonstrate and prove, as do the eclipses of the moon and other experiments that are made from east to west, and the elevation of the North Star from north to south.
— Christopher Columbus, letter to the Sovereigns on the Third Voyage (1498—Oct—18)
[trans., Samuel Eliot Morison (?)]
- Art is meant to disturb, science reassures.
— Georges Braque: *Le Jour et la Nuit: Cahiers 1917-52* (1952)
- I have seen something further under the sun, that the swift do not always win the race, nor do the mighty win the battle, nor do the wise always have the food, nor do the intelligent always have the riches, nor do those with knowledge always have success, because time and unexpected events overtake them all.
— Ecclesiastes 9:11 [NWT]

- “If I should die,” said I to myself, “I have left no immortal work behind me — nothing to make my friends proud of my memory — but I have loved the principle of beauty in all things, and if I had had time I would have made myself remembered.”
— John Keats (1795–1821), letter to Fanny Brawne, ca. Feb., 1820.
- The possibility that empathy resides in parts of the brain so ancient that we share them with rats should give pause to anyone comparing politicians with those poor, underestimated creatures.
— Frans de Waal: “Do Humans Alone ‘Feel Your Pain’?”, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, at <http://chronicle.com/article/Do-Humans-Alone-Feel-Your/26238> (2001-10-26)
- The loveliest tune imaginable becomes vulgar and insupportable as soon as the public begins to hum it and the hurdygurdies make it their own.
— Joris Karl Huysmans (1848–1907): *Against the Grain* [trans., John Howard]
- Th’ dimmycratic party ain’t on speakin’ terms with itsilf.
Th’ raypublican party broke ye, but now that ye’re down we’ll not turn a cold shoulder to ye. Come in an’ we’ll keep ye — broke.
— Mr. Dooley [Finley Peter Dunne]: *Mr. Dooley’s Opinions* (1900)
- Those who’ll play with cats must expect to be scratched.
— Miguel de Cervantes: *Don Quixote de la Mancha* (1615) [trans., Peter Anthony Motteux]
- Most ball games are lost, not won.
— Casey Stengel (ca. 1890–1975), quoted in Paul Dickson: *Baseball’s Greatest Quotations* (1991)
- What is an artist? For every thousand people there’s nine hundred doing the work, ninety doing well, nine doing good, and one lucky bastard who’s the artist.
— Tom Stoppard: *Travesties* (1975)
- C’est avec de beaux sentiments qu’on fait de la mauvaise littérature.
[It is with noble sentiments that bad literature gets written.]
— André Gide, letter to François Mauriac (1928)
- A true friend is someone who is there for you when he’d rather be anywhere else.
— Len Wein (1948-), quoted in Herbert P. Windschitl: *1001 Affirmations* (2003)
- The four most expensive words in the English language are “this time it’s different.”
— John Templeton (1912-2008), quoted in William Bernstein: *The Four Pillars of Investing—Lessons for Building a Winning Portfolio* (2002)

- The example of Beethoven, which I have just cited, leads me at once to say that if the direction of an orchestra appears to be very difficult for a blind man, it is indisputably impossible for a deaf one, whatever may have been his technical talent before losing his sense of hearing.
— Hector Berlioz: *The Orchestral Conductor* [trans., unknown (1902)]
- I have never made but one prayer to God, a very short one: “O Lord, make my enemies ridiculous.” And God granted it.
— Voltaire [François Marie Arouet], letter to M. Damiliville (1767–May–16)
- There is always more goodness in the world than there appears to be, because goodness is of its very nature modest and retiring.
— Evelyn Beatrice Hall [Stephen G. Tallentyre] (1868–1956): *The Friends of Voltaire* (1906)
- The development of science has produced an industrial revolution which has brought different peoples in such close contact with one another through colonization and commerce that no matter how some nations may still look down upon others, no country can harbor the illusion that its career is decided wholly within itself.
— John Dewey: *Democracy and Education* (1916)
- There’s a hell of a distance between wisecracking and wit. Wit has truth in it; wisecracking is simply calisthenics with words.
— Dorothy Parker, quoted in *Paris Review* (Summer, 1956)
- Everyone is born with genius, but most people only keep it a few minutes.
— Edgard Varèse (1883–1965), quoted by Martha Graham in *Dance Observer*, Volumes 24–27 (1957)
- I must sympathize with the Social Democrats, especially in view of the inaction and corruption of the nobles. These “little people”, after all, want only what nature confers: equality. The Republican form of government is the only rational one. I can never understand the foolish people, the fact that they continue to tolerate us.
— Pauline Elisabeth Ottilie Luise zu Wied (1843–1916), Queen consort of Romania, quoted in Brigitte Hamann: *Elisabeth—Kaiserin wider Willen* (1982) [trans. to English as *The Reluctant Empress* (1986)]
- If you understood everything I said, you’d be me.
— Miles Davis, quoted in *Independent* (1991–Oct–06)

- Every passing hour brings the Solar System forty-three thousand miles closer to Globular Cluster M13 in Hercules—and still there are some misfits who insist that there is no such thing as progress.
— Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.: *The Sirens of Titan* (1959)
- When I first read the dictionary, I thought it was a long poem about everything.
— Steven Wright: *I Have A Pony* (1985)
- If Shakespeare had to go on an author tour to promote *Romeo and Juliet*, he never would have written *Macbeth*.
— Dr. Joyce Brothers (1928-2013), quoted in Michael Lomonico: *The Shakespeare Book of Lists – The Ultimate Guide to the Bard, His Plays, and How They’ve Been Interpreted (And Misinterpreted) Through the Ages* (2001)
- I know no safe depository of the ultimate powers of the society but the people themselves; and if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise their control with wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it from them, but to inform their discretion by education. This is the true corrective of abuses of constitutional power.
— Thomas Jefferson, letter to William Charles Jarvis (1820—Sep—28)
- For an actress to be a success, she must have the face of a Venus, the brains of a Minerva, the grace of Terpsichore, the memory of a Macaulay, the figure of Juno, and the hide of a rhinoceros.
— Ethel Barrymore, quoted in George Jean Nathan: *The Theatre in the Fifties* (1953)
- If the cells and fibres in one human brain were all stretched out end to end, they would certainly reach to the moon and back. Yet the fact that they are not arranged end to end enabled man to go there himself. The astonishing tangle within our heads makes us what we are.
— Colin Blakemore: *Mechanics of the Mind* (1977)
- For the creation of a master-work of literature two powers must concur, the power of the man and the power of the moment, and the man is not enough without the moment.
— Matthew Arnold: “The Function of Criticism At the Present Time,” *Essays in Criticism* [first series] (1865)
- In respect of the recurrent emergence of the theme of sex in the minds of his characters, it must always be remembered that his locale was Celtic and his season spring.
— John M. Woolsey (1877-1945), decision in *United States v. One Book Called Ulysses* (1933)

- It seems to superficial observers that all Americans are born busy. It is not so. They are born with a fear of not being busy.
— Charles Dudley Warner: *A Little Journey in the World* (1889)
- Each election day seems to confront Americans with a choice that's really not much of a choice: one pro-business party that pretends to represent the interests of working people (the Democrats) and another pro-business party that doesn't even bother to pretend (the Republicans). Is it any wonder that the U.S. regularly leads among advanced Western countries in rates of voter abstention?
— Lance Selfa: "Why are they so afraid of third parties?," (2014—Oct—28)
<http://socialistworker.org/2014/10/28/so-afraid-of-third-parties>
- If this just degenerates after a historic election, back into the usual bologna of politics in Washington and pettiness in Washington, then the American people I believe will move towards a third party in a massive way.
— Newt Gingrich, appearance on CBS News (1994—Nov—11)
- After years of secret slavery the Republican Party and the Democratic Party come out into the open and reveal to themselves and to the nation as nothing but the right wing and the left wing of the same bird of prey. There is not a word in either of their platforms that might not have been written and unanimously endorsed by a convention exclusively of corporation lawyers and Wall Street Bankers. The only difference between these platforms as some one has remarked, is the number of words used to say nothing. Confronted by the gravest crisis in the history of civilization, they have demonstrated, even to their own adherents, that they are without the vision of statesmanship, the courage of leadership or the conviction of patriotism.
— Allen McCurdy: Keynotes for the Third Party National Convention (1920)
- In our country, third-party candidates throughout the years have said there is not a dime's worth of difference between the candidates from the major parties. Well, that is clearly a campaign canard. But it may appear to be true if the public's knowledge of the important differences between candidates is limited to what the public sees and hears on television. Putting it as strongly as I can, the failure to give free airtime for our political campaigns endangers our democracy.
— Walter Chronkite: *Free the Air Waves!* (2002—Nov—04) [<http://www.gothamgazette.com>]
- Every other author may aspire to praise; the lexicographer can only hope to escape reproach.
— Samuel Johnson: *A Dictionary of the English Language* [preface] (1755)

- For the great enemy of the truth is very often not the lie — deliberate, contrived, and dishonest — but the myth — persistent, persuasive, and unrealistic. Too often we hold fast to the clichés of our forebears. We subject all facts to a prefabricated set of interpretations. We enjoy the comfort of opinion without the discomfort of thought.
— John F. Kennedy, commencement address at Yale University (1962—Jun—11)
- He smote the rock of the national resources, and abundant streams of revenue gushed forth. He touched the dead corpse of the Public Credit, and it sprung upon his feet. The fabled birth of Minerva, from the brain of Jove, was hardly more sudden or more perfect than the financial system of the United States, as it burst forth from the conceptions of Alexander Hamilton.
— Daniel Webster, speech, New York, NY (1831—Mar—24)
- If there be any among us who would wish to dissolve this Union or to change its republican form, let them stand undisturbed as monuments of the safety with which error of opinion may be tolerated where reason is left free to combat it.
— Thomas Jefferson: *First Inaugural Address* (1801—Mar—04)
- All Wars are Follies, very expensive, and very mischievous ones. When will Mankind be convinced of this, and agree to settle their Differences by Arbitration? Were they to do it, even by the Cast of a Dye, it would be better than by Fighting and destroying each other.
— Benjamin Franklin, letter to Mary Hewson (1783—Jan—27)
- Since, in the long run, every planetary society will be endangered by impacts from space, every surviving civilization is obliged to become spacefaring — not because of exploratory or romantic zeal, but for the most practical reason imaginable: staying alive.
— Carl Sagan: *Pale Blue Dot — A Vision of the Human Future in Space* (1994)
- Conservative, n. A statesman who is enamored of existing evils, as distinguished from the Liberal, who wishes to replace them with others.
— Ambrose Bierce: *The Cynic's Word Book* (1906)
- Clearly, the political history of the republic of Cuba has been a stormy one, largely because of the difficulties of an economy based on a single crop, sugar. But Cuba now seeks to stabilize its economy by diversifying its crops and farming methods. Tobacco, coffee, pineapples and rice are now grown on the island. The rich timberlands, containing valuable strands of cedar and mahogany, are being exploited. Miners dig for iron, copper, chromium and nickel. With its rich resources and energetic government, Cuba's economic future is bright.
— "Cuba," *Pictured Knowledge, vol. IV* (1956)

- A feast is made for laughter, and wine maketh merry: but money answereth all things.
— Ecclesiastes 10:19
- The only way I can lose this election is if I'm caught in bed with a dead girl or a live boy.
— Edwin Edwards (while running for election as governor of Louisiana, 1983), quoted in *Economist* (1985–Mar–9)
- Avoid the necessity of those overgrown Military establishments, which under any form of Government are inauspicious to liberty, and which are to be regarded as particularly hostile to Republican Liberty.
— George Washington: *Farewell Address* (1796–Sep–19)
- I was in love with a beautiful blonde once. She drove me to drink. 'Tis the one thing I'm indebted to her for.
— Prescott Chaplin, W. C. Fields, & John T. Neville: *Never Give A Sucker An Even Break* [motion picture] (1941)
- When you leave the theater, if you don't walk several blocks in the wrong direction, the performance has been a failure.
— Edith Evans (1888–1976), quoted in Garson Kanin: *Tracy And Hepburn* (1970)
- Let me tell you about the very rich. They are different from you and me. They possess and enjoy early, and it does something to them, makes them soft where we are hard, and cynical where we are trustful.
— F. Scott Fitzgerald: *The Rich Boy* (1926)
- Conservatism, though a necessary element in any stable society, is not a social program; in its paternalistic, nationalistic and power adoring tendencies it is often closer to socialism than true liberalism; and with its traditionalistic, anti-intellectual, and often mystical propensities it will never, except in short periods of disillusionment, appeal to the young and all those others who believe that some changes are desirable if this world is to become a better place.
— Friedrich Hayek: *The Road to Serfdom* (1944)
- There is far too much law for those who can afford it and far too little for those who cannot.
— Derek C. Bok, "A Flawed System," *Harvard Magazine* (1983–May/Jun)
- I do not attack fools, but foolishness.
— Jacques du Laurens: *Satires* (1624)

- Any good teacher will tell you that aiming at the lowest common denominator is poor practice. In communicating anything, you do better if you aim slightly above the heads of your audience. If you make them stretch a little, they respond better. If you keep aiming at the dumb ones, you never challenge them and you bore the hell out of the bright ones. You also commit the grievous and pernicious error of thinking that the people is dumb. One of the most horrific results is that the people start to think so themselves.
— Molly Ivins: “The Perils and Pitfalls of Reporting in the Lone Star State” originally appeared in *Houston Journalism Review* (1973—Jan)
- The same energy of character which renders a man a daring villain would have rendered him useful to society, had that society been well organized.
— Mary Wollstonecraft (1759—1797): *Letters Written During a Short Residence in Sweden, Norway, and Denmark* (1796)
- Free trade is not a principle, it is an expedient.
— Benjamin Disraeli, speech on import duties, Parliament (1843—Apr—25)
- A true account of the actual is the rarest poetry, for common sense always takes a hasty and superficial view.
— Henry David Thoreau: *A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers* (1849)
- The most ignorant are the most conceited. Unless a man knows that there is something more to be known, his inference is, of course, that he knows every thing. Such a man always usurps the throne of universal knowledge, and assumes the right of deciding all possible questions.
— Horace Mann: *Lectures on Education* (1855)
- Common sense is that which tells us the world is flat.
— Stuart Chase, quoted in S. I. Hayakawa: *Language in Thought and Action* (1952)
- It is said an Eastern monarch once charged his wise men to invent him a sentence, to be ever in view, and which should be true and appropriate in all times and situations. They presented him the words: “And this, too, shall pass away.”
— Abraham Lincoln, address to Wisconsin State Agricultural Society, Milwaukee (1859—Sep—30)
- Poetry is not a turning loose of emotion, but an escape from emotion; it is not the expression of personality, but an escape from personality. But, of course, only those who have personality and emotions know what it means to want to escape from these things.
— T. S. Eliot: “Tradition and the Individual Talent,” (1919) in *The Sacred Wood*

- What really matters is that we should all of us realize that we are guilty of inhumanity. The horror of this realization should shake us out of our lethargy so that we can direct our hopes and our intentions to the coming of an era in which war will have no place.
— Albert Schweitzer, Nobel Lecture: The Problem of Peace (1954—Nov—04)
- It is paltry philosophy if in the old-fashioned way one lays down rules and principles in total disregard of moral values. As soon as these appear one regards them as exceptions, which gives them a certain scientific status, and thus makes them into rules. Or again one may appeal to genius, which is above all rules; which amounts to admitting that rules are not only made for idiots, but are idiotic in themselves.
— Carl von Clausewitz: *On War* (1832) [trans., Michael Howard and Peter Paret]
- The various modes of worship, which prevailed in the Roman world, were all considered by the people as equally true; by the philosopher, as equally false; and by the magistrate, as equally useful.
— Edward Gibbon: *The Decline And Fall Of The Roman Empire* (1778)
- What America does best is to understand itself. What it does worst is to understand others.
— Carlos Fuentes, quoted in *Time* (1986—Jun—16)
- I can understand why people would want to stay on the road because you create your own bubble. You almost don't live in the real world. Just to have the things that are with you is fine.
— Kylie Minogue (*1968), interview on popjustice.com (n.d.)
- Major parties have lived more for patronage than for principles; their goal has been to bind together a sufficiently large coalition of diverse interests to get into power; and once in power, to arrange sufficiently satisfactory compromises of interests to remain there. Minor parties have been attached to some special idea or interest, and they have generally expressed their positions through firm and identifiable programs and principles. Their function has not been to win or govern, but to agitate, educate, generate new ideas, and supply the dynamic element in our political life. When a third party's demands become popular enough, they are appropriated by one or both of the major parties and the third party disappears. Third parties are like bees: once they have stung, they die.
— Richard Hofstadter: *The Age of Reform — from Bryan to F.D.R.* (1955)
- Among the calamities of war may be justly numbered the diminution of the love of truth, by the falsehoods which interest dictates and credulity encourages.
— Samuel Johnson: *The Idler* no. 30 (1758—Nov—11)

- The iPhone vision of the mobile Internet’s future omits controversy, sex, and freedom, but includes strict limits on who can know what and who can say what. It’s a sterile Disney-fied walled garden surrounded by sharp-toothed lawyers. The people who create the apps serve at the landlord’s pleasure and fear his anger.
— Tim Bray, quoted in “New Android teammate: iPhone a Disney-fied walled garden” at <http://bit.ly/1UNcIO3> (2010–Mar–15)
- When I feel like exercising, I just lie down until the feeling goes away.
— Paul Terry, quoted in *Reader’s Digest* (1938–Jan)
- When a great genius appears in the world the dunces are all in confederacy against him.
— Jonathan Swift: *Essay on the Fates of Clergymen* (1728)
- The whole idea of compassion is based on a keen awareness of the interdependence of all these living beings, which are all part of one another, and all involved in one another.
— Thomas Merton: address to conference on East-West monastic dialogue, Bangkok, Thailand (1968–Dec–10)
- I want there to be no peasant in my kingdom so poor that he is unable to have a chicken in his pot every Sunday.
— Henri IV of France, quoted in Hardouin de Péréfixe: *Histoire de Henry le Grand* (1681) [trans. unknown]
- Adding manpower to a late software project makes it later.
— Frederick P. Brooks, Jr.: “The Mythical Man-Month” in *Datamation* (1974–Dec) [a.k.a. Brook’s Law]
- To make peace, one must be an uncompromising leader. To make peace, one must also embody compromise. Throughout the ages, leadership and courage have often been synonymous. Ultimately, leadership requires action: daring to take steps that are necessary but unpopular, challenging the status quo in order to reach a brighter future.
— Benazir Bhutto: “Reflections on Working Towards Peace” in *Architects of Peace: Visions of Hope in Words and Images* [ed., Michael Collopy] (2000)
- I find that the three major administrative problems on campus are sex for the students, athletics for the alumni, and parking for the faculty.
— Clark Kerr (President of the University of California system), quoted in *Time* (1958–Nov–17)

- The Internet was done so well that most people think of it as a natural resource like the Pacific Ocean, rather than something that was man-made. When was the last time a technology with a scale like that was so error-free? The Web, in comparison, is a joke. The Web was done by amateurs.
— Alan Kay, quoted in Andrew Binstock: Interview with Alan Kay at www.drdobbs.com/architecture-and-design/interview-with-alan-kay/240003442 (2012—July—10)
- Le savant digne de ce nom, le géomètre surtout, éprouve en face de son œuvre la même impression que l'artiste ; sa jouissance est aussi grande et de même nature.
[A scientist worthy of the name, above all a mathematician, experiences in his work the same impression as an artist; his pleasure is as great and of the same nature.]
— Henri Poincaré (1854-1912): “Notice sur Halphen,” *Journal de l'École Polytechnique* (Paris, 1890)
- I am of the firm belief that everybody could write books and I never understand why they don't. After all, everyone speaks. Once the grammar has been learnt it is simply talking on paper and in time learning what not to say.
— James Vinson, D. L. Kirkpatrick (eds.): *Contemporary Novelists* (St. James Press, 1976)
- Can it be doubtful that this is still the rule of human education; that the human creature needs first of all to be educated not that he may speak, but that he may have something weighty and valuable to say!
— Thomas Carlyle: “Stump Orator,” *Latter-Day Pamphlets* (1850)
- I feel that music theory has gotten stuck by trying too long to find universals. Of course, we would like to study Mozart's music the way scientists analyze the spectrum of a distant star. Indeed, we find some almost universal practices in every musical era. But we must view these with suspicion, for they might show no more than what composers then felt should be universal. If so, the search for truth in art becomes a travesty in which each era's practice only parodies its predecessor's prejudice. Imagine formulating “laws” for television screenplays, taking them for natural phenomenon uninfluenced by custom or constraint of commerce.
— Marvin Minsky: “Music, Mind, and Meaning,” *Computer Music Journal* (Fall, 1981)
- When I was five, I am told, and asked what my favorite things in the world were, I answered, “smoked salmon and Bach.” (Now, sixty years later, my answer would be the same.)
— Oliver Sacks (1933—2015): *Uncle Tungsten* (2001)

- Mark all mathematical heads, which be only and wholly bent to those sciences, how solitary they be themselves, how unfit to live with others, and how unapt to serve in the world.
— Roger Ascham: *The Schoolmaster* (1570)
- In every civilized society property rights must be carefully safeguarded; ordinarily and in the great majority of cases, human rights and property rights are fundamentally and in the long run, identical; but when it clearly appears that there is a real conflict between them, human rights must have the upper hand; for property belongs to man and not man to property.
— Theodore Roosevelt, address at the Sorbonne, Paris (1910—Apr—23)
- A war can perhaps be won single-handedly. But peace — lasting peace — cannot be secured without the support of all.
— Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, speech to United Nations General Assembly (2003—Sep—23)
- The most hateful torment for men is to have knowledge of everything but power over nothing.
— Herodotus (ca. 485 BCE—ca. 425 BCE): *Histories*
- We all agree that neither the Government nor political parties ought to interfere with religious sects. It is equally true that religious sects ought not to interfere with the Government or with political parties. We believe that the cause of good government and the cause of religion both suffer by all such interference.
— Rutherford B. Hayes, speech, Marion, Ohio (1875—Jul—31)
- Freedom is an indivisible word. If we want to enjoy it, and fight for it, we must be prepared to extend it to everyone, whether they are rich or poor, whether they agree with us or not, no matter what their race or the color of their skin.
— Wendell Wilkie: *One World* (1943)
- I assume we can defeat Hussein without great cost to our side (God forgive me if that is hubris). The problem is what happens after we win. The country is 20 percent Kurd, 20 percent Sunni and 60 percent Shiite. Can you say, ‘Horrible three-way civil war?’
— Molly Ivins: “Appalling silence” at <http://freepress.org/columns/display/1/2003/20> (2003—Jan—16)
- You write a hit play the same way you write a flop.
— William Saroyan: *My Heart’s in the Highlands* (1939)

- The man in charge must concern himself with details. If he does not consider them important, neither will his subordinates. Yet “the devil is in the details.” It is hard and monotonous to pay attention to seemingly minor matters. In my work, I probably spend about ninety-nine percent of my time on what others may call petty details. Most managers would rather focus on lofty policy matters. But when the details are ignored, the project fails. No infusion of policy or lofty ideals can then correct the situation.
— Hyman G. Rickover: *The Rickover Effect* (1992)
- Whenever I become discouraged (which is on alternate Tuesdays, between three and four) I lift my spirits by remembering: The artists are on our side! I mean those poets and painters, singers and musicians, novelists and playwrights who speak to the world in a way that is impervious to assault because they wage the battle for justice in a sphere which is unreachable by the dullness of ordinary political discourse.
— Howard Zinn (1924–2010): “Artists of Resistance” (2001), collected *The Historic Unfulfilled Promise* (2012)
- I don’t believe in labels. I want to do the best I can, all the time. I want to be progressive without getting both feet off the ground at the same time. I want to be prudent without having my mind closed to anything that is new or different. I have often said that I was proud that I was a free man first and an American second, and a public servant third and a Democrat fourth, in that order, and I guess as a Democrat, if I had to take—place a label on myself, I would want to be a progressive who is prudent.
— Lyndon B. Johnson, television and radio interview (1964—Mar—15) [Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Lyndon B. Johnson, 1963–64, book 1, p. 368]
- My father was a slave and my people died to build this country, and I’m going to stay right here and have a part of it, just like you. And no fascist-minded people like you will drive me from it. Is that clear?
— Paul Robeson (1898–1976), testimony before House Un-American Activities Committee (1956—Jun—12)
- Americans have called on moderates in Muslim countries to speak out against extremists, to stand up for the tolerance they say they believe in. We should all have the guts do the same at home.
— Nicholas D. Kristof: “America’s History of Fear”, *New York Times* (2010—Sep—04)
- Aristotle taught that the brain exists merely to cool the blood and is not involved in the process of thinking. This is true only of certain persons.
— Will Cuppy: *The Decline and Fall of Practically Everybody* (1950)

- We travel together, passengers on a little space ship, dependent on its vulnerable reserves of air and soil; all committed for our safety to its security and peace; preserved from annihilation only by the care, the work, and, I will say, the love we give our fragile craft. We cannot maintain it half fortunate, half miserable, half confident, half despairing, half slave — to the ancient enemies of man — half free in a liberation of resources undreamed of until this day. No craft, no crew can travel safely with such vast contradictions. On their resolution depends the survival of us all.
— Adlai E. Stevenson, speech to Economic and Social Council of United Nations, Geneva (1965–July–09)
- Libraries will get you through times of no money better than money will get you through times of no libraries.
— Anne Herbert, quoted in *The Next Whole Earth Catalog — Access to Tools* (1980)
- “Two nations; between whom there is no intercourse and no sympathy; who are as ignorant of each other’s habits, thoughts, and feelings, as if they were dwellers in different zones, or inhabitants of different planets; who are formed by a different breeding, are fed by a different food, are ordered by different manners, and are not governed by the same laws.”
“You speak of—” said Egremont, hesitatingly.
“THE RICH AND THE POOR.”
— Benjamin Disraeli: *Sybil* (1845)
- Trickle-down theory — the less than elegant metaphor that if one feeds the horse enough oats, some will pass through to the road for the sparrows.
— John Kenneth Galbraith: *The Culture of Contentment* (1992)
- In taking soup, it is necessary to avoid lifting too much in the spoon, or filling the mouth so full as almost to stop the breath.
— Jean-Baptiste de la Salle: *The Rules of Christian Manners and Civility* (1695)
- The idea of social democracy is now used to describe a society the economy of which is predominantly capitalist, but where the state acts to regulate the economy in the general interest, provides welfare services outside of it and attempts to alter the distribution of income and wealth in the name of social justice.
— Edward Craig: *Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (1998)
- For you have no idea how unimportant is all that the teacher says or does not say on the surface, and how important what he himself is, as teacher.
— Rudolf Steiner: *Curative Education* (1924) [trans., Mary Admas]

- There is no longer any question of adding to the old rules new principles which are the natural expression of time and experience, but simply of casting aside all rules and every restraint. “Everyone ought to make his own rules. Music is free and unlimited in its liberty of expression. There are no perfect chords, dissonant chords or false chords. All aggregations of notes are legitimate.” That is called, and they believe it, the development of taste.... In certain quarters they marvel at the progress made in the last thirty years. The architects of the Fifteenth Century must have reasoned in the same way. They did not appreciate that they were assassinating Gothic art, and that after some centuries we would have to revert to the art of the Greeks and Romans.
— Camille Saint-Saëns (1835–1921): *Musical Memories* [trans., Edwin Gile Rich] (1919)
- We all profess the deepest regard for liberty; but no sooner does anyone claim to exercise it than we declare with horror that we are in favor of liberty but not of licence, and demand indignantly whether true freedom can ever mean freedom to do wrong, to preach sedition and immorality, to utter blasphemy. Yet this is exactly what liberty does mean.
— George Bernard Shaw: *W. E. A. Education Year Book* (1918)
- The essence of religion is inertia; the essence of science is change. It is the function of the one to preserve, it is the function of the other to improve. If, as in Egypt, they are firmly chained together, either science will advance, in which case the religion will be altered, or the religion will preserve its purity, and science will congeal.
— William Winwood Reade: *The Martyrdom of Man* (1872)
- Un poème n’est jamais achevé—c’est toujours un accident qui le termine.
[A poem is never finished—it’s always an accident that ends it.
— Paul Valéry: *Littérature* (1929)
- No snowflake in an avalanche ever feels responsible.
— Stanisław Jerzy Lec (1909–1966): *More Unkempt Thoughts* [trans. unknown]
- Remember that no piece of honestly conducted research is ever wasted, even if it seems so at the time. Put it away in a drawer, and ten, twenty or thirty years down the road, it will come back and help you in ways you never anticipated.
— Anthony James Leggett, speech at the Nobel Banquet (2003–Dec–03)
- Human beings are perhaps never more frightening than when they are convinced beyond doubt that they are right.
— Laurens van der Post: *The Lost World of the Kalahari* (1958)

- A human society comes together by a general agreement in order to obey its kings. So in a truly well-ordered regime there ought to be an election of the ruler himself, by which the ruler is set up as the judge of those who choose him. Well-ordered and correct lordships and honors, then, are established by election, and so also are general judges established over those who elect them.
— Nicholas of Cusa (1401–1464): *The Catholic Concordance* [trans., Kevin Gallagher (2010)]
- Be a master everywhere and wherever you stand is your true place.
— Línjì Yìxuán [臨濟義玄] (†866): *Lin-chi lu (Record of Lin-Chi)*
- That the question of slavery lay at the root of the dissension cannot be doubted by any who are conversant with the political history of the United States. The tariff rulings had their weight, as did the unfair division of new territory: but the main issue was negro slavery, which, always a stumbling-block to the North, had most violently agitated the whole country for eleven years before the appeal to arms.
— Eugenia Dunlap Potts: “Slavery,” read before the Lexington, KY, chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (1909–Mar–14); collected in Potts: *Historic Papers on the Causes of the Civil War* Of what use is freedom of speech to those who fear to offend?
— Roger Ebert: *Roger Ebert’s Movie Home Companion* (1990 Edition)
- It is often assumed that ‘programming is coding’ and that program design and testing are merely incidental stages in the real chore of writing code. Even flowcharts are deemed academic drills of little practical consequence. These misconceptions regarding the importance of following rigorous methods of program design and testing account for the poor quality of many software products.
— Julio Sanchez & Maria P. Canton: *Programming Solutions Handbook for IBM Microcomputers* (1991)
- When you reread a classic you do not see more in the book than you did before; you see more in YOU than there was before.
— Clifton Fadiman: *Any Number Can Play* (1957)
- Russian and Turkish armies are face to face on the northwestern frontier of Persia. Russia is steadily augmenting its force, while Turkey stands firm. The situation may not develop into war, but the uncertainty and danger are affecting the Russian markets adversely and filling the intelligent public with alarm.
— *The Evening News* [San Jose, California] (1912–Mar–27)

- I cannot speak for all, but I have talked to many artists who feel this way - we have lost even our belief that we are the minority that knows. We believed ten years ago, twenty years ago, that we knew the secret. Now we have lost this belief. We are a minority with no power and no belief, no faith. I feel myself, as an artist and as a citizen, just totally obsolete... Okay, it can be done this way or that way or this way, or in splashes or smoothly, but why? What the hell is it about? That's why we wanted to ask people. For us — from our point of view — it's a sincere thing to understand something, to change course. Because the way we live we cannot live anymore. I have never seen artists so desperate as they are now, in this society.
— Aleksandr Melamid in Vitaly Komar, Aleksandr Melamid & JoAnn Wypijewski: *Painting by Numbers—Komar and Melamid's Scientific Guide to Art* (1997)
- The need for collecting large campaign funds would vanish if Congress provided an appropriation for the proper and legitimate expenses of each of the great national parties, an appropriation ample enough to meet the necessity for thorough organization and machinery, which requires a large expenditure of money. Then the stipulation should be made that no party receiving campaign funds from the Treasury should accept more than a fixed amount from any individual subscriber or donor; and the necessary publicity for receipts and expenditures could without difficulty be provided.
— Theodore Roosevelt, annual message to Congress (1907—Dec—03), in vol. 17 of *The Works of Theodore Roosevelt* (1926)
- When a distinguished but elderly scientist states that something is possible, he is almost certainly right. When he states that something is impossible, he is very probably wrong.
— Arthur C. Clarke: *Profiles of the Future* (1962) [known as “Clarke’s First Law”]
- The only way to discover the limits of the possible is to go beyond them to the impossible.
— Arthur C. Clarke: *Profiles of the Future* (1962) [known as “Clarke’s Second Law”]
- Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.
— Arthur C. Clarke, letter to the editor, *Science* (1968—Jan—19) [known as “Clarke’s Third Law”]
- Behind the black portent of the new atomic age lies a hope which, seized upon with faith, can work out salvation ... Let us not deceive ourselves: we must elect world peace or world destruction.
— Bernard Baruch (1870—1965), address to the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission (1946—Jun—14)

- Before we can build a stable civilization worthy of humanity as a whole, it is necessary that each historical civilization should become conscious of its limitations and it's unworthiness to become the ideal civilization of the world.
— Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan: *Kalki — or The Future of Civilization* (1929)
- It is an unfortunate human failing that a full pocketbook often groans more loudly than an empty stomach.
— Franklin D. Roosevelt, speech, Brooklyn, NY (1940—Nov—1)
- Bigotry is the disease of ignorance, of morbid minds; enthusiasm of the free and buoyant. Education & free discussion are the antidotes of both.
— Thomas Jefferson, letter to John Adams (1816—Aug—01)
- The only knowledge that can truly orient action is knowledge that frees itself from mere human interests and is based in Ideas—in other words knowledge that has taken a theoretical attitude.
— Jürgen Habermas: *Knowledge and Human Interests* (1971), trans. J. Schapiro
- ...and Truman was President.



- The structure of a play is always the story of how the birds came home to roost.
— Arthur Miller, in *Harper's* (1958–Aug)
- I have yet to hear a man ask for advice on how to combine marriage and a career.
— Gloria Steinem, quoted in Robert Byrne: *The Fourth—and by Far the Most Recent—637 Best Things Anybody Ever Said* (1990)
- Even a fool could see that one didn't need a war, nuclear or otherwise, to destroy oneself; the rising cost of weaponry could do that quite nicely.
— Stanisław Lem: *Pokój na Ziemi* (1987) [*Peace on Earth*, trans. Elinor Ford (1994)]
- Mother told me a couple of years ago, “Sweetheart, settle down and marry a rich man.” I said, “Mom, I am a rich man.”
— Cheryl Sarkisian LaPiere Bono Allman, quoted in *Observer* [London] (1995–Nov–26)
- The notes I handle no better than many pianists. But the pauses between the notes—ah, that is where the art resides.
— Artur Schnabel (1882–1951), quoted in *Chicago Daily News* (1958–Jun–11)
- The fear of capitalism has compelled socialism to widen freedom, and the fear of socialism has compelled capitalism to increase equality. East is West and West is East, and soon the twain will meet.
— Will and Ariel Durant: *The Lessons of History* (1968)
- If at first you don't succeed, try, try again. Then quit. There's no use being a damn fool about it.
— W. C. Fields, quoted in *Reader's Digest* (1949–Sep)
- The French Revolution of a hundred and fifty years ago gradually ushered in an age of political equality, but the times have changed, and that by itself is not enough today. The boundaries of democracy have to be widened now so as to include economic equality also. This is the great revolution through which we are all passing.
— Jawaharlal Nehru: *Glimpses of World History* (1939)
- Behaviour which would be considered insanity in a tradesman is looked upon as mild eccentricity in a lord.
— Peter Barnes: *The Ruling Class* [screenplay] (1972)
- People want economy, and they will pay any price to get it.
— Lee Iacocca, quoted in *The New York Times* (1974–Oct–13)

- If we are to regard ourselves as a grown-up nation — and anything else will henceforth be mortally dangerous — then we must, as the Biblical phrase goes, put away childish things; and among these childish things the first to go, in my opinion, should be self-idealization and the search for absolutes in world affairs: for absolute security, absolute amity, absolute harmony.
— George F. Kennan: *Russia and the West under Lenin and Stalin* (1961)
- Our program is simple: we wish to govern Italy. They ask us for programs but there are already too many. It is not programs that are wanting for the salvation of Italy but men and will power.
— Benito Mussolini, speech “The Question of Regime. The Monarchy and Fascism,” at Udine (1922–Sep–20), quoted in Brinton, Christopher & Wolff: *A History of Civilization* (1955)
- In a time when so many artists have learned to confabulate with extremes of horror and alienation, the most daring thing an artist can do is to fill a book, a gallery, or a theater with joy, hope, and beauty.
— Theodore Roszak with Betty Roszak: “Deep Form in Art and Nature” *Alexandria 4, vol. 4* [The Order of Beauty and Nature] (1997)
- In Italy for thirty years under the Borgias they had warfare, terror, murder, bloodshed — they produced Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci, and the Renaissance. In Switzerland they had brotherly love, five hundred years of democracy, and peace and what did that produce? The cuckoo clock.
— Orson Welles, lines added to the screenplay by Graham Greene: *The Third Man* (film, 1949)
- Being a part of a political party is something like being a partner in a marriage — work at it and stay loyal to it, and when you can’t stomach it any longer, leave it.
— Judy LaMarsh (1924–1980): *Memoirs Of A Bird In A Gilded Cage* (1969)
- We cannot afford merely to sit down and deplore the evils of city life as inevitable, when cities are constantly growing, both absolutely and relatively. We must set ourselves vigorously about the task of improving them; and this task is now well begun.
— Theodore Roosevelt, “The City in Modern Life,” *Literary Essays* (vol. 12 of *The Works of Theodore Roosevelt*, national ed., 1926)
- A few months ago I told the American people I did not trade arms for hostages. My heart and my best intentions still tell me that is true, but the facts and the evidence tell me it is not.
— Ronald W. Reagan, television address (1987–Mar–04)

- The thing we have to fear in this country, to my way of thinking, is the influence of the organized minorities, because somehow or other the great majority does not seem to organize. They seem to feel that they are going to be effective because of their known strength, but they give no expression of it.
— Alfred E. Smith, speech at Harvard (1933–Jun–22)
- Football combines the two worst features of American life. It is violence punctuated by committee meetings.
— George F. Will, quoted in *New York Times Book Review* (1990–Apr–01)
- It takes a thousand men to invent a telegraph, or a steam engine, or a phonograph, or a photograph, or a telephone or any other important thing—and the last man gets the credit and we forget the others. He added his little mite — that is all he did. These object lessons should teach us that ninety-nine parts of all things that proceed from the intellect are plagiarisms, pure and simple; and the lesson ought to make us modest. But nothing can do that.
— Samuel Clemens [Mark Twain], letter to Helen Keller (1903–Mar–17); published in *Mark Twain's Letters, Vol. 1* (1917), edited by Albert Bigelow Paine
- The majestic equality of the law, which forbids the rich as well as the poor to sleep under bridges, to beg in the streets, and to steal bread.
— Anatole France (Jacques-Anatole-François Thibault: *Le Lys rouge* (1894)
- The great secret in life not to open your letters for a fortnight. At the expiration of that period you will find that nearly all of them have answered themselves.
— Arthur Binyon (1861–1914): *Pitcher's Proverbs* (1909)
- Widespread intellectual and moral docility may be convenient for leaders in the short term, but it is suicidal for nations in the long term. One of the criteria for national leadership should therefore be a talent for understanding, encouraging, and making constructive use of vigorous criticism.
— Carl Sagan: *Billions and Billions — Thoughts on Life and Death at the Brink of the Millenium* (1997)
- I said, “It is most extraordinary weather for this time of year!” He replied, “Ah, it isn't this time of year at all.”
— Oliver St John Gogarty: *It Isn't This Time of Year at All* (1954)
- Old age is the most unexpected of all things that happen to a man.
— Leon Trotsky (1879–1940): *Diary in Exile—1935* [trans., unknown]

- When time itself shall be no more,
And all things in confusion hurl'd,
Music shall then exert its power,
And sound survive the ruins of the world...
— Joseph Addison: *Song for St. Cecilia's Day* (1692)
- Fortunately science, like that nature to which it belongs, is neither limited by time nor by space. It belongs to the world, and is of no country and of no age. The more we know, the more we feel our ignorance; the more we feel how much remains unknown; and in philosophy, the sentiment of the Macedonian hero can never apply, — there are always new worlds to conquer.
— Humphry Davy, speech to the Royal Society (1825—Nov—30)
- If there is any fixed star in our constitutional constellation, it is that no official, high or petty, can prescribe what shall be orthodox in politics, nationalism, religion, or other matters of opinion or force citizens to confess by word or act their faith therein. If there are any circumstances which permit an exception, they do not now occur to us.
— Robert Jackson, for the majority: *West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624 (1943)
- In all the works on pedagogy that ever I read — and they have been many, big, and heavy — I don't remember that any one has advocated a system of teaching by practical jokes, mostly cruel. That, however, describes the method of our great teacher, Experience.
— Charles Sanders Peirce: *Pragmatism and Pragmaticism* (1903)
- Err, *v.i.*: To believe or act in a way contrary to my beliefs and actions.
— Ambrose Bierce, in *Wasp* [San Francisco] (1884—May—24)
- No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main; if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well as if a manor of thy friends or of thine own were; any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind; and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls: it tolls for thee.
— John Donne: *Devotions* (1623)
- About 60 years ago, I said to my father, "Old Mr. Senex is showing his age; he sometimes talks quite stupidly." My father replied, "That isn't age. He's always been stupid. He is just losing his ability to conceal it."
— Robertson Davies, in *New York Times Book Review* (1991—May—12)

- The job of mass entertainment is exactly the opposite of the job of art — the job of mass entertainment is to cajole, seduce and flatter consumers to let them know that what they thought was right is right, and that their tastes and their immediate gratification are of the utmost concern of the purveyor.
— David Mamet, interview for the *Salan Magazine* (1997); quoted in Theresa Saxon: *American Theatre — History, Context, Form* (2011)
- The real alternative to being Number One is not being Number Two; it is dispensing with rankings altogether.
— Alfie Kohn: *No Contest—The Case Against Competition* (1986/1992)
- Science makes no pretension to eternal truth or absolute truth; some of its rivals do. That science is in some respects inhuman may be the secret of its success in alleviating human misery and mitigating human stupidity.
— Eric Temple Bell: *Mathematics — Queen and Servant of Science* (1938)
- Doctor, I wrestled with reality for forty years, and I am happy to state that I finally won out over it.
— Mary Chase: *Harvey* (1944)
- Those afraid of the universe as it really is, those who pretend to nonexistent knowledge and envision a Cosmos centered on human beings will prefer the fleeting comforts of superstition. They avoid rather than confront the world. But those with the courage to explore the weave and structure of the Cosmos, even where it differs profoundly from their wishes and prejudices, will penetrate its deepest mysteries.
— Carl Sagan: *Cosmos* (1980)
- We've tended in our cosmologies to make things familiar. Despite all our best efforts, we've not been very inventive. In the West, Heaven is placid and fluffy, and Hell is like the inside of a volcano. In many stories, both realms are governed by dominance hierarchies headed by gods or devils. Monotheists talked about the king of kings. In every culture we imagined something like our own political system running the Universe. Few found the similarity suspicious.
— Carl Sagan: *Pale Blue Dot — A Vision of the Human Future in Space* (1994)
- We've arranged a society based on science and technology, in which nobody understands anything about science and technology. And this combustible mixture of ignorance and power, sooner or later, is going to blow up in our faces. Who is running the science and technology in a democracy if the people don't know anything about it?
— Carl Sagan, in Charlie Rose — An Interview with Carl Sagan [TV show] (1996—May—27)

- A central lesson of science is that to understand complex issues (or even simple ones), we must try to free our minds of dogma and to guarantee the freedom to publish, to contradict, and to experiment. Arguments from authority are unacceptable.
— Carl Sagan: *Billions and Billions — Thoughts on Life and Death at the Brink of the Millenium* (1997)
- [[It is clear from the fossil record that almost every species that has ever existed is extinct; extinction is the rule, survival is the exception.
— Carl Sagan: *The Varieties of Scientific Experience — A Personal View of the Search for God* (2006)
- In many myths, the one possibility the gods are most anxious about is that humans will discover some secret of immortality or even... attempt to stride the high heavens. ...It's a little bit like the rich imposing poverty on the poor and then asking to be loved because of it.
— Carl Sagan: *The Varieties of Scientific Experience — A Personal View of the Search for God* (2006)
- A Shop-Keeper will never get the more Custom by beating his Customers; and what is true of a Shop-Keeper, is true of a Shop-keeping Nation.
— Josiah Tucker: *A Letter from a Merchant in London to his Nephew in North America* (1766)
- America was discovered accidentally by a great seaman who was looking for something else; when discovered it was not wanted; and most of the exploration for the next fifty years was done in the hope of getting through or around it. America was named after a man who discovered no part of the New World. History is like that, very chancy.
— Samuel Eliot Morison: *The Oxford History of the American People* (1965)
- Democracy depends on freedom of speech. Freedom of connection, with any application, to any party, is the fundamental social basis of the Internet, and, now, the society based on it. Let's see whether the United States is capable as acting according to its important values, or whether it is, as so many people are saying, run by the misguided short-term interests of large corporations.
I hope that Congress can protect net neutrality, so I can continue to innovate in the internet space. I want to see the explosion of innovations happening out there on the Web, so diverse and so exciting, continue unabated.
— Tim Berners-Lee, in “Net Neutrality: This is Serious”
[<http://dig.csail.mit.edu/breadcrumbs/node/144>] (2006—Jun)

- The only truly secure system is one that is powered off, cast in a block of concrete and sealed in a lead-lined room with armed guards - and even then I have my doubts.
— Gene Spafford, in A. K. Dewdney: “Computer Recreations: Of Worms, Viruses and Core War” in *Scientific American* (1989—Mar)
- To many people dramatic criticism must seem like an attempt to tattoo soap bubbles.
— John Mason Brown: *Broadway in Review* (1940)
- A presidential campaign may easily degenerate into a mere personal contest and so lose its real dignity and significance. There is no indispensable man.
— Woodrow Wilson, speech accepting the Democratic presidential nomination, Seagirt, NJ (1912—Aug—07)
- The government of a nation is often decided over a cup of coffee, or the fate of empires changed by an extra bottle of Johannisberg.
— George Payne Rainsford James: *Richelieu* (1829)
- The only obligation to which in advance we may hold a novel, without incurring the accusation of being arbitrary, is that it be interesting.
— Henry James: *The Art of Fiction* (1888)
- What sense of superiority it gives one to escape reading some book which every one else is reading.
— Alice James (1848-1892), quoted in *Alice James, Her Brothers — Her Journal* (1934)
- What the detective story is about is not murder but the restoration of order.
— P. D. James, quoted in *Face* (1896—Dec)
- The moral flabbiness born of the exclusive worship of the bitch-goddess SUCCESS. That — with the squalid cash interpretation put on the word success — is our national disease.
— William James, letter to H. G. Wells (1906—Sep—11)
- The race question is subsidiary to the class question in politics, and to think of imperialism in terms of race is disastrous. But to neglect the racial factor as merely incidental is an error only less grave than to make it fundamental.
— Cyril Lionel Robert James: *The Black Jacobins* (1963)
- There will always be people who are ahead of the curve, and people who are behind the curve. But knowledge moves the curve.
— George William James: *The Mind of Bill James* (2006)

- The changes in orchestral forces can be shown most dramatically by comparing the Dresden Opera orchestra of 1768 with that specified by Richard Strauss (1864-1949) for a 1909 performance of his opera *Electra*. It is reputed that during the rehearsal Strauss was heard exhorting the orchestra: “Louder! Louder! I can still hear the singers!”
— Brian Blood: *A Survey of 19th Century Music*, [music history online — music of the 19th century — lesson 39] at [www<dot>dolmetsch<dot>com<slash>musictheory39<dot>htm](http://www.dolmetsch.com/musictheory39.htm)
- We shall never become musicians unless we understand the ideals of temperance, fortitude, liberality and magnificence.
— Plato: *Republic* (c. 380 BCE)
- The attack on each note ought to be direct and unhesitating, without the least suspicion of hiatus, slurring or portamento. Perfection will be achieved when each note comes forth clearly and cleanly without any perceptible effort or roughness.
— Gregory Suñol: *Text Book of Gregorian Chant According to the Solesmes Method* [trans., G. M. Durnford] (1930)
- Music was regarded by the ancients as a refined art, although it has since become a commerce.
— Robert Burton: *The Anatomy of Melancholy* (1621), quoted in Edgar Stillman Kelley: *Musical Instruments* (1925)
- Musicians do not manufacture material goods and therefore, like poets, must subsist parasitically. In times of catastrophic social disturbances, wars, famine, and plagues, music stops. In times of prosperity, musicians attach themselves to the dominant powers—the church, the royal court, educational institutions (which themselves must depend on the powers of the state), or wealthy merchants.
— Nicolas Slonimsky: *Lectionary of Music* (1989)
- In accompanying singers of the musical-comedy stage, a great problem was presented when the popular fancy turned away from big voices to little, thin ones of personal appeal but no vocal power. This necessitated for years the presence of the melody strongly played in the orchestra, since the singer would leave some doubt as to just what the melody was if left to his or her own devices in the matter.
— Robert Russell Bennett: “Orchestration of Theatre and Dance Music” in *Music Lover’s Encyclopedia* (1939)
- A smart machine will first consider which is more worth its while: to perform the given task or, instead, to figure some way out of it.
— Stanisław Lem: *The Futurological Congress* (1971)

- Postliterate man's electronic media contract the world to a village or tribe where everything happens to everyone at the same time: everyone knows about, and therefore participates in, everything that is happening the minute it happens. Television gives this quality of simultaneity to events in the global village.
— Marshall McLuhan (1911–1980) [with Edmund Carpenter]: *Explorations in Communication* (1960)
- The important thing, once you have enough to eat and a nice house, is what you can do for others, what you can contribute to the enterprise as a whole.
— Donald E. Knuth, quoted in Jack Woehr: “An interview with Donald Knuth,” *Dr. Dobb's Journal* (1996–Apr)
- A newspaper makes the multitude too familiar with the actions and councils of their superiors and gives them not only an itch but a kind of colorable right and license to be meddling with the government.
— Roger L'Éstrange, on taking office as Licenser of the Press, London (1680–May)
- When I find the road narrow, and can see no other way of teaching a well established truth except by pleasing one intelligent man and displeasing ten thousand fools — I prefer to address myself to the man.
— Maimonides [Moses ben Maimon]: *The Guide for the Perplexed* (ca. 1190)
- How can you expect a man who's warm to understand one who's cold?
— Alexander Solzhenitsyn: *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich* (1962) [trans., Ralph Parker]
- The best way for a man to get out of a lowly position is to be conspicuously effective in it.
— Carlos Wilcox, quoted in Josiah Hotchkiss Gilbert: *Dictionary of Burning Words of Brilliant Writers* (1895)
- An unalterable and unquestioned law of the musical world required that the German text of French operas sung by Swedish artists should be translated into Italian for the clearer understanding of English-speaking audiences.
— Edith Wharton: *The Age of Innocence* (1920)
- The ideal teacher student relationship exists when the student is better than the teacher.
— Kenzaburō Ōe (大江 健三郎) *Shizuka-na seikatsu* [*A Quiet Life*, trans. unknown] (1990)
- To be clever enough to get all that money, one must be stupid enough to want it.
— G. K. Chesterton: *The Wisdom of Father Brown* (1914)

- And so it was that on that cold, dark, wet night in Leipzig (at one minute after midnight, to be precise), there came into this world one of the most curious figures in the entire history of music in Western Civilization: a man who did not change the course of music one iota, a man who defined definitively the doctrine of originality through incompetence, a man who triumphed over the most staggering obstacle ever placed before a composer: absolute and utter lack of talent.
— Prof. Peter Schickele: *The Definitive Biography of P. D. Q. Bach* (1976)
- Fas est et ab hoste doceri.
[We can learn even from our enemies.]
— Ovid [Publius Ovidius Naso] (43 BCE—ca. 18 CE): *Metamorphoses* [trans., unknown]
- Ring out the old, ring in the new,
 Ring, happy bells, across the snow;
 The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.
— Alfred Tennyson: *In Memoriam A. H. H.* (1849)
- The exercise of singing is delightful to Nature, and good to preserve the health of man. It doth strengthen all parts of the breast, and doth open the pipes.
— William Byrd: *Psalms, Sonnets and Songs* (1588)
- No problem is so big or so complicated that it can't be run away from.
— Charles M. Schulz: *Peanuts* [comic strip] (1963—Feb—27)
- No man is an Island, entire of it self; every man is a piece of the Continent, a part of the main; if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well as if a manor of thy friends or of thine own were; any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in Mankind; and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.
— John Donne: "Meditation XII," *Devotions upon Emergent Occasions* (1624)
- Plus on apprend à connaître l'homme, plus on apprend à estimer le chien.
[The more one gets to know of men, the more one values dogs.]
— Alphonse Toussenel: *L'Esprit des bêtes* (1847)
- At the age of four with paper hats and wooden swords we're all Generals. Only some of us never grow out of it.
— Peter Ustinov: *Romanoff and Juliet* (1956)

- Money is something that can be measured; art is not. It's all subjective. You can't prove Rembrandt is better than Norman Rockwell — although if you actually do prefer Rockwell, I'd say you were shunning complexity, were secretly conservative, and hadn't really looked at either painter's work. Taste is a blood sport.
— Jerry Saltz: "Has Money Ruined Art?," *New York Magazine* (2007—Oct—07)
- One, by his own confession to me, that can put on two several faces, and look his enemies in the face with as much love as his friends. But, good God! what an age is this, and what a world is this! that a man cannot live without playing the knave and dissimulation.
— Samuel Pepys: *Diary* (1661—Sep—01)
- If you wish your audience to cry, you must shed tears yourself, but if you wish to make them laugh you must contrive to look as serious as a judge.
— Giacomo Casanova (1725-1798): *Memoirs* [trans., Machen, 1894]
- Canada could have enjoyed:
English government,
French culture,
and American know-how.
Instead it ended up with:
English know-how,
French government,
and American culture.
— John Robert Colombo: *Oh Canada* (1965)
- Private property is a necessary institution, at least in a fallen world; men work more and dispute less when goods are private than when they are common. But it is to be tolerated as a concession to human frailty, not applauded as desirable in itself.
— R. H. Tawney: *Religion and the Rise of Capitalism* (1926)
- The final end of government is not to exert restraint but to do good.
— Rufus Choate, speech in U. S. Senate (1841—Jul—02)
- The object of government is the welfare of the people. The material progress and prosperity of a nation are desirable chiefly so far as they lead to the moral and material welfare of all good citizens.
— Theodore Roosevelt: *The New Nationalism* (1910)

- Nothing is more destructive of respect for the government and the law of the land than passing laws which cannot be enforced.
— Albert Einstein: “Some Notes on my American Impressions,” *The World As I See It* (1949) (originally published, 1921, as “My First Impression of the U.S.A.”)
- The object of government in peace and in war is not the glory of rulers or of races, but the happiness of the common man.
— William Beveridge: *Social Insurance and Allied Services* (1942)
- “Do you know who is responsible?”
“Why of course, it’s the government!”
“Jill, ‘the government’ is several million people.”
— Robert A. Heinlein: *Stranger in a Strange Land* (1961)
- Our whole economy is based on planned obsolescence.
— Brooks Stevens, quoted in Vance Packard: *The Waste Makers* (1960)
- I caught this morning morning’s minion, king-
 dom of daylight’s dauphin, dapple-dawn-drawn Falcon, in his riding
 Of the rolling level underneath him steady air, and striding
High there, how he rung upon the rein of a wimpling wing
In his ecstasy!
— Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844–1889): “The Windhover”
- Non qui parum habet, sed qui plus cupit, pauper est.
[It is not the man who has too little, but the man who craves more, that is poor.]
— Lucius Annaeus Seneca [Seneca the younger] (c. 4 BCE - 65 CE): *Epistulae Morales ad Lucilium*, Letter II – On discursiveness in reading
[trans., Richard Mott Gummere]



- The story of the labor movement needs to be taught in every school in this land... America is a living testimonial to what free men and women, organized in free democratic trade unions can do to make a better life... we ought to be proud of it!
— Hubert Humphrey, address to the 1977 Minnesota State AFL-CIO Convention
- We must try to find ways to starve the terrorist and the hijacker of the oxygen of publicity on which they depend.
— Margaret Thatcher, speech to American Bar Association, Albert Hall, South Kensington, London (1985—Jul—15)
- The divorce between the church and the state ought to be absolute. It ought to be so absolute that no church property anywhere in any State or in the nation should be exempt from equal taxation: for if you exempt the property of any church organization, to that extent you impose a church tax upon the whole community.
— James A. Garfield, debate (1874—Jun—22), “A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: U.S. Congressional Documents and Debates, 1774—1875: Congressional Record, House of Representatives, 43rd Congress, 1st Session” pg 5384
- And when they encounter works of art which show that using new media can lead to new experiences and to new consciousness, and expand our senses, our perception, our intelligence, our sensibility, then they will become interested in this music.
— Karlheinz Stockhausen, interview by Iara Lee for the film *Modulations* (1997—Aug)
- La politique au milieu des intérêts d’imagination, c’est un coup de pistolet au milieu d’un concert.
[Politics in the middle of things of the imagination is like a pistol shot in the middle of a concert.]
— Marie-Henri Beyle [Stendhal]: *Le Rouge et le noir* (1830)
- ...However many books
Wise men have said are wearisom; who reads
Incessantly, and to his reading brings not
A spirit and judgment equal or superior
(And what he brings, what needs he elsewhere seek)
Uncertain and unsettl’d still remains,
Deep verst in books and shallow in himself,
Crude or intoxicate, collecting toys,
And trifles for choice matters, worth a sponge;
As Children gathering pibles on the shore.
— John Milton: *Paradise Regained* (1671)

- Victory won by violence is tantamount to defeat, for it is momentary.
— Mahatma Gandhi: “Satyagraha Leaflet No. 13” (1919–May–03)
- Defend your opinion only if it can be shown to be true, not because it is your opinion.
— Jack McDevitt: *Omega* (2003)
- An awkward, unscientific lie is often as ineffectual as the truth.
—Mark Twain: *On the Decay of the Art Of Lying*
- As a rule, large capitalists are Republicans and small capitalists are Democrats, but workingmen must remember that they are all capitalists, and that the many small ones, like the fewer large ones, are all politically supporting their class interests, and this is always and everywhere the capitalist class.
— Eugene V. Debs: “Outlook for Socialism in the United States,” *International Socialist Review* (1900–Sept)
- The real paradox of television is that if by some miracle the network shareholders and officers suddenly determined to use only good taste, good judgment and their conscience, to guide their choice of programming, the power of the local stations would overrule them. Moreover, a network operating with an unbridled sense of responsibility would soon see its affiliates seceding to another network, perhaps even a new one, that traveled the low road to rating and revenues. The harsh fact is that most affiliates are too profitable under present circumstances; mining gold from the ether as they are, they have no incentive to tamper with the magic results of “giving the people what they want.”
— Fred W. Friendly: *Due to Circumstances Beyond Our Control...* (1967)
- Ronald Reagan couldn’t get nominated today because he was supportive of immigrant rights. Barry Goldwater was pro-choice. George H. W. Bush supported Planned Parenthood. No previous Republicans except for George W. Bush would be acceptable to the people who now run the GOP. They are not Republicans. They are the American version of the Taliban.... They’ve taken over one of our two great parties. This causes people to wrongly think that the country is equally divided but if we look at the public opinion polls, it isn’t. So, I can’t think of anything more crucial than real Republicans taking back the GOP.
— Gloria Steinem, in “The Humanist Interview with Gloria Steinem” in *The Humanist* (2012–Sep/Oct)
- ...from him I learned the great secret of the show business—knowing when to get off. It’s the fellow who knows when to quit that the audience wants more of.
— Will Rogers: “Chewing Gum and Rope in the Temple,” *The New York Times* (1915–Oct–03)

- When you have nothing to say, say nothing..
— Charles Caleb Colton (1780–1832): *Lacon, vol. I* (1820)