Quotes

"The middle class, who shrugged and turned its collective back when the working classes of Europe and America were thrown to the sharks thirty years ago, are now discovering to their horror that they're next on the list, as the rentier class – the relatively privileged fraction of industrial society that makes its living from investments rather than salaries – struggles to maintain its prosperity at everyone else's expense."- John Michael Greer

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'Act without expectation.' **~Lao Tzu**

"In every work of genius we recognize our own rejected thoughts: they come back to us with a certain alienated majesty." -- Ralph Waldo Emerson, Self Reliance, p. 1

"An autobiography is only to be trusted when it reveals something disgraceful. A man who gives a good account of himself is probably lying, since any life when viewed from the inside is simply a series of defeats."-- George Orwell, Collected Essays, Some Notes on Salvador Dali, p. 156

"Following an argument among the Twits is like listening to preschoolers quarreling: You did! Did not! Did too! Did not!

"Unless there is some actual problem solving and decision making, very little learning happens," ...Facebook friendship and Twitter chatter are displacing real rapport and real conversation. ... The things we may be unlearning, tweet by tweet — complexity, acuity, patience, wisdom, intimacy — are things that matter." Bill Keller NYTimes http://nyti.ms/j3TTGh

"The generation that had information, but no context. Butter, but no bread. Craving, but no longing." Meg Wolitzer - The Uncoupling

" The smartphone that we have all grown completely dependent upon has become one of the rudest technologies ever invented."

"These technologies that so easily connect us to people far away concurrently disconnect us from people who may be directly in front of us"
http://bits.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/05/18/this-is-your-brain-on-twitter/

"Never pick a fight with a man who buys his ink by the barrel" - Mark Twain Link

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From KK's Found Quotes -
The Net is a waste of time, and that's exactly what's great about it. -- William Gibson
We slip through our lives like water, says my aunt. What we know is a blur. But history does not repeat itself. Little by little, knowledge is passed on. Fish to fish, we press small morsels of the truth into each other's mouths as we swim past. --Magda Bogin
A human being should be able to change a diaper, plan an invasion, butcher a hog, conn a ship, design a building,

write a sonnet, balance accounts, build a wall, set a bone, comfort the dying, take orders, give orders, cooperate, act alone, solve equations, analyze a new problem, pitch manure, program a computer, cook a tasty meal, fight efficiently, die gallantly. Specialization is for insects. -- Robert Heinlein
My mother said to me, "If you are a soldier, you will become a general. If you are a monk, you will become the Pope." Instead, I was a painter, and became Picasso. -- Pablo Picasso

“Only put off until tomorrow what you are willing to die having left undone.”-Picasso

"Always provide correction in private and praise in public." -- Scott Delinger
"A well-trained man knows how to answer questions; an educated man knows what questions are worth asking." -- E. Digby Baltzell (1955)
"Women’s friendships are face to face: They talk, cry together, share secrets. Men’s friendships are side by side: We play golf. We go to football games." -- Jeffrey Zaslow
Once a new technology rolls over you, if you're not part of the steamroller, you're part of the road. -- Stewart Brand
"If your strategy in life is to avoid those activities and requirements that you don’t enjoy, you will have a difficult time transcending any definition of mediocrity. That’s not a criticism – merely an observation." -- Mike Rowe, in advice to a Boy Scout
“Be fearful when others are greedy, and be greedy when others are fearful.” -- Warren Buffett
"The perfect war is started for obscure reasons, is hopelessly murderous, and accomplishes nothing." -- Errol Morris
I like to obsess over things that don't matter because it's more fun than obsessing over things that do. -- Amanda Hocking
It's not the voting that's democracy. It's the counting. -- Tom Stoppard
"Creating your own blog is about as easy as creating your own urine, and you're about as likely to find someone else interested in it." -- Lore Sjöberg
"I am not in favor of immortality. I believe death for humans is the way of getting rid of accumulated errors - as in trial and error. Without death, the old folks would start to gang up on the babies (the new trials). Immortality ---> immortal mistakes." -- Esther Dyson

"Prediction is very hard, especially of the future," said Yogi Berra

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"You should never abdicate a responsibility, only ever delegate it." - Emyth + Swombat Link

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"Honesty is such a lonely word,
Everyone is so untrue,
Originality is hardly ever heard
Copycats, I'm crushing you-too." -- Modified song of Billy Joel ballad Honesty, performed by Mason and Weller of Groupon at SXSW 2011

“It can be found that Laplace employed Fourier Transforms in print before Fourier published on the topic, that Lagrange presented Laplace Transforms before Laplace began his scientific career, that Poisson published the Cauchy distribution in 1824, twenty-nine years before Cauchy touched on it in an incidental manner, and that Bienaymé stated and proved the Chebychev Inequality a decade before and in greater generality than Chebychev’s first work on the topic.” - Stephen Stigler, Statistician

Stigler’s Law: “No scientific discovery is named after its original discoverer." (Fact first put forth by Robert K. Merton). Link

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The genuine realist, if he is an unbeliever, will always find strength and ability to disbelieve in the miraculous, and if he is confronted with a miracle as an irrefutable fact he would

rather disbelieve his own senses than admit the miraculous also.

"The genuine realist, if he is an unbeliever, will always find strength and ability to disbelieve in the miraculous, and if he is confronted with a miracle as an irrefutable fact he would rather disbelieve his own senses than admit the fact. Even if he admits it, he admits it as a fact of nature till then unrecognised by him. Faith does not, in the realist, spring from the miracle but the miracle from faith. If the realist once believes, then he is bound by his very realism to admit the miraculous also." The Brothers Karamazov, Fyodor Dostoevsky

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"Institutions will try to preserve the problem to which they are the solution." - Clay Shirky

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"Most men lead lives of quiet desperation and go to the grave with the song still in them." - Henry David Thoreau

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“I am an old man and have known a great many troubles, but most of them never happened.” Mark Twain

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"Never attribute to malice what can be explained by incompetence" - Anon
"Don't see purpose where there isn't." Paul Graham (Link)

"I hope it was nothing worse than a wicked plot to steal one of my blankets." - **Peregrin Took** (Pippin) LOTR

"Don't believe them, don't fear them, don't ask anything of them." - **Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn** (Referring to the Soviet government.)

“An investment is by all right-minded people to be commended, because it brings comforts and necessities to the citizenry. But, if continued indefinitely, it will lead to the endless pursuit of unnecessary things.” - Adam Smith

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"Fudge factor - People have two goals: a) to look at ourselves in the mirror and feel good about ourselves. b) to cheat and benefit from cheating. ... ... The balance - We cheat up to the level that we would find it comfortable [to still feel good about ourselves]" -- Dan Ariely

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"I'd like to get away from earth awhile
And then come back to it and begin over.
May no fate wilfully misunderstand me
And half grant what I wish and snatch me away
Not to return. Earth's the right place for love:
I don't know where it's likely to go better.
I'd like to go by climbing a birch tree,
And climb black branches up a snow-white trunk
Toward heaven, till the tree could bear no more,
But dipped its top and set me down again.
That would be good both going and coming back.
One could do worse than be a swinger of birches."
Birches, Robert Frost

"When old age shall this generation waste,
Thou shalt remain, in midst of other woe
Than ours, a friend to man, to whom thou sayst,
"***Beauty is truth, truth beauty***," -that is all
Ye know on earth, and all ye need to know."
Ode on a Grecian Urn, John Keats, English Poet, 1795-1821, died of consumption.

“Buckle your seatbelt, Dorothy, 'cause Kansas is going bye-bye.”
Cypher, The Matrix

"Development is like Shakespeare's virtue, which grown into a pleurisy, dies of its own too-much."
Aldo Leopold, from A Plea for Wilderness Hunting Grounds, 1925

To err is dysfunctional, to forgive co-dependent. - Berton Averre

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"Few people are capable of expressing with equanimity opinions which differ from the prejudices of their social environment. Most people are even incapable of forming such opinions" - Albert Einstein

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The thing I hate about an argument is that it always interrupts a discussion. - GK Chesterton

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"Simplicity is about subtracting the obvious, and adding the meaningful."
John Maeda

"Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic."
Arthur C. Clarke

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

"Charm is a way of getting the answer yes without asking a clear question."
Albert Camus

Polonius to his son, Laertes: "To thine own self be true."
Hamlet, William Shakespeare

Lord Polonius' advice to his son Laertes :

"This above all: To thine own self be true,

and it must follow, as the night the day,

Thou canst not then be false to any man."

From Hamlet I, iii, 78-80 by William Shakespeare

"Such in outline, but even more purposeless, more devoid of meaning is the world which science presents for our belief. Amid such a world, if anywhere, our ideals henceforward must find a home. That man is the product of causes that had no prevision of the end they were achieving; that his origin, his growth, his hopes and fears, his loves and his beliefs, are but the outcome of accidental collocations of atoms; that no fire, no heroism, no intensity of thought and feeling, can preserve an individual life beyond the grave, that all the labours of the ages, all the devotion, all the inspirations, all the noon-day brightness of human genius, are destined to extinction in the vast death of the solar system, and that the whole temple of man's achievement must inevitably be buried beneath the debris of a universe in ruins - all these things, if not quite beyond dispute, are yet so nearly certain, that no philosophy that rejects them can hope to stand. Only within the scaffolding of these truths, only on the firm foundation of unyielding despair, can the soul's habitation henceforth be safely built. ... Brief and powerless is man's life, on him and all his race the slow, sure doom falls pitiless and dark"

--By - Bertrand Russel, in A Free Man's Workshop in 1903

"Let's assume that each person has an equal opportunity, not to become equal, but to become different. To realize whatever unique potential of body, mind and spirit he or she possesses."
John Fischer

"The only people who find what they are looking for in life are the fault finders."
Foster's Law

"If the facts don't fit the theory, change the facts."
Albert Einstein

"Procrastination is the art of keeping up with yesterday."
Don Marquis

"Be the change you want to see in the world" - Anon

"We but mirror the world. All the tendencies present in the outer world are to be found in the world of our body. If we could change ourselves, the tendencies in the world would also change. As a man changes his own nature, so does the attitude of the world change towards him. This is the divine mystery supreme. A wonderful thing it is and the source of our happiness. We need not wait to see what others do."

M.K.Gandhi. This concise version of the above quote is cited more often.

"Make Meaning"
Anon / Several

"Use your electricity for more than light."
Sears catalog, Spring 1917 for Hurley Washing Machine

"Chance favors the prepared mind."
Louis Pasteur

"It started as a pilgrimage,
Exalting minds, making all the burdens light,
The second stage came, but did not test the call,
The sun beat down to match our rage ...

... And when we finally reached there,
We hardly knew why we were there,
The trip had darkened every face,
Our deeds were neither great nor rare,
Home is where we have to gather grace."
Nizzim Ezekiel in Pilgrimage

"Technology is anything that is invented after you were born"

Alan Kay

"Technology is a way to evolve the evolution, to explore possibilities and opportunities and create more. Its actually a way of playing a game of playing all the games. That is what technology wants. Every persons has an assignment, and his assignment is to spend your life discovering what your assignment is. That is the infinite game. Technology is the medium in which we play this infinite game. Embrace technology as an essential part in finding out who we are."
Kevin Kelly at TED

"If it can't be done the night before... it can't be done."
Anon
Variations
'If it can't be done in high heels, it can't be done'

"I love mankind; it's people I can't stand"
Charles Schultz

"Natural Happiness - It is what we get, when we get what we wanted.
Synthetic Happiness - It is what we make, when we don't get what we wanted."
Dan Gilbert

"Tis nothing good or bad, But thinking makes it so."
William Shakespeare

"The great source of both the miseries and disorders of human life, seems to arise from over-rating the difference between one permanent situation and another. Some of those situations may, no doubt, deserve to be preferred to others: but none of them can deserve to be pursued with that passionate ardour which drives us to violate the rules either of prudence of or justice; or to corrupt the future of tranquility of our minds, either by shame from the remembrance of our own folly, or by remorse from the horrors or our own injustice."
Adam Smith, Father of Modern Capitalism, Theory of Moral Sentiments - 1759

Remarkable is not anything beautiful, or perfect or ideal - it is simply something worthy of making a remark about.
Seth Godin

"Nothing is so common-place as to wish to be remarkable."
Oliver Wendell Holmes

"Gather ye rose-buds while ye may,
Old Time is still a-flying;
And this same flower that smiles today,
Tomorrow will be dying."
Robert Herrick, To the Virgins, to Make Much of Time, English lyric poet (1591 - 1674)

"Did they wait till it was too late to make from their lives even one iota of what they were capable"
Robert Keating, Dead Poets Society

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https://news.ycombinator.com/item?id=34710830

The purpose of knowledge is action, not knowledge.
— Aristotle

Knowledge isn't free. You have to pay attention
— Richard Feynman

"Information is not truth"
— Yuval Noah Harari

If I were the plaything of every thought, I would be a fool, not a wise man.
— Rumi

Dhamma is in your mind, not in the forest. You don't have to go and look anywhere else.
— Ajahn Chah

Man has set for himself the goal of conquering the world,
but in the process he loses his soul.
— Alexander Solzhenitsyn

The wise man knows the Self,
And he plays the game of life.
But the fool lives in the world
Like a beast of burden.
— Ashtavakra Gita (4—1)

We must be true inside, true to ourselves,
before we can know a truth that is outside us.
— Thomas Merton

Saying yes frequently is an additive strategy. Saying no is a subtractive strategy. Keep saying no to a lot of things - the negative and unimportant ones - and once in awhile, you will be left with an idea which is so compelling that it would be a screaming no-brainer 'yes'.
- unknown

Each of these short quips contain bookfulls of wisdom. — KK

- The world is a museum of other people's passion projects. — John Collison
- If you are like most people, then like most people, you don't know you're like most people. — Daniel Gilbert
- I oscillate between thinking I am crazy, and thinking I am not crazy enough. — Joyce Carol Oates
- The cause of death is birth. — David Hockney
- When dreaming, imagine success. When preparing, imagine failure. — James Clear
- Today is the worst AI will ever be. — Alex Irpan
- We are never definitely right; we can only be sure we are definitely wrong. — Richard Feynman
- The things you do badly are as much part of your style as the things you do well. — Martin Scorsese
- Self employment is a never-ending contest between the world's worst manager and the world's laziest employee. — Daniel Akst
- If you want new ideas, read old books. — Shane Parrish
- I'm thinking of Leonard Nimoy's spiritual journey from writing *I Am Not Spock* (1975) to writing *I Am Spock* (1995). This is a journey we all must make. — Tim Kreider
- This present moment was once the unimaginable future — Stewart Brand

Austrian philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein, who said, "To understand is to know what to do."

"Get the important things right." – N. P. Calderwood

"Focusing is about saying no."– Steve Jobs
"Pessimists sound smart. Optimists make money."– Nat Friedman

"How we spend our days is, of course, how we spend our lives."– Annie

Dillard

"Few people are capable of expressing with equanimity opinions which differ from the prejudices of their social environment. Most people are even incapable of forming such opinions."– Einstein

"I never took a day off in my twenties. Not one." – Bill Gates

"What every scientist knows, but few will admit, is that the requirement for great success is great ambition. Moreover, the ambition is for personal triumph over other men, not merely over nature." – Richard Lewontin

"Don't worry about what anybody else is going to do. The best way to predict the future is to invent it." – Alan Kay

The best lack all conviction, while the worst are full of passionate intensity. – Yeats, The Second Coming

"We act as though comfort and luxury were the chief requirements of life, when all that we need to make us happy is something to be enthusiastic about." – Charles Kingsley

https://paulgraham.com/quo.html

https://substack.com/home/post/p-156642143