

A Quotations

"The best way to do good and be good is with no expectations of heaven nor hell."
Chris Aable

"A restless nature was once helpful to people who needed to find food sources in the wild, but in today's classrooms, it's often classified as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder."
Sandra Aamodt and Sam Wang

allen steve character quotes from Meeting of Minds series
Series #1- 4; Shows # 1 - 24 also Jayne Meadows
da Vinci: Shows 21, 22 of Series and Volume 4.

[One] must be born in a time, place, and circumstances in which one's gifts can be brought to flower. It was my good fortune to grow up in *la bella citta de Firenze*...
The act of procreation... is so disgusting that human beings would soon die out if it were not a traditional custom...
Anyone who relies on authorities is using his memory, not his understanding...
I found that the more thoroughly I understood something the less I was inclined to love or to hate. The act of investigation - understanding - became the powerful emotional experience...
I often attended to small matters in order to earn a living...

Abbey

His M.A. thesis:

"Anarchism and the Morality of Political Violence"

from thesis: "Under the pressure of extreme circumstances... All those who are concerned with issues of good and evil – so-called 'men of goodwill' – may someday find themselves confronted with that critical situation in which all moral alternatives have been eliminated by circumstances, but two: passive submission to unquestioned wrong or the exercise of violence."

May your trails be crooked, winding, lonesome, dangerous, leading to the most amazing view.

"Revolution is a hastening of the process of Evolution." Jack Loeffler
Saboteurs - wooden shoes into the works -- monkey wrenching, from:
<http://radiowest.kuer.org/post/through-lens-wrenched-0>

"Sentiment without action is the ruin of the soul."
from Hayduke Lives!

"The Mormon vice: reject alcohol, you plunge into sugar."

"People are no damn good. Take 'em one at a time, they're all right... But bunch 'em up, herd 'em together, get 'em organized and well fed ..., then they're the meanest ugliest greediest stupidest breed of beast..."

Seldom Seen Smith

"Men. They all think they're so smart and they're all so dumb. Crude... Dense as

rocks. They think like rocks, in a straight line, nothing but gravity, straight down the hill, that's how they think. No feelings...Skin deep. ...no sensitivity, no inner understanding, no empathy....I feel sorry for men."

Bonnie Abbzug-Sarvis

"I write to entertain my friends and to exasperate our enemies. To oppose, resist, and sabotage the contemporary drift toward a global technocratic police state, whatever its ideological coloration. ... I write for the joy and exultation of writing itself. To tell my story."

"An economic system which can only expand or expire must be false to all that is human....Growth for the sake of growth is the ideology of the cancer cell."

"A patriot must be ready to defend his country against his government."

". . . the love of wilderness is more than a hunger for what is always beyond reach; it is also an expression of loyalty to the earth, the earth which bore us and sustains us, the only home we shall ever know, the only paradise we ever need -- if only we had the eyes to see. ...No, wilderness is not a luxury but a necessity of the human spirit, and as vital to our lives as water and good bread. A civilization which destroys what little remains of the wild, the spare, the original, is cutting itself off from its origins, and betraying the principle of civilization itself. "

"Do not burn yourselves out. Be as I am—a reluctant enthusiast... a part-time crusader, a half-hearted fanatic. Save the other half of yourselves and your lives for pleasure and adventure."

"The idea of wilderness needs no defense. It only needs more defenders."

from Monkey Wrench Gang:

"It became a question of subtle, sophisticated harassment techniques versus blatant and outrageous industrial sabotage..."

Bonnie to Hayduke: "You're a verbal cripple. You use obscenities as a crutch. Obscenity is a crutch for crippled minds."

from Notes from a Secret Journal:

"I write to make a difference...to raise more questions. To give pleasure and promote esthetic bliss. To honor life and praise the divine beauty of the world. For the joy and exultation of writing itself. To tell my story" by Samuel Johnson...

...rewards...: the immense satisfaction ... of speaking out in plain, blunt language on matters that the majority of American authors are too tired, timid, or temporizing even to allow themselves to think about....

in this nation of bleating sheep and braying jackasses, it ... becomes and honor to be labeled curmudgeon...

In metaphysics, the notion that earth and all that's on it is a mental construct is the product of people who spend their lives inside rooms. It is an indoor philosophy...

Metaphysics is a cobweb that the mind weaves around things....

Belief in the supernatural is a failure of the imagination...

There's nothing so obscene and depressing as an American Christmas...

The ideal society can be described, quite simply, as that in which no man has the power or means to coerce others...

Society is like a stew. If you don't keep it stirred up, you get a lot of scum on top...

Children are born with an innate sense of justice; it usually takes twelve years of public schooling and four more years of college to beat it out of them...

In a nation of sheep, one brave man forms a majority...

Truth is always the enemy of power. And power the enemy of truth...

Power attracts the worst and corrupts the best...
Freedom begins between the ears...
When the situation is hopeless, there's nothing to worry about...
One brave deed is worth a thousand books...
Death is every man's final critic. To die well you must live bravely...
When the situation is desperate, it is too late to be serious. Be playful...
I find more and more, as I grow older, that I prefer women to men, children to adults, animals to humans...
The writer speaks not *to* his audience...but *for* them, expressing their thoughts and emotions through the imaginative power of his art...
In writing, fidelity to fact leads eventually to the poetry of truth...
The artist's job? To be a miracle worker: make the blind see, the dull feel, the dead to live...
The artist in our time has two chief responsibilities: 1.) art and 2.) sedition...
Good writing can be defines as having something to say and saying it well. When one has nothing to say, one should remain silent. Silence is always beautiful at such times...
One word is worth a thousand pictures. If it's the right word.
It is true that some of my fiction was based on actual events. But the events took place after the fiction was written...
Critics are like ticks on a dog or tits on a motor: ornamental but dysfunctional...
The sneakiest form of literary subtlety, in a corrupt society, is to speak the plain truth.
The critics will not understand you; the public will not believe you; your fellow writers will shake their heads. Laughter, praise, honors, money, and the love of beautiful girls will be your only reward...
Some people write to please, to soothe, to console. Others to provoke, to challenge, to exasperate and infuriate. I've always found the second approach the more pleasing...
There comes a point, in literary objectivity, when the author's self-effacement is hard to distinguish from moral cowardice...
Fence straddlers have no balls. In compensation, however, they enjoy a comfortable seat and can retreat swiftly, when danger threatens, to either side of the fence...
It is not the writer's task to answer questions but to question answers. To be impertinent, insolent, and, if necessary, subversive...
Why do I write? I write to entertain my friends and to exasperate our enemies. To unfold the folded lie, to record the truth of our time, and, of course, to promote esthetic bliss...
Abolition of a woman's right to abortion, when and if she wants it, amounts to compulsory maternity: a form of rape by the State...
Of all of our privileges, the license to breed is the one most grossly abused...
Concrete is heavy, iron is hard – but the grass will prevail...
You can't study the darkness by flooding it with light...

"We need the possibility of escape as surely as we need hope."

"...stop every Mexican at the line, give him a gun and ammunition and send him home to fix his country." via Charles Bowden.

"...science in our time is the whore of industry and the slut of war, and that scientific technology has become the instrument of potential planetary slavery, the most powerful weapon ever placed in the hands of despots."

"...fellow traveler in this fool's journey out of the dark, through the light, and into the unknown." inscription in Bowden's gift copy of *A Fool's Progress*.

"I don't believe in doing work I don't want to do in order the live the way I don't want to live."

"I feel such signage [common sense safety] is part of the unfortunate anti-Darwinian tendency of our times."

Abbey's neighbor, Dewey Foster: "Them there liberals, they can't say the word *shit* even

when their mouths is full of it.' True fact, Dewey."

"Western cattlemen are nothing more than welfare parasites. They've been getting a free ride on the public lands for over a century, and I think it's time we phased it out"...

"It is my belief that the writer, the free-lance author, should be and must be a critic of the society in which he lives. ... That is all I ask of the author. To be a hero, appoint himself a moral leader, wanted or not. I believe that words count, that writing matters, that poems, essays, and novels — in the long run — make a difference. If they do not, then in the words of my exemplar Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, the writer's work is of no more importance than the barking of village dogs at night."

via McTaggart:

His novel is an activist handbook, offering ideas for actions, debate about their ethics, and instructions for completing them.

...instruction continues for four pages

via Hoagland in NYT 5-7-1989:

Abbey of course loved coyotes (and, for that matter, buzzards) and had played his flute to answer their howls during the many years he had earned his living watching for fires from Government towers...

There's a saying that life gets better once you have outlived the bastards - which would certainly be true except that as you do, you are also outliving your friends.

...a bit of Ed Abbey, from a minor book called "Appalachian Wilderness" (1970), which foretold why he chose that lost grave where he lies:

<https://www.nytimes.com/1989/05/07/books/edward-abbey-standing-tough-in-the-desert.html?pagewanted=all> 9/10

9/21/21, 6:12 PM EDWARD ABBEY: STANDING TOUGH IN THE DESERT - The New York Times

"How strange and wonderful is our home, our earth, with its swirling vaporous atmosphere, its flowing and frozen climbing creatures, the croaking things with wings that hang on rocks and soar through fog, the furry grass, the scaly seas . . . how utterly rich and wild. . . . Yet some among us have the nerve, the insolence, the brass, the gall to whine about the limitations of our earthbound fate and yearn for some more perfect world beyond the sky. We are none of us good enough for the world we have."

from Wrenched book of interviews 2020 by ML Lincoln:

"A civilization which destroys what little remains of the wild, the spare, the original, is cutting itself off from its origins and betraying the principle of civilization itself..

from Jack Loeffler, Wrenched interview:

'Ed imagined a shadow edging across the land. That's how it appeared to me as well — there was a darkening of not just the landscape but of human consciousness itself."

[In Hayduke Lives! Abbey writes via Doc Sarvis character]:

"The eco-warrior does not fight people. He fights an institution, the planetary empire of growth and greed. He fights not human beings but a monstrous megamachine never seen since the days of the late Jurassic in the carnivorous dinosaur. He does not fight humans. He fights a runaway technology, and all-devouring entity that feeds on humans, and all animals, on all living things, and even finally on minerals, metals, rock, soil, on the earth itself, on the bedrock basis of universal being."

"One brave deed is worth a hundred books, a thousand theories, a million words...

The domination of nature leads to the domination of human beings."

Sentiment without action is the ruin of the soul."

end of Abbey quotes

"What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes,"
James in Bible via
Gary Abernathy

"Drug addiction and cult membership are striking in their similarities...
reinstating reality...
Cults set up various rituals that are used as tools for mind control, [and] as answers [for]
psychic emptiness and existential concerns...
The parents are only seeking to establish the diagnosis of cult addiction...to transfer the
responsibility to society..."
Abgrall Jean-Marie: Soul Snatchers - The Mechanics of Cults sects guru

Abinanti, Abby:
"We have to speak truth. We have not figured out as a country at this point how do we
reconcile our behavior. How do we make this right?"

Abrahamian, Atossa:
"“It is not about this border. It’s the border in here’, pointing to his head. ‘and that is gone
now.”
Atossa Abrahamian, quoting a Kurdish Ali in The Jungle, a play.
“...the world will guarantee us little in the way of freedom, fairness or equality. It makes
more sense to think of modern borders as overlapping and concentric circles that change
size, shape and texture depending on who — or what — is trying to pass through....
...what are borders supposed to protect us from...
Modern borders exist to control...the movement of people. They control us.”
Atossa Abrahamian

"...contributions from parties with an interest in legislation are really nothing but bribes.
...Bush personally told him [Ralph Reed] that his presidency would make us all rich."
...it's the system which needs to be changed, not the current cast of characters running
the system...
Members loved to attack corruption...one of the great hypocrisies of the system.
Members swim in a swamp of corruption, and thrive in it..."
The revolving door is one of the greatest sources of corruption in government.
...do away with...'bringing home the bacon.'
Apply every federal law enacted by Congress to the Congress itself...
Jack Abramoff

:... people don't do anything really important from the state of happiness. Because
happiness is to say that you don't want to change. ...
...physical pain is almost like a door to secrets. The moment you understand how you can
control the physical pain, then you stop having the fear."

in a nyt mag interview? she noted death by diamonds assassination
Marina Abramovic

Abrams, Stacey:

NYT review 5-2021:

Brother Richard: "But there's nothing spur of the moment about Stacey. She has a plan for everything."

'I hate books, I hate writing, I hate the English language, but I'm going to write it anyway' stage," Abrams said of her creative process. "I'm a very efficient user of time."

"So let's be clear - this is not a speech of concession, because concession means to acknowledge an action is right, true or proper. Democracy failed Georgia.

...avarice when left to its own devices is corrosive and that it will always outweigh conscience in our marketplace."

"Being a storyteller is the beginning of being good at politics," Abrams said. "People need to know how they fit into what you're doing."

Lead from the Outside:

"I offer this modification [to Archimedes]: Give me good friends to stand beside, and we will move the world...my life ... is about knowing and then deciding if they apply. Or if we need to rewrite our own rules..."

For those of us on the outside, the quest for power is always rigged...

I'd read my book...Right and wrong remain valid, real constructs....What's not right is giving credence to bad actions, and thereby becoming complicit.

I refused to be gaslighted...once we recognize that wrong exists, we must fight to change it every day.

...silence is not only dangerous, it is corrosive...

...we have to hack [the system]. Figure out its flaws, identify backdoors, and overwhelm the system....I will never fail to try."

"I write either to idea or to contract."

Stacey Abrams

"In the historically depraved calculus of Paul Ryan, Mitch McConnell, and most other Republican leaders, power clearly wins over decency or ideological coherence...a politics of barbarism, of undiluted majoritarian tyranny, emerges."

"When you're battling an invisible, formless foe - a hard-to-define enemy against which there is no easy fix, an enemy with the power to upend daily certainties and to inflict chaos out of the blue - it changes how you live. It changes how you make choices, how you interact with the world. It alters your emotional state, making moroseness something of a default state and optimism appear more akin to naivete. It is hard to stay upbeat if you always fear the worst."

"... increasingly, large parts of our society behave as if under continual neurotoxin attack." from *Jumping at Shadows*, 2017 Ciguatoxin chapter.

"That [Trump] could consider Nazi and anti-Nazi motives to be morally equivalent implies damage to a core part of his ethical being so profound as to be irreparable....

No politician in American history has ever gone down so many different demagogic paths simultaneously and with so much success....

Trump—the son of KKK-supporting Fred Trump, the pupil of Joe McCarthy henchman Roy Cohn—actually is, to the very core of his being, a white supremacist, a man who always has and always will divide humanity into hierarchies based on race, ethnicity, and religion....

Trump is spreading a toxic sludge over this great land."

Sasha Abramsky

"On the day of Trump's inauguration, a rainy, cold, gray day in Northern California, the US flag at the elegant, domed Capitol in Sacramento began flying at half-mast. It stayed there for the next several days—throughout the Saturday women's march, which saw well over a million Californians take to the streets, along with huge protests in Oregon and Washington, and into the first full week of Trump's reign. And then, the day that Governor Jerry Brown delivered a fiery State of the State address promising to fight Trump's discriminatory, extremist agenda every step of the way, the flag was hoisted to full mast once more."

Sasha Abramsky

"The First Amendment is first for a reason."

Jill Abramson on Adam Rushbridge

"With Trump's fitful attention span, out of sight is out of mind."

Abramson reviewing Woodward FEAR

"Music has the power to strengthen people's minds. There is a point where words give up and music comes in."

Maurice Abravanel

"One of the truest tests of integrity is its blunt refusal to be compromised."

"Things Fall Apart."

"Until the lions have their own historians, the history of the hunt will always glorify the hunter."

Chinua Achebe | Nigerian Writer

"It Feels Like We're Thinking."

Christopher Achen, Larry Bartels, 2006 paper title, see pdf

Democracy for Realists:

"... intellectual conversion experience ...

niebuhr quote

"Election outcomes turn out to be largely random events ...

Schumpeter quote

Lippmann quote

"... election outcomes are mostly just erratic reflections of the current balance of partisan loyalties in a given political system....

Schattschneider quote Ch 11

"... the greatest electoral disaster of the 20th century, the victory of Adolf Hitler in the national free elections of Weimar Germany.

The folk theory [of democracy] is like the ether theory of electromagnetic and gravitational forces: it is based on 19th-century intellectual foundations, and the empirical evidence has passed it by.

James Madison argued ... that in politics, human beings are not angels. We care more about ourselves than about the common good, and we are prone to faction."

Our analysis ... sheds useful light on a common circumstance—friction between politically inconsistent social identities....For ordinary citizens, parties make sense—if they make sense at all—in social identity terms, not as ideological frameworks."

Lippmann quote

"the least informed members within the electorate ...seem to hold the critical balance of power...

... more effective democracy [requires] a greater degree of economic and social equality.

Achen and Bartels

"Sometime it is necessary to make things clearer than the truth."

Dean Acheson, Truman's Sec. of State

"Adventure is not something we find, it's something we take with us."

Diane Ackerman, SLC 8-2-03

"Are we entering an era where we hold elections in a nation so hopelessly divided that neither side is willing to accept defeat? In a democracy that is the truest form of mutually assured destruction."

Elliot Ackerman

Ackerman, Spencer:

"...security-based responses to political problems are futile...

the most durable terrorism in this country is white people's terrorism. A war cannot defeat it. Persistent political struggle can."

Danielle Ackley - "This is not even a political divide, it's a reality divide."

"If we stay silent, they win. This is what they want: to make everyone live in fear."

Carmen Acosta, Captain Acosta's cousin. He was executed by Maduro; see pdf

"The talking points drive the discourse. They repeat the talking points so often I think they start actually believing them."

Bill Adair via Bill Keller

"I may not have gone where I intended to go but I think I have ended up where I intended to be."

Douglas Adams via Chris Johnson

"Power is poison. Its effects on Presidents ... had always been tragic, chiefly as an almost insane excitement at first, and a worse reaction afterwards;..."

"Politics, as a practice, whatever its professions, has always been the systematic organization of hatreds."

"Power is a sort of tumor that ends by killing the victim's sympathies."

"Nothing in education is so astonishing as the amount of ignorance it accumulates in the form of facts."

Henry Adams

"[The American] dream of a land in which life should be better and richer and fuller for every man, with opportunity for each according to his ability or achievement....not a dream of motor cars and high wages merely, but a dream of a social order in which each man and each woman shall be able to attain to the fullest stature of which they are innately capable, and recognized by others for what they are, regardless of the fortuitous circumstances of birth or position.

James Truslow Adams, 1933, on the American Dream

"The government of the United States of America is not, in any sense, founded on the Christian religion. This would be the best of all possible worlds, if there was no religion in it."

John Adams letter to Jefferson quoted by Vidal

"...democracy never lasts long. It soon wastes, exhausts, and murders itself. There never was a democracy yet that did not commit suicide."

"Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate for the government of any other."

"Tyranny is around the bend whenever a political system strays far from moderation."

"There is nothing which I dread so much as a division of the republic into two great parties, each arranged under its leader, and concerting measures in opposition to each other. This, in my humble apprehension, is to be dreaded as the greatest political evil under our Constitution."

John Adams

"It does not require a majority to prevail, but rather an irate, tireless minority keen to set brush fires in people's minds."

Samuel Adams

"There cannot be a case of all profit and no responsibility."

Jacinda Adern re: Facebook, etc.

Adewumi, Tanitoluwa:

"I never lose. I learn." via Kristof

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie:

"Privilege blinds, because it's in its nature to blind. Don't let it blind you too often.

Sometimes you'll need to push it aside in order to see clearly."

"My madness will now bare itself."

"Art has to be able to go to a place that's messy, a place that is uncomfortable. Literature is the last thing we can depend on to tell us the truth about who we are."

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

"Ecstasy experience is a year of therapy in two hours."

J Adler Newsweek, 1985

"Ideas are things to see with..."

Free time is like a vacuum.

Anyone not in an asylum has a duty to think"

Mortimer Adler (Terkel interview)

"Basic research is like shooting an arrow into the air and, where it lands, painting a target."

Homer Adkins

Adler-Bell, Sam:

"There appears almost no grassroots energy or urgency of any kind on the Democratic side." via M Goldberg

"When fascists rise, it's because the left is weak."

Alessandro Admiri, Italian protestor.

Adorno, :

"the need to lend a voice to suffering is a condition of all truth."

Adshead, Gwen *The Devil you Know* 11 cases chapters mosaic portraits:

"...we all have the capacity to get into states of mind that we might call evil..."

a loud voice...says...we do not want to understand, we want to punish and we want to take revenge...

radical empathy...

We should expect the human mind to be complicated...violence is complicated...

ordered/disordered mind, their 'universe'...

Agatha Christie, P D James...

mosaic characters...mosaics of evil...mosaic portraits

The Devil You Know: Stories of Human Cruelty and Compassion

Adshead, Gwen; Horne, Eileen

Epigraph

The reason for evil in the world is that people are not able to tell their stories. Carl Jung

"Psychiatrists are doctors who look after the only part of the body that votes."

revenge is a basic human impulse, a kind of wild justice that keeps us stuck in our fear and anger, mirroring the very cruelty we claim to abhor. I've come to think of my patients as survivors of a disaster, where they are the disaster and my colleagues and I are the first responders.

the importance of listening out for the unconscious poetry that may be heard even from those who seem dangerously alien.

patient who once said, "I'm blind because I see too much,

"In our sleep, pain which cannot forget falls drop by drop upon the heart until, in our own despair, against our will, comes wisdom through the awful grace of God."

Aeschylus via Robert Kennedy

African proverb:

'If you wish to go quickly go alone. If you wish to go far, go together.

If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping in a closed room with a mosquito."

Ethiopian proverb: "When spider webs unite, they entangle a lion."

"You can't wake a person who is pretending to sleep."

Africa Orono (Africa) proverb

"when you pray—move your feet"

African proverb

Agee, James:

"the cruel radiance of what is"

"This is why the camera seems to me, next to unassisted and weaponless consciousness, the central instrument of our time; and is why in turn I feel such rage at its misuse."

"I was getting a D in chemistry. If my high school chemistry teacher is still with us, he probably aspirated his morning coffee when he heard the news."

Peter Agre, Nobel in Chemistry, 2003 aquaporin

Agre, Philip:

"your face is not a bar code,"

Ahmari, Sohrab:

"The monsters that menace us don't lurk abroad."

"[GOP] North Star... is rule by large corporate and financial power, and support for militarism and cultural aggression abroad."

Ahmed, Waqas The Polymeth:

'he is investigating multidisciplinary approaches to the research and treatment of chronic pain.'

"Black and white is the best language to bring the pain out."

Osman Ahmed, Kurdish artist

"You are born 100% human, but die 90% microbial."

Claire Ainsworth

"...there have to be rules and there has to be a referee that enforces them.

People had taken the 'invisible hand' too seriously, and enshrined it with a mythology.

Animal spirits – our sense of confidence, of fairness, of good faith, of realistic valuations – drive the economy."

"Competitive markets by their very nature spawn deception and trickery."

George A Akerlof and Robert J Schiller

"Don't be afraid of new ideas; be afraid of old ones."

Daniel F Akerson

Akyol, Mustafa:

from Reopening Muslim Minds, 2021: see also Islam without Extremes.

from fatalism to obedience see quote; religion police.

Islamicity Index six values -intentions.

"Faith is not something you can police...

via Quran: There is no compulsion in religion...

religion enforcement officer...

via Mariam Mokhtar: 'Anyone who can liberate the Malay Muslim mind is a dangerous threat. That is why the authorities had to censure Mustafa Akyol.'

...cultural naturalists...silence your opponent...no abrogation...

quoting ??:'...cite the views of your opponent. Silencing them is an admission of the weakness of your case...'

end Akyol

"...democracy is the only legitimate form of government; ... Islam does not permit theocracy; ...separation of powers is required; ... the worst nepotism is that practiced in the name of religion."

Salman Al-Awada, Muslim cleric, summarized by Robert F Worth

Ahmed Albasheer "Who am I?" He made a decision: He was someone who would say whatever he wanted.

Mr. Hamzoz said. "His show broke the fear." see pdf nyt

"How can they confront an ideology that they themselves carry within them and within

their mind-set?"

Turki al-Hamad via Thomas Friedman

"indignity, disempowerment, and hunger accompany capitalism worldwide."

Michael Albert (Parecon)

"What is taught in schools today is a caricature of science."

Bruce Alberts

Albisa, Cathy:

"You can't change what you can't name,"

"religious leave-taking has received far less attention
than has religious conversion."

Stan Albrecht

"Collective hatred becomes much more dangerous than individual hatred. It's a process
in which hatred gets legitimized."

Fascism should perhaps be viewed less as a political ideology than as a means for
seizing and holding power...

secular evangelists...

"I am an optimist...who worries a lot..make the new normal ..better, more just and more
secure than the old.'

notes from 2000:

"Putin is small and pale, so cold as to be almost reptilian..."

his competition of choice is not chess, as some assume, but rather judo..."

"...the self-centered moral numbness that allows Fascism to thrive."

"There is no shortage of worthwhile work to be done and... no surplus of seasons in
which to achieve our goals. So let us buckle our boots, grab a cane if we need one, and
march."

"Silence may be golden, but it won't win many arguments. You have to interrupt."

via Hillary Clinton: 'when dictators drag their feet or ambassadors filibustered, Madeline
never hesitated to speak up. And just in case they didn't get the message, she would put
on a snail pin to signal her impatience.'

Madeline Albright:

Alcott, Louisa May:

"I had a pleasant time with my mind, for it was happy," Louisa May Alcott wrote in her
diary just after she turned eleven

"There are some natures too noble to curb and too lofty to bend."

Louisa May Alcott's mother:

"...leave the city of your comfort and go into the wilderness of your intuition. What you'll
discover will be wonderful. What you'll discover will be yourself."

"...speaking into the vague mist of interpersonal nothingness."

"We have the capacity for empathy. It feels good when we exercise it. Things go so
much better ... yet it wears off after awhile, and I need a booster shot."

Alan Alda

"...we have witnessed an evolution in the United States from a racial caste system based entirely on exploitation (slavery), to one based largely on subordination (Jim Crow), to one defined by marginalization (mass incarceration)."

"Hundreds of years ago, our nation put those considered less than human in shackles; less than one hundred years ago, we relegated them to the other side of town; today we put them in cages."

"Once a person is labeled a felon, he or she is ushered into a parallel universe in which discrimination, stigma, and exclusion are perfectly legal, and privileges of citizenship such as voting and jury service are off limits."

...mass incarceration is a system that locks people not only behind actual bars in actual prisons, but also behind virtual bars and virtual walls - walls that are invisible to the naked eye. ...mass incarceration refers not only to the criminal justice system but also to the larger web of laws, rules, policies, and customs that control those labeled criminals both in and out of prison. Once released, former prisoners enter a hidden underworld of legalized discrimination and permanent social exclusion. They are members of America's new undercaste."

...the new nation that's struggling to be born...

Michelle Alexander

from Entropia, 2013:

"Politics ... the art of living well with people who disagree with you.

...we restricted freedom to maximize freedom.

autopsy of capitalism...

Samuel Alexander

Alexander, Stephon:

"Room for debate and nuance is what a university is about."

Alexievich, Svetlana:

"I strive desperately to...reduce history to the human being."

"Oil is the devil's excrement."

Juan Pablo Pérez Alfonzo, 1975

"Evil is pleasure in hurting and lack of remorse...It is about the pleasures of absolute control inherent in the ability to harm another...The evil person wants to take [you] over...they want to hurt you from the inside....Not Satan but the vampire is the leading icon of evil among younger informants....evil is the impulse to malevolent destruction..."

C Fred Alford

Ali, Saleem:

"In environmental discourse, we often talk about the precautionary principle, that you have to be careful about things, but if you go to the extreme, it becomes paralysis because you can't make any kind of forward movement. That's the main problem we have had."

"The taste of freedom is very delicious."

Salah Algheriani, Libyan freedom movement

Al-Khalili, Jim:

"I suddenly fell in love with physics. It was like puzzle solving; it was common sense. science is about getting closer to the truth..."

As a scientist, I want to find a non-supernatural explanation that obeys the laws of physics... it's intellectual laziness to reach a point and say: 'well I can't understand things further, it's down to a divine creator.'

Science is constantly taking us beyond what we thought we could understand.

Life is somehow different from inanimate matter of equivalent complexity, because life has evolved the trickery of the quantum world to make it more efficient."

also Kindle book The Joy of Science.

Alliet, Father Daniel:

"This work is like the procession of Echternach. You advance slowly, but nevertheless move ahead."

Altman, Sidney:

"I wasn't looking for what I found..."

an elegant experiment ...is one that tests one specific prediction in a way that allows the result...to stand above the noisy background of secondary phenomena."

Alvarez, Carlos Manuel: "The task of conscientiously lying is perhaps the most unpleasant role to play..."

Navigating Communism is like trying to cross a cobblestone road in high heels, trying not to fall, feigning normalcy. Some of us end up twisting our ankles." Cuba pdf

"Islam is not a religion of peace..."

Without fundamental alterations to some of Islam's core concepts, we shall not solve the burning and increasingly global problem of political violence carried out in the name of religion...

Islamic violence is rooted not in social, economic or political conditions...but rather in the foundational texts of Islam itself....

the religion is a destructive, nihilistic cult of death...

NYT review by Filipovic: No such concept of individual rights and responsibilities exists in the Muslim world. '... the individual is inextricably linked to the group, condemnation of the individual is considered vilification of the group.'

Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Saul Alinsky:

" The first rule of change is controversy. You can't get away from it for the simple reason: all issues are controversial. Change means movement, movement means friction, friction means heat, and heat means controversy."

Rules for Radicals:

The rules[1]

1. "Power is not only what you have, but what the enemy thinks you have." Power is derived from 2 main sources – money and people. "Have-Nots" must build power from flesh and blood.
2. "Never go outside the expertise of your people." It results in confusion, fear and retreat. Feeling secure adds to the backbone of anyone.
3. "Whenever possible, go outside the expertise of the enemy." Look for ways to increase insecurity, anxiety and uncertainty.
4. "Make the enemy live up to its own book of rules." If the rule is that every letter gets a reply, send 30,000 letters. You can kill them with this because no one can possibly obey all of their own rules.

5. "Ridicule is man's most potent weapon." There is no defense. It's irrational. It's infuriating. It also works as a key pressure point to force the enemy into concessions.
6. "A good tactic is one your people enjoy." They'll keep doing it without urging and come back to do more. They're doing their thing, and will even suggest better ones.
7. "A tactic that drags on too long becomes a drag." Don't become old news.
8. "Keep the pressure on. Never let up." Keep trying new things to keep the opposition off balance. As the opposition masters one approach, hit them from the flank with something new.
9. "The threat is usually more terrifying than the thing itself." Imagination and ego can dream up many more consequences than any activist.
10. "If you push a negative hard enough, it will push through and become a positive." Violence from the other side can win the public to your side because the public sympathizes with the underdog.
11. "The price of a successful attack is a constructive alternative." Never let the enemy score points because you're caught without a solution to the problem.
12. "Pick the target, freeze it, personalize it, and polarize it." Cut off the support network and isolate the target from sympathy. Go after people and not institutions; people hurt faster than institutions.

via Gal Beckerman:

Saul Alinsky, the famed community organizer who wrote "Rules for Radicals," had a useful metaphor: For a revolution to be successful, he argued, it has to follow the three-act structure of a play. The first act establishes the characters and the plot, the second act sharpens the conflict, and in the third act, "good and evil have their dramatic confrontation and resolution."

end Alinsky

"... the present system of international relations is biologically unsound."

Warder Clyde Allee, *The Social Life of Animals*, via Tamm

"...we have to defend the borders from aggression. But not from the desperate. How are you going to stop the invasion of the desperate? You have to incorporate them and provide space for everybody..."

I'm 77...I've seen how things seem really bad and we seem to be in a very dark place, and then we get out..."

I have three things that all writers want: silence, solitude and time

Isabel Allende

James Allen put it: "Adversity does not build character, it reveals it." via Charles Koch

"Climate is what you expect, weather is what you get. In the 21st century, climate is what you affect, weather is what gets you."

Myles Allen, *NATURE*, 2003

"The past is never, in fact, broken with , but is eternally dragged...into the present and the future." It is the mindless ... aspects of conservatism [that] make it literally dangerous not only to attempt to introduce new knowledge and ideas but to contradict the errors of the past...even the right to subject any and all things to rational critical inquiry may be denied."

"There are limits to our ignorance."

William Blake via Steve Allen: *Meeting of Minds*, Shows 21q, 22:

...the American Declaration of Independence makes the blood course through your own veins.
,,the words of Jesus Christ in the 'Sermon on the Mount' ...opposed to the private ownership of property.
Most Christians...accept only those portions of the Master's words that are harmonious with their own selfish interests or prejudices!

Steve Allen

"If it turns out that there is a God, I don't think that he's evil. But the worst you can say about him is that basically he's an underachiever."

"My one regret in life is that I'm not someone else."

Woody Allen

"Human happiness does not seem to have been included in the design of creation. It is only we, with our capacity to love, that give meaning to the indifferent universe."

Martin Bergmann speaking as Levy via Woody Allen

One option is not to regard it as puzzling at all. Recall the character in Woody Allen's movie Hannah and Her Sisters, whose response to Arendt's problem of evil was to say that people who ask how the Holocaust happened are asking the wrong question. "Given what people are, the question is, 'Why doesn't it happen more often?'"

via Jonathan Freedland

"...canny operators like Newt Gingrich and like Rick Santorum are able to avoid the lines drawn that would force you to register..."

Bill Allison on lobbyists vs 'consultants'

"...the basis of civilization, has been predicated on having reliable predictable expectations about the future, expectations that enable you to rationally plan and think ahead. This has been the key to sanity."

Graham Allison in Turner bio Last Stand

Gregg Allman death lyrics:

"As Americans have become geographically uprooted and spiritually unmoored, they have turned to sports as a source of tribal identity, a primarily masculine refuge from the anxieties of adulthood..."

Mr. Trump understood that most Americans have exchanged the burdens of citizenship for the pleasures of fandom. And he intuited that politics, for all its precious norms and pretensions, was at its root a blood sport....

..."negative partisanship," an ingrained hatred for the other party that is often entirely divorced from ethics or policy....

...we now have a leader who grasps, all too well, the ways in which our sporting spirit can be prodded to reveal the darkest precincts of our national soul.”

Steve Almond, see also Orwell

“We are no longer faced with a world in which supply-side economic remedies - easy money, reduced taxation, fiscal belt-tightening and deregulation - can spur new capacity and the creation of well-paying private sector jobs.”

“We need a new economic multilateralism with the developing world, to encourage them ... toward consumption ... we in the West must curb our addiction to credit and consumption.”

Daniel Alpe

”We may, in fact, be moving toward a hybrid system, something different from both traditional capitalism and socialism, without anyone even noticing.”

Gar Alperovitz

"...the idea that the American 'system' as a whole is in real trouble - ...heading in a direction that spells the end of its historic values – that idea is difficult, indeed all but impossible, for most people to grasp."

"Systemic change...involves questions of how property is owned and controlled – the locus of real power in most political economies."

"We don't have an economic problem, we have a political problem managing the wealthiest economy in the world."

Gar Alperovitz

"Science is inherently messy, full of controversy, false leads, dead ends, hindsight, hunches, intuition, and social and cultural lenses that color its paradigms and assumptions. Only continuing dialogue, challenge, debate, controversy, imagination and competitiveness drive it forward toward a closer and closer approximation of an agreed-upon model of reality; most of this occurring over time in an imperfect and noisy community of reigning dons, renegade disciples, back-stabbing apprentices and all-around, careerist trouble-makers, though all of them, on the whole, mainly well-intentioned."

Carol Lynn Alpert, Boston Mus Sci., 2003

Richard Alpert (Ram Dass):

“It’s been a hell of a dance, hasn’t it?” to Timothy Leary.

“...surf the silence...

Treat everyone you meet like God in drag.”

Al-Sheikh, Youssef:

PhD Dedication: “Though it has been the degrading force
Diabetes has been the driving force as well.”

Via Varshini Prakash: 'our political institutions fail the most existential threats of our lifetime.'

...AOC quote re: Sanders

"Socialism is a generational Rorschach test: Boomers think of Soviet gulags and bad shoes, millennials think of Swedish health care and free education."

'This world demands the qualities of youth; not a time of life but a state of mind, a temper of the will, a quality of the imagination...' Robert F Kennedy

Charlotte Alter

"...the era of sustained growth on which the social and economic advances of postwar America rested is gone for good..." reviewing R J Gordon book, Rise and Fall of American Growth. And

'...stagnant living standards for most Americans...reinforced by a set of headwinds': rising inequality, a plateau in education levels, an aging population and more." citing Paul Krugman

Eric Alterman in The Nation

"... the establishment media resented Obama's thoughtfulness, his penchant for prudence and deliberation ... stigmatization of intellect.

By relentlessly promoting [the] false equivalence between truth and bullshit, thoughtfulness and stupidity, the press sowed the seeds of the unimaginable disaster ... Donald Trump's presidency."

Eric Alterman

"The relativity of reality has become so commonplace it's disconcerting. Facts don't seem to matter. Reality doesn't seem to matter. It's what you will it to be or what you say it is."

Kent Alterman

"The president and his entourage think fellow billionaires who have an itch to get things done make the world go round."

Jon B Alterman

Maximillian Alvarez

"Cogito Zero Sum - I think, therefore I am entitled to my opinion - isn't helpful."

"We are stardust ... concentrated by Earth!"

Walter Alvarez

"'Revolution' is talked about as a project, but it's not a project which one can start and finish, framing it with dates as if in a history textbook. Revolution is life, in which one always faces a choice: to act or to stand aside....

revolution is a political process within each one of us: the choice to act and overcome your fear, which appears each time you start to act...

Our enemies are fear and indifference....

Mr Putin? The answer is simple and cynical. This is the image that Russia creates for itself....

the "Iron Curtain" is not a political term from the 20th century, but a wall of mistrust which is built by each one of us when we refuse to take responsibility and to participate in politics. This is the wall of separation between "us" and "them". ...

only trust can become the core that will help us to overcome political hypocrisy...."

"They say if you will strike our regime, we will put you in solitary confinement. They call it prison inside prison. What they don't realise is that it doesn't matter what is around you. Where you keep your freedom is inside you."

Maria Alyokhina (Pussy Riot).

"God is a weak one. I will never say God again. He can't change anything."

Zeina al-Zeyada, 8 years old.

"I believe in being truthful, not neutral. And I believe we must stop banalizing the truth. We have to be prepared to fight especially hard right now for the truth.... We must fight against the normalization of what is unacceptable."

"Truth leads to democracy, lies lead to dictatorship...."

Christiane Amanpour

"Too often, Justice Scalia stopped reading. He failed to read the Constitution's text all the way to the end — to give due weight to its transformative amendments added by post-founding reformers. And he failed to read modern originalist scholarship that has conclusively disproved many of the historical canards that were prominent in the 1950s when he attended law school."

Akhil Reed Amar

The Words That Made Us: America's Constitutional Conversation, 1760-1840

Amar, Akhil Reed

Franklin countered with a lovely satire in the press. (This was another side of Franklin.) This would turn out to be his very last journalistic piece, and it poetically recalled his very first journalistic hoax, when, as a teenage lad, he had puckishly posed as a middle-aged matron, Silence Dogood. Franklin likewise published his 1790 parody under a pen name, but no one who knew him could miss his signature style and sly wit. The piece pretended to be an earnest letter to the editor, telling readers about a 1687 debate among Algerian Muslims concerning their customary practice of enslaving European Christians...playful piece was also deadly serious. They were his dying words to America. By pretending to excavate the past, Franklin's farewell message was in fact inviting his fellow Americans to envision the future.

FRANKLIN AND WASHINGTON WERE AMERICA'S two greatest founding figures, and it is remarkable that Washington's de facto farewell message, when he passed away in 1799 at his Mount Vernon home, was so similar in substance—though not at all in tone—to Franklin's parting soliloquy. Metaphorically, both men died with abolition and emancipation on their lips.

What kind of person is able to die on cue? Only a person of extraordinary will, with an eye on history and an astonishing drive to be remembered and celebrated in a certain way.

Jefferson's attachment to the Declaration—his sense of special authorship of it—is the unmistakable message of his gravesite inscription,

because by these, as testimonials that I have lived, I wish most to be remembered.

end of Amar, Akhil Reed

"...we are in an endless spin-cycle of nothingness."

Matt Amaral

"You know it's a myth. This season, celebrate reason."

American Atheists, Lincoln Tunnel sign

American Petroleum Inst.:

"Rather than a patchwork of federal and state regulations and mandates that could ineffectively address the climate challenge, an economywide government carbon price policy is the most impactful and transparent way to achieve meaningful progress."

"Victory will be achieved when uncertainties in climate science become part of the conventional wisdom" for "average citizens" and "the media."

American Petroleum Inst via ExxonMobil

Journalist to Idi Amin: Do you have many visions?"

Amin: "Only when necessary." via G I Smith

Amherst, Lord Jeffrey: British military, 1763:

"Could it not be contrived to send the Small Pox among those disaffected tribes of Indians?"

Aziz Amna:

"Lives should be led in the present, the eye has to look to the future, but all meaning is past." NYT oped

"Where there was fear, there was no love; and when an action was not done in love, it had no value

Not by tears, but by sweat...how similar they are."

Baba Amte, Indian leprosy champion The Economist mar 1 08

" We came all this way to explore the moon and the most important thing is that we discovered the Earth."

Bill Anders, astronaut, on EarthRise image

William Anders, CEO of General Dynamics in 1991, "... most [weapons manufacturers] don't bring a competitive advantage to non-defense business," and "Frankly, sword makers don't make good and affordable plowshares."

"I find ideologues creepy because they're like robots, built to respond to the fluid, complicated world in simple, unchanging ways....a few crude lines of code that can't be overridden or rewritten."

...the American body politic suffers from autoimmune disorders...Many autoimmune diseases of the literal kind...are apparently triggered by stress..."

"If you need proof that ideas have power and that radical change is possible, it's there in the rearview mirror. Evil genius is genius nonetheless..."

Kurt Andersen

"Just living is not enough ... one must have sunshine, freedom, and a little flower."

Hans Christian Andersen

from The Nordic Secret,

Short of a meteorite hitting Earth, the problems we face as a species are problems we have created ourselves. Climate change, overpopulation, poverty, pollution, wars, terrorism; you name it, we created it. Ironically, what created many of these problems was once the solution to something else. ..

populations among whom a critical number of people could see the nation as a whole, cared about the totality and elected leaders with the same big, yet detailed picture in mind....

...to develop that kind of identification and national loyalty and cohesion, they needed a richer and more complex inner world. They needed to develop a sense of responsibility towards self and society; they needed moral, emotional and cognitive development...

...emerged was the understanding that people must be able to control their emotions, internalize the norms of society and take individual moral responsibility. In German, this kind of personal ego-development goes under the name Bildung..

The Nordic countries became successful due to a deliberate cultural, intellectual, moral, and emotional cultivation of the least educated part of the population..

Bildung is the way that the individual matures and takes upon him- or herself ever bigger personal responsibility towards family, friends, fellow citizens, society, humanity, our globe, and the global heritage of our species, while enjoying ever bigger personal, moral and existential freedoms.

Taken together, it is a story of freedom and beauty, and it is a history of increased understanding and sense of responsibility; consciousness and conscience.

Lene Rachel Andersen +1 Nordic Secret, 2017

"...most important lesson from 2000 was to lie. Lie often. Say the lies loud; say them with pride. Lie over and over and over. Lie without shame. Lie until the truth is drowned out, dead. Lie until no amount of evidence could convince anyone otherwise. Lie until there is no other narrative....Republicans had fashioned a noose around our democracy. And it's only getting tighter and tighter."

"The Republicans are suicide bombers aimed at our ship of state."

Carol Anderson

equality freedom Rawls hierarchy Nussbaum truth herzog Dewey Tanner assumptions
reversal Bentham panopticon contributive justice

Elizabeth Anderson

"I read as a survival strategy...

I no longer compare the differences between screen and paper. I'll read anything anywhere....

Books are the way the dead talk to the living..."

Laurie Anderson

"The day must come when plundering is illegal."

intergenerational tyranny – taxation without representation.

We must move on to another industrial revolution – and get it right this time."

"We are all part of the continuum of humanity and life. We will have lived our brief span and either helped or hurt that continuum and the earth that sustains all life. It's that simple. Which will it be?"

Ray Anderson, died 8-2011 NY Times obit

"We're going to use social media. If other nations can carry on their revolutions and bring in a complete change of government through that kind of grassroots organizing and use of social media..."

Rocky Anderson, Justice Party

"The Democratic Party,...especially when it's in power, is incredibly timid, unprincipled and gutless.

We've seen an enormous transformation of the parties. ...they're feeding at basically the same trough and are almost indistinguishable, except on certain wedge issues."

"...the Democratic Party... is a gutless, unprincipled party, bought and paid for by the same interests that buy and pay for the Republican Party."

Rocky Anderson

"The internet is...designed to coax all of your neural pathways open and then, while they are in a state of ecstatic receptivity, to dump horrible things into them."

Sam Anderson

"I'm a soldier," Anderson said. "Why should I be concerned about climate change?

Climate change brings

about global instability. That makes the world more vulnerable and it's more likely that soldiers like myself will have to fight and die somewhere."

Gen. Steven Anderson

Andrade, Barb:

"infantile paralysis 1964" Barb's journal re Dagua politics

Andrade, Joe:

One of the reasons our nation is in the mess it's in – where ideology rules and critical thinking is almost non-existent – is because the most educated in our society have chosen to be among the least involved. This is especially true in academia. Academic apathy often prevails.

Andrade, Josephine:

I don't have an attitude. I have a personality you can't handle."

Andrade, Tonio:

Sun Zi advised, "Know your enemy and know yourself."

"In writing the beginning is the hardest part. You sputter on in good faith and eventually your subconscious mind engages, like an engine catching. That's when the good stuff starts happening...

the subconscious must be honored...

Tonio Andrade

Angelou:

"...people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

"You may shoot me with your words,
You may cut me with your eyes,
You may kill me with your hatefulness,
But still, like air, I'll rise."

Maya Angelou

"Believe people when they tell you who they are. They know themselves better than you do."

Maya Angelou

"You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have."

Maya Angelou

"We, this people, on a small and lonely planet / Traveling through casual space / Past aloof stars, across the way of indifferent suns / To a destination where all signs tell us / It is possible and imperative that we learn / A brave and startling truth..."

Maya Angelou's on Sagan/Druyan's Orion craft see Popova

Maya Angelou's stunning lyric insistence that "we are the possible, we are the miraculous, the true wonder of this world." via Popova

Angulo ed. Miseducation - Ignorance:

'...slaveholders, radio broadcasters, politicians, religious figures, and corporate executives all shared the common goal of suppressing forms of knowledge considered threatening or disruptive to their interests' ...

"The challenges of our age are problems without passports; to address them we need blueprints without borders. The United Nations is there to provide them."

Kofi A Annan, Commencement Address, 1998

Anonymous:

A Warning by Anonymous:

Restore Truth

'Let's Roll!'

T Roosevelt quotes...

"[Trump] is the most distracted person I've ever met...He has no fucking clue what we are talking about."

[Stephen Miller] relishes having the president wrapped around his finger on any number of issues...

Hayek Serfdom quotes:

"...an authoritarian personality is likely to be surrounded not by the best 'but rather by the worst elements of any society'."

'If we wish to find a high degree of uniformity in outlook, we have to descend to the regions of lower moral and intellectual standards where the more primitive instincts prevail.'

"...religious belief is mostly gone. Faith has been replaced by disgust."

Daughter of Muslim Cleric, economist 11-1-20114, p. 5

2012 platform of the Republican Party of Texas which, astonishingly enough, reads as follows: "We oppose the teaching of Higher Order Thinking Skills (HOTS) (values clarification), critical thinking skills and similar programs that are simply a relabeling of Outcome-Based Education (OBE) (mastery learning) which focus on behavior modification and have the purpose of challenging the student's fixed beliefs and undermining parental authority."

"Here, I feel like I have a voice, and people treat you like a real person. I can weather this cold for a bit of dignity."

Jane, Occupy Wall St. in Occupy bk.

"Equilibrium: In the social sciences, an equilibrium is a situation that involves several individuals or groups, in which each one's actions turn out to be the best reply to everyone else's."

quoted in Science or Nature, May, 2002

"If you are thinking a year ahead, sow a seed.

If you are thinking ten years ahead, plant a tree.

If you are thinking one hundred years ahead, educate the people."

Chinese proverb, 420 BC

"The journey begins from inside your house." "No one returns from traveling with nothing to say."

Akan Proverb, Ghana

"Alone a youth runs fast; with an elderly person, slow; but together, they go far."

Luo saying, Ghana

"It doesn't matter. It will either happen or it won't....what probability of recurrence would cause you to make different choices for your lives?"

Oncologist cited in NY Times

"The More you Know—

The Less you Need"

aboriginal saying (Portland bumper sticker)

"Screw us and we'll multiply."

Seattle Occupy protestor

"Life is extinct on other planets because their scientists were more advanced than ours."

Unknown

"What happened on that day is tattooed on your soul."

Anonymous, Pearl Harbor survivor

"If enough people say it, something becomes as solid as gold."

Chinese idiom

Anonymous

"Light travels faster than sound. That is why some people appear bright, until you hear them speak."

"The Bible says it, I believe it, that settles it."

fundamentalist slogan

"...no true democracy is attainable when the process is determined by economic power."

Anonymous from Occupy Wall St Declaration 10-2011

"One day the poor will have nothing left to eat but the rich."

Anonymous from OccupyWallStreet

"If you don't let us dream, we won't let you sleep."

Occupy Madrid

"...policies...passed in an arrogant frenzy by a Tea Party-tide of Republicans elected in 2010...weary voters had to drag them back to the center. ..an overdue return of common sense..."

NY Times editorial 11-10-2011

"When you're 16 years old and somebody treats you like you're smart, serious, and competent, that does a lot for how you see yourself in the world."

Amer Chem Soc Project SEED student, CandEN, 2-18-08, p. 47

"You're as sick as your secrets."

AA adage, quoted by David Sheff

"It's the provincial fear of 'otherness' that most often stems from ignorance...evidence of the ignorance of xenophobic legislators...the real world, not the imaginary one conjured by a common core of paranoid legislators."

SL Tribune editorial related to Common Core education issues. 2-24-2012

"If everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane."

"This...is how the terrorists win. They so frighten the citizens and leaders of a previously free and open society that those citizens begin to accept that their society will become less free and less open."

'Balance of Power' SL Trib editorial 7-15-06

"Lottery—a tax on people who can't do math."

Sign in an Oregon bar.

"Everybody wants to go to heaven, but no one wants to go today."

Health insurance executive

"We are doomed to die; let us spend."

Sumerian tablet

"Most people don't think about most things most of the time."

Anonymous

"Life's journey is not to arrive at the grave safely in a well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways, totally worn out, shouting, "Holy Sh.., what a ride!" "

Anonymous via Shaphar and her Principal.

"I believe in an open mind, but not so open that your brains fall out."

Journalist ?? anonymous

Anonymous:

"A society grows great when old men plant trees in whose shade they will never sit."

Greek proverb

"The only thing American politicians care about is money. You have one country that is telling everybody else what to do, without any concern for what it means for our grandchildren."

German electrician, New York Times, July 16, 2000

"If the jury feels that the law under which the defendant is accused, is unjust, or that exigent circumstances justified the actions of the accused, or for any reason which appeals to their logic of passion, the jury has the power to acquit, and the courts must abide by that decision."

-US vs Moylan, 1969

"So what's this bill really about? It's about playing on people's fears of the "other" during an economic downturn with high unemployment. It's about playing on people's resentment of others whom they believe get something for nothing. It's about racism."

SL Tribune editorial Chasing Arizona 8-15-2010

"You can't wake a person who's pretending to sleep."

Rain forest farmer to Jason Clay of WWF

"An enemy is someone whose story you do not know."

Jewish saying

"Jesus, please save us from your followers."

anonymous, bumper sticker

"The shadow of the past holds the future hostage."

On a poster by www.crimethinc.com end Anonymous

"We fix everything we break."

construction worker in front yard.

end Anonymous

"Pretend equality can be excellent practice for the real thing... condescension..."

"Elsewhere has never been more important."

Kwame Anthony Appiah

Anthony, Ole:

via Clay Risen NYT Obit:

'he believed it was his job to call out religious scam artists...had taken a vow of poverty...garbology...exposed the sins of rich televangelists.'

"There's probably no God. Now stop worrying and enjoy your life."

Atheist Bus Campaign, 2009, London

"I distrust those people who know so well what God wants them to do because I notice it always coincides with their own desires."

Susan B Anthony, via Kirby

"Loss is nothing else but change, and change is Nature's delight."

Marius Antoninus

Applebaum, Anne:

"History will judge the complicit."

"Sometimes the point isn't to make people believe a lie—it's to make people fear the liar..."

Once certain behaviors become 'normal', then people stop seeing them as wrong...
Trump has built a cabinet and an administration that serve neither the public nor his voters but rather his own psychological needs...

he fanned and encouraged xenophobia and racism...because he found them politically useful and because they are part of his personal worldview...

The ... ideology that Trump brought to Washington was not 'America First', but rather 'Trump First'...

If there is no such thing as moral and immoral, then everyone is implicitly released from the need to obey any rules...

...Vichyite apocalyptic thinking...a biblical moment...the End Times...Marianne Birthler, dissident...Jaeger East German guard...

"Resentment, envy and above all the belief that the system is unfair - not just to the country, but to you - these are important sentiments among the nativist ideologues...

from Bad Guys are Winning, The Atlantic:

"Autocracy, Inc..."

"...although Putin varies his tactics, his longer-term goals have been very clear for a very long time. He might use disinformation one year, gas pipeline blackmail another, bribery or violence the next, but the endgame is always the same: reinforce his autocracy, undermine democracy's - all democracies - and push Russian political influence as far as it will go. Break up NATO. Destroy the European Union. Remove American influence from Europe and everywhere else, forever."

Anne Applebaum

"Democracy depends on the consent of the losers."

Yoni Appelbaum

"...it is lawful for a man to succor his own need by means of another's property, by taking it either openly or secretly: nor is this properly speaking theft or robbery...this necessity diminishes or entirely removes sin."

Thomas Aquinas

"We're transforming pain to power..."

Ana Maria Archila

"period poverty,"

Jacinda Ardern NZ

Hannah Arendt:

"the smallest act in the most limited circumstances bears the seed of boundlessness, because one deed, and sometimes one word, suffices to change every constellation."

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

"The aim of totalitarian education has never been to instill convictions but to destroy the capacity to form any."

“Have we now come to the point where it is the children who are being asked to change or improve the world?” --- Arendt, “Reflections on Little Rock,” 496

"Mass propaganda discovered that its audience was ready at all times to believe the worst, no matter how absurd, and did not particularly object to being deceived because it held every statement to be a lie anyhow." -- Hannah Arendt

“If everybody always lies to you, the consequence is not that you believe the lies, but rather that nobody believes anything any longer. ... And a people that no longer can believe anything cannot make up its mind. It is deprived not only of its capacity to act but also of its capacity to think and to judge. And with such a people, you can do what you please.”

letter on love to James Baldwin.

"Hatred and love belong together, and they are both destructive; you can afford them only in the private and, as a people, only so long as you are not free."

“I can either study philosophy or I can drown myself.”

Arendt reminds us: "those who choose the lesser evil forget very quickly that they chose evil."

“Even in the darkest of times we have the right to expect some illumination.”

“...to fear a certainty is wasted energy that syphons life of aliveness.”

“It seems true that America, for historical, social and political reasons, is more likely to erupt into violence than most other civilized countries.”

"...thoughtlessness – the incapacity for sustained critical reflection – has become one of the defining features of our times.."

Hannah Arendt

“ [the ability to ask “unanswerable questions” is the hallmark of the human mind](#)

Hannah Arendt

“The problem of evil will be the fundamental question of postwar intellectual life in Europe.”

“There are no dangerous thoughts. Thinking itself is dangerous.”

Hannah Arendt

“...totalitarian ideologies ... aim ... [to transform] human nature itself.”

Arendt

“Before they seize power and establish a world according to their doctrines, totalitarian movements conjure up a lying world of consistency which is more adequate to the needs of the human mind than reality itself; in which, through sheer imagination, uprooted masses can feel at home and are spared the never-ending shocks which real life and

real experiences deal to human beings and their expectations. The force possessed by totalitarian propaganda - before the movements have the power to drop iron curtains to prevent anyone's disturbing, by the slightest reality, the gruesome quiet of an entirely imaginary world - lies in its ability to shut the masses off from the real world."

Hannah Arendt, via C Hedges
see Gessen quote on Arendt

"People deprived of human rights ... are deprived, not of the right to freedom, but of the right to action, not of the right to think whatever they please, but of the right to opinion. ... We became aware of the existence of a right to have rights ... only when millions of people emerged who had lost and could not regain these rights because of the new ... political situation."

Hannah Arendt

"The modern masses do not believe in anything visible ... What convinces masses are not facts, and not even invented facts, but only the consistency of the system of which they are presumably part....

And a people that can no longer believe anything cannot make up its mind. It is deprived not only of its capacity to act but also of its capacity to think and to judge. And with such a people, you can then do what you please."

H Arendt

"[Arendt said] 'the banality of evil' was the inability to hear another voice, the inability to have a dialogue either with oneself or the imagination to have a dialogue with the world, the moral world."

via Rebecca Solnit

"What is most difficult is to love the world as it is, with all the evil and suffering in it."

Hannah Arendt

"During the Vietnam War, ... Arendt ... noted that government spokesmen frequently had recourse to phrases like 'monolithic communism' and 'a second Munich'. She inferred ... that the officials suffered from an inability 'to confront reality on its own terms because they had always some parallels in mind that 'helped' them to understand those terms."

Robert Leiken

...this country has embarked ...on an imperialist course. If it continues on this course, then there will indeed be violence and of a different form and order than what now exists."

from *The Origins of Totalitarianism*: 1985 printing

Preface, first edition:

This moment of anticipation is like the calm that settles after all hopes have died. ...

Never has our future been more unpredictable, never have we depended so much on political forces that cannot be trusted to follow the rules of common sense and self-interest - forces that look like sheer insanity...

We can no longer afford to take that which was good in the past and simply call it our heritage, to discard the bad and simply think of it as a dead load which by itself time will bury in oblivion. The subterranean stream of Western history has finally come to the surface and usurped the dignity of our tradition. This is the reality in which we live. And this is why all efforts to escape from the grimness of the present into nostalgia for a still intact past, or into the anticipated oblivion of a better future, are vain.

Preface to Pt 3: Totalitarianism:

It is quite obvious that mass support for totalitarianism comes neither from ignorance nor from brain-washing.

Pt.3:

Factuality itself depends for its continued existence upon the existence of a nontotalitarian world.

An ideology ... is the logic of an idea. Its subject matter is history...

The ideology treats the course of events as though it followed the same 'law' ...

Ideologies pretend to know the mysteries of the whole historical process. ... because of the logic inherent in their respective ideas.

...there [are] three specifically totalitarian elements that are peculiar to all ideological thinking....

total explanation ... Secondly ... ideological thinking becomes independent of all experience from

which it cannot learn anything new...Hence ideological thinking becomes emancipated from the reality that we perceive with our five senses, and insists on a 'truer' reality ...

Once the movements have come to power, they proceed to change reality in accordance with their ideological claims.

Thirdly, since the ideologies have no power to transform reality, they achieve this emancipation of thought from experience through certain methods of demonstration. Ideological thinking orders facts into an absolutely logical procedure which starts from an axiomatically accepted premise, deducing everything else from it; ... it proceeds with a consistency that exists nowhere in the realm of reality. ...

The power, which Marx thought was born when the idea seized the masses, was discovered to reside, not in the idea itself, but in its logical process which [in Stalin's words] 'like a mighty tentacle seizes you on all sides as in a vise and from whose grip you are powerless to tear yourself away; you must either surrender or make up your mind to utter defeat.'

The ideal subject of totalitarian rule is not the convinced Nazi or the convinced Communist, but people for whom the distinction between fact and fiction (... reality) and the distinction between true and false (... standards of thought) no longer exist.

... what kind of basic experience in the living-together of men permeates a form of government whose essence is terror and whose principle of action is the logicity of ideological thinking.

... terror can rule absolutely only over men who are isolated against each other and that, therefore, one of the primary concerns of all tyrannical government is to bring this isolation about

...

This isolation is, as it were, pretotalitarian; its hallmark is impotence insofar as power always comes from men acting together ...; isolated men are powerless by definition.

Isolation and impotence, ... the fundamental inability to act at all, have always been characteristic of tyrannies.

... the self-coercion of totalitarian logic destroys man's capacity for experience and thought ...

... isolation in the political sphere is called loneliness in the sphere of social intercourse. Isolation and loneliness are not the same. Isolation is that impasse into which men are driven when the political sphere of their lives, where they act together in the pursuit of a common concern, is destroyed. Yet isolation, though destructive of power and the capacity for action, not only leaves intact but it required for all so-called productive activities of men.

Tyranny based on isolation generally leaves the productive capacities of man intact.

While isolation concerns only the political realm of life, loneliness concerns human life as a whole.

... totalitarian domination ... bases itself on loneliness, on the experience of not belonging to the world at all, which is among the most radical and desperate experiences of man.

Loneliness, the common ground for terror, the essence of totalitarian government, and for ideology or logicity, the preparation of its executioners and victims, is closely connected with uprootedness and superfluity which have been the curse of modern masses since the beginning of the industrial revolution and have become acute with the rise of imperialism at the end of the last century and the breakdown of political institutions and social traditions in our own time.

Uprootedness can be the preliminary condition for superfluity, just as isolation can (but must not) be the preliminary condition for loneliness.

Loneliness is not solitude - [it] shows itself most sharply in company with others.

Epictetus ... the lonely man (eremos) finds himself surrounded by others with whom he cannot establish contact or to whose hostility he is exposed. The solitary man, on the contrary, is alone and therefore 'can be together with himself' ...

For the confirmation of my identity I depend entirely upon other people....

Luther: 'there must be a God because man needs one being whom he can trust'...it is not good that man should be alone. ... A lonely man always deduces one thing from the other and thinks everything to the worst.'

... loneliness, once a borderline experience usually suffered in certain marginal social conditions like old age, has become an everyday experience of the evergrowing masses of our century. The merciless process into which totalitarianism drives and organizes the masses looks like a suicidal escape from this reality.

Totalitarian domination, like tyranny, bears the germs of its own destruction.

... every end in history necessarily contains a new beginning; ...
This beginning is guaranteed by each new birth; it is indeed every man."

"Totalitarianism is organized loneliness."

'incomprehensible triviality'

via Berkowitz Introduction:

"It is questionable whether any universal affirmation of the values of human reason and human dignity can offer a meaningful bulwark against the temptations of evil-doing."

...ordinary men can reason themselves into justifying what ought to be unthinkable. ...

Reason reasons, it does not think.

...the only reliable source of light in dark times is found in the activity of thinking.

Arendt teaches the supreme importance of thinking - the habit of erecting obstacles to oversimplifications, compromises, and conventions.

...evil might arise in many ways, from fanatical sociopaths and, more likely in our times, from the thoughtless compliance of normal people with systematic evil. (p. 11)

p. 221 of Berkowitz, Drucilla Cornell:

"We have to think big, even if we often feel overwhelmed and powerless before a world that acts from thoughtless myths and the repeated commands of ruthless gods."

p. 132: Richard J Bernstein:

...by absolute or radical evil, [Arendt] means the evil of making human beings superfluous as human beings."

and quoting Arendt: "...evil can overgrow and lay waste the whole world precisely because it spreads like a fungus on the surface."

p. 237: Roger Berkowitz:

...totalitarianism depends on thoughtlessness [which is] itself rooted in the experience of loneliness....Arendt writes 'Loneliness is the common ground for terror, the essence of totalitarian government.'

The lonely man is prone to embrace a coherent and stable world offered by ideological extremism.

... in dark and lonely times we must not seek only the company of others in public; just as importantly, we must be vigilant in protecting the sanctuaries of solitude from which the activity of thinking is born.

Thinking is a difficult business. It requires a separation from the world, a passion for truth, and a willingness to let go of the affairs of the world.

Quoting Emerson p. 244): "He only who is able to stand alone is qualified for society."

Via Bernstein:

"Could the activity of thinking as such, the habit of examining whatever happens to come to pass or to attract attention, regardless of results and specific content, could this activity be among the conditions that make men abstain from evil-doing or even 'condition' them against it." The Life of the Mind.

on Eichman: "...a curious, quite authentic inability to think."

Hannah Arendt ...once said that the only way to teach people to think is to infect them with the perplexities that one is confronting.

via S Power:

she wrote, quoting Proust, "the question is not as for Hamlet, to be or not to be, but to belong or not to belong."

"Totalitarian solutions may well survive the fall of totalitarian regimes in the form of strong temptations which will come up whenever it seems impossible to alleviate political, social, or economic misery in a manner worthy of man."

Arendt had seen the League of Nations simply aggregate the selfishness of its members. Unless the whole concept of the state were rethought, or the new United Nations were given a mind, an army, and a bank account of its own, she was sure paper laws would again yield few concrete dividends.

"The Rights of Man," Arendt wrote, had been defined as "inalienable" because they were supposed to be independent of all governments; but it turned out that the moment human beings lacked their own government and had to fall back upon their minimum [international human] rights, no authority was left to protect them and no institution was willing to guarantee them.

Arendt's preface to *Origins*, she noted:

This book has been written against a background both of reckless optimism and reckless despair. It holds that Progress and Doom are two sides of the same medal; that both are articles of superstition, not of faith."

"the point at which", as she wrote in her 1954 essay on "The Crisis in Education", "we decide whether we love the world enough to assume responsibility for it"

Jon Nixon: For her, thinking was diametrically opposed to ideology: ideology demands assent, is founded on certainty, and determines our behaviours within fixed horizons of expectation; thinking, on the other hand, requires dissent, dwells in uncertainty and expands our horizons by acknowledging our agency. It is the task of education – and therefore of the university – to ensure that a space for such thinking remains open and accessible.

Writing of those "intellectuals" who justified the war, Arendt concludes: "They needed no facts, no information; they had a 'theory,' and all data that did not fit were denied or ignored.... Defactualization and problem-solving were welcomed because disregard of reality was inherent in the policies and goals themselves."

via Moruzzi:

"The political impetus behind *The Origins* is simple: to resist the apparent necessity of being overwhelmed, by either the past or the present, through the enunciation of a possibility for political agency." p. 115

from New Yorker 2-1967 Truth and Politics:

"No one has ever doubted that truth and politics are on rather bad terms with each other, and no one ... has ever counted truthfulness among the political virtues...

...from the viewpoint of politics, truth has a despotic character. It is ... hated by tyrants, who rightly fear their competition of a coercive force they cannot monopolize...

...lies ... harbor an element of violence; organized lying always tends to destroy whatever it has decided to negate...totalitarian governments have consciously adopted lying as the first step to murder...

...one can spot a lie by noticing incongruities, holes, or the junctures of patched-up places. As long as the texture of the whole is kept intact, the lie will eventually show up as if of its own accord....

Facts assert themselves by being stubborn, and their fragility is oddly combined with great resiliency ...

Truth possesses a power of its own...

story and storytellers

Conceptually, we may call truth what we cannot change; metaphorically, it is the ground on which we stand and the sky that stretches above us."

Hannah Arendt considered calling her magnum opus *Amor Mundi*: Love of the World. Instead, she settled upon *The Human Condition*. "What is most difficult," Arendt writes, "is to love the world as it is, with all the evil and suffering in it."

from *Life of the Mind*:

"I was struck by a manifest shallowness in the doer that made it impossible to trace the uncontested evil of his deeds to any deeper level of roots or motives...There was no sign in him

of firm ideological conventions or of specific evil motives...it was not stupidity but *thoughtlessness*...absence of thinking."

"the cry 'We are all guilty' is actually a declaration of solidarity with the wrongdoers."
"The Nazi system relies not on fanatics, nor on congenital murderers, nor on sadists; it relies entirely upon the normality of jobholders and family men."... "for the sake of his pension, his life insurance, the security of his wife and children, such a man was ready to sacrifice his beliefs, his honor, and his human dignity....they were, and still are, terribly and terrifyingly normal."

ressentiment, via Arendt: 'a tremendous increase in mutual hatred and a somewhat universal irritability of everybody against everybody else'. via Mishra

via review of Kohn book: "... politics is something that humans do together, that requires and thrives on the vast differences among humankind...
...deliberative politics is a deeply enriching activity essential for the freedom of human beings - may mean accepting that the aim of legal rules and institutions should not be to constrain political action but to encourage and improve it."

"We know from experience that no one can adequately grasp the objective world in its full reality all on his own, because the world always shows and reveals itself to him from only one perspective, which corresponds to his standpoint in the world and is determined by it."
"Only in the freedom of our speaking with one another does the world, as that about which we speak, emerge in its objectivity and visibility from all sides."

"...Nazi ideology rendered human beings superfluous." via Larry May, Jerome Kahn, eds.

"...truth [is] what we cannot change...the ground on which we stand and the sky that stretches above..."
"...the surest long-term result of brain-washing is a peculiar kind of cynicism- an absolute refusal to believe in the truth of anything...our bearings in the real world [become] destroyed."

via Murphy in Schaap bk:
Arendt explained: Europeans saw revolution as a reflex of necessity. Americans saw it as a consequence of freedom. labor, poverty vs freedom... See On Revolution

"The ideal subject of totalitarian rule is not the convinced Nazi or the convinced communist, but people for whom the distinction between fact and fiction (ie the reality of experience) and the distinction between true and false (ie the standards of thought) no longer exist."

"A stateless person is not just expelled from one country, native or adopted, but from all countries — none being obliged to receive and naturalize him — which means he is actually expelled from humanity. Deprivation of citizenship consequently could be counted among the crimes against humanity, and some of the worst recognized crimes in this category have in fact, and not incidentally, been preceded by mass expatriations."

"...totalitarian solutions may well survive the fall of totalitarian regimes."

Arendt's verdict, via Scott Samuelson book, p. 89, pdf:
"Politics is not like the nursery; in politics obedience and support are the same. And just as you supported and carried out a policy of not wanting to share the Earth with the Jewish people and the people of a number of other nations - as though you and your superiors had any right to determine who should and who should not inhabit the world - we find that no one, that is, no member of the human race, can be expected to want to share the earth with you. This is the reason, and the only reason, you must hang."

I now see that I simply didn't understand the complexities in the situation.
— Hannah Arendt

"It is far easier to act under conditions of tyranny than it is to think."

to Eric Hoffer:

"...it is the side of ourselves which must remain dark to us and can appear — shine really — only to others. It is the same sovereignty, the majesty of solitude which shines through every sentence."

"This business of 'publish or perish' has been a catastrophe. People write things which should never have been written and which should never be printed. Nobody's interested. But for them to keep their jobs and get the proper promotion, they've got to do it. It demeans the whole of intellectual life." - Hannah Arendt

The Human Condition

"Each time you write something and you send it out into the world and it becomes public, obviously everybody is free to do with it as he pleases... You should not try to hold your hand now on whatever may happen to what you have been thinking for yourself. You should rather try to learn from what other people do with it."

Intro by Margaret Canovan:

...Arendt is preeminently the theorist of beginnings...

"...thoughtlessness is among the outstanding characteristics of our time."

The curious sterility of utopias comes from the absence within them of any scope for initiative, any room for plurality.

...some evils are beyond forgiveness...

Antonia Grunenberg: ...there exists an overarching responsibility of citizens all over the world towards each other and not towards a state, or God or a higher reason...

Wolfgang Heuer: "...freedom exists only when it is practiced."

"...nobody wants to know that contemporary history has created a new kind of human beings - the kind that are put in concentration camps by their foes, and in internment camps by their friends."

Arendt's perspective, humans are beginners. It means that they are in the world not to die but to begin and to experience a second birth. The second birth is not a natural phenomenon.

Conversely, it is the start of their political and historical life because action creates history and stories. In the same way, it contains the identity of the agents who cannot completely know the effects that their acts and words will generate in the future.

"The ideal subject of totalitarian rule is not the convinced Nazi or the convinced Communist, but people for whom the distinction between fact and fiction no longer exist."

"For the trouble with lying and deceiving is that their efficiency depends entirely upon a clear notion of the truth that the liar and deceiver wishes to hide. In this sense, truth ... possesses an ineradicable primacy over all falsehoods." — Arendt, "Lying in Politics" via Szalai

via Bret Stephens: a curiously varying mixture of gullibility and cynicism with which each member, depending upon his rank and standing in the movement, is expected to react to the changing lying statements of the leaders and the central unchanging ideological fiction of the movement."

Arendt called "the fabric of factuality."

via Rebecca Panovka:

'Couching an argument in language that sounded scientific, she thought, was a way of claiming the ability to know or predict things that could never be predicted or known. Fact-checking was a part of that larger trend: the practice, she wrote to McCarthy, was a form of "phony scientificity."

via Margaret Sullivan:

You don't need belief. All you need is confusion.

That's how authoritarian leaders manage to control the populace, the great German political philosopher Hannah Arendt once explained.

"If everybody always lies to you, the consequence is not that you believe the lies, but rather that nobody believes anything any longer," she said in an interview nearly five decades ago.

When that happens, people lose the capacity not only to act but even to think and judge. "And with such a people," she concluded grimly, "you can then do what you please."

via Popova: 'Arendt identified as the root of tyranny the act of making other human beings irrelevant.'

"Fearlessness is what love seeks... Such fearlessness exists only in the complete calm that can no longer be shaken by events expected of the future... Hence the only valid tense is the present, the Now."

'The ability to think across great distances and differences in order to throw light on contemporary events was a Arendt's exceptional skill....She spoke about "the inalienable right to go visiting."' Stephen Most

"what binds these men together is a firm and sincere belief and human omnipotence. Their moral cynicism, their belief that everything is permitted, rests on the solid conviction that everything is possible... the aim of totalitarian education has never been to instill convictions but to destroy the capacity to form any...."

end of Arendt

Aristotle

"Excellence...is not an act, but a habit."

"...the young are heated by Nature as drunken men by wine."

Aristotle

Aristotle described envy not as benign desire for what someone else possesses but "as the pain caused by the good fortune of others."

"Thought is impossible without an image."

Aristotle

"The greatest thing by far is to master the metaphor...a good metaphor implies an intuitive perception of the similarity in dissimilars." Aristotle

Ordinary words convey only what we know already; it is from metaphor that we can best get a hold of something fresh

- Aristotle

"...the fate of empires depends on the education of youth."

"We are what we repeatably do." Aristotle

"We are no wiser than Aristotle was more than 2000 years ago." by Martin Rees.

"Excellence is never an accident. It represents the wise choice of many alternatives—choice not chance, determines your destiny."—Aristotle, 384–322 BC

"The position that women have, in any society, is the exact measurement of its level of development."

Father Don Jose Maria Arizmedni, founder, Mondragon Cooperatives

"They would beat Jesus if he was black and marched...

lyric: My only sin is in my skin.

What did I do to be so black and blue?"

Louis Armstrong satchmo

"It suddenly struck me that that tiny pea, pretty and blue, was the Earth. I put up my thumb and shut one eye, and my thumb blotted out the planet Earth. I didn't feel like a giant. I felt very, very small."

Neil Armstrong

"...people who have never changed their minds may have simply stopped thinking."

Richard S Arnold, Federal Appeals Court Judge

"The spark that lights the fuse is always the quest for dignity.

Today's technology just makes the fire much more difficult to put out."

Leon Aron, Russian historian, quoted by TL Friedman, NY Times

"...[those who] believe that people will follow their interests instead of their passions have understood nothing of the 20th century."

"Freedom flourishes in temperate zones; it does not survive the burning faith of prophets and crowds."

Raymond Aron,

"If Wall Street is occupying President Obama's State Department and the halls of Congress, it's time for the people to occupy Wall Street."

Phil Aroneanu

Kate Aronoff in "Overheated":

Falbi the "old-school" approach to corporate climate denial has given way to new, subtler strategies.

"We are evaporating our coal mines into the air."

Svante Arrhenius, 1896

"To say that I am interested in ethics is probably just to say that I'm a human being."

...it is extremely difficult to know how to decide since you are balancing evils."

Kenneth Arrow

"Diversity without inclusion is an empty gesture. Inclusion is a feeling of belonging... creating an empowering, embracing, egalitarian environment..."

David Asai

Ash, Rick:

"The new mask guidance relies on an honor system. Do we trust each other enough to make it work? Republicans and honor system aren't a good fit. The current word is that the vaccinated are well protected, so no immediate problems for us. But, having non-vaccinated folks maskless in public seems like a strategy for selecting variants that can evade the immunity of the vaccinated."

"I am not about celebrating old stuff."

Arthur Ashkin, on receiving Nobel in Physics.

"Indecisiveness is contagious."

Eric Ashby

Pete Ashdown:

"...life begins at the end of your comfort zone."

If capital punishment is not a deterrent and there is potential for a grave nonretractable mistake, then I see no reason to continue its use in America... The financial cost of executing a prisoner in the United States has been shown repeatedly to be far higher than life imprisonment. All issues of deterrence and morality aside, the financial cost is not worth it.... The Bill of Rights should be interpreted broadly for the individual ...and not for the government or the corporation.... the Bill of Rights is the foundation for our country and American character, we should apply its ideals not only domestically, but wherever Americans may go...see Copyright in Ashdown platform...Defense outsourcing of war...Land use Federal Babbitt book... Healthcare should be driven by doctors and patients, and not profit...transparency and access: I will post my schedule online so

people can see exactly who I am meeting with and why. I will also, with privacy respected, post all communications to my office and their intent.... Domestic benefits should not be dependent on marriage, but should be an individual decision as to where they are placed.... The current patent expiration of 20 years, although better than what we've seen in the arena of copyright, is an eternity in technology. Reducing patents on software to five years will encourage enhancements and make better software available to the public... Much of what the Patriot Act does is side-step the Fourth Amendment. I believe the citizen should be opaque and the state should be transparent, not the other way around.... over individual privacy. I believe it should be the reverse. Businesses should have to ask for your permission to share your information. If you don't give your permission or if you don't respond, it should be illegal for businesses to share your private and personal information

Pete Ashdown

Asimov:

"You can't take it with you ... but you can send it on ahead."

"When stupidity is considered patriotism, it is unsafe to be intelligent." - Isaac Asimov

"A public that does not understand how science works can, all too easily, fall prey to those ignoramuses...who make fun of what they do not understand ... The difference... between...understanding and not understanding ...is also the difference between respect and admiration on the one side, and hate and fear on the other."

"The good fight has its own values. That it must end in irrevocable defeat is irrelevant."

...to weep over what is gone is to have had something prove worth the weeping...

...scientific knowledge has fractal properties; ...no matter how much we learn, whatever is left ... is just as infinitely complex as the whole was to start with. That, I think, is the secret of the universe."

...since I don't prepare my talks I am guided entirely by audience reaction...I ...get more and more funny if the audience laughs...or less and less funny if the audience doesn't laugh...

...what I listen for that tells me I am exactly right....Silence!"

Chap 21 of It's Been a Good life by Janet Asimov is titled 'On Prolificity'

"There is a cult of ignorance in the United States, and there has always been. The strain of anti-intellectualism has been a constant thread winding its way through our political and cultural life, nurtured by the false notion that democracy means that "my ignorance is just as good as your knowledge."

"Inspect every piece of pseudoscience and you will find a security blanket, a thumb to suck, a skirt to hold."

"There is a single light of science, and to brighten it anywhere is to brighten it everywhere."

"Writing, to me, is simply thinking through my fingers."

"Life is pleasant. Death is peaceful. It's the transition that's troublesome."

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

"...science gathers knowledge faster than society gathers wisdom."

"...the book was based ... on the testimony of those least qualified to serve as historians ... children and morons; and was probably edited and re-edited through the cycles....the book can't help but be a mass of distortion, even if it is based in fact."

I Asimov on the Book of Revelations in story Night Fall.

end Asimov

Reza Aslan:

"...there is only one way to win a cosmic war; refuse to fight in it.

A state has borders; it can be geographically defined. A nation is borderless; it is an 'imagined community.'

It is a battle that will be waged not against men with guns but against boys with computers, a battle that can be won not with bullets and bombs but with words and ideas.

...both religion and violence function as durable markers of collective identity: the simplest, most effective means of saying who is us and who is them.

Your religion was your ethnicity, your culture, and your social identity; it defined your politics, your economics, and your ethics. More than anything else, your religion was your citizenship.

Religions become institutions when the myths and rituals that once shaped their sacred histories are transformed into authoritative models of orthodoxy (...myths) and orthopraxy (...rituals)...

"Religion is not faith...it is the story of faith."

The clash of monotheisms occurs when faith ... becomes entangled in the gnarled branches of religion."

"It is we who have fashioned God in our image, not the other way around."

end Aslan

"For success in science or art, a dash of autism is essential."

Hans Asperger

"'Person' includes a corporation, company, partnership, firm, association or society, as well as a natural person."

Arizona State Law, 1886

"As Joseph Heller said when people said he hadn't published anything as good as

'Catch 22': 'Neither has anyone else'."

quoted by Julian Assange

Atangana, Abdon:

"... we use mathematics to try to capture and understand nature, but nature is complex, and nature is above mathematics."

P. W. Atkins

I wonder whether fractal images are not touching the very structure of our brains. Is there a clue in the infinitely regressing character of such images that illuminates our perception of art? Could it be that a fractal image is of such extraordinary richness, that it is bound to resonate with our neuronal circuits and stimulate the pleasure I infer we all feel?

From Peter Atkins, Gailileo's Finger, 2003:

"Aristotle...magnificently intellectually fertile and magnificently wrong..."

The Second Law:

"We are the children of chaos, and the deep structure of change is decay. At root, there is only corruption, and the unstemmable tide of chaos. Gone is purpose; all that is left is

direction. This is the bleakness we have to accept as we peer deeply and dispassionately into the heart of the Universe.”

end Atkins

“Government should provide public sector jobs at minimum wage to those who want them, in areas such as meals-on-wheels, elderly care, child care...

Personal income taxes should be made more progressive, with a maximum rate of 65%...”

“... higher marginal income tax rates... progressive property tax rate ... use inheritance taxes to finance a minimum inheritance...”

Anthony B Atkinson

“...a community is a unique shared understanding held by a particular racial group, which can only exist as long as the majority of its citizens are unselfish. For the moment the majority become selfish, traditions are discarded along with concern for their racial character. That is, the community loses both its sanity and its racial identity: its nationality.”

P. Atkinson. in response the A Toynbee

“Philosophy is defined in many dictionaries as the love of wisdom or knowledge, but wisdom is recognising right from wrong while knowledge is recognising truth from falsity; two very different concerns which belong to two separate institutions, religion and science. .. However to understand anything is to combine both wisdom and knowledge: so philosophy can be defined as the study of understanding; or the study of a particular understanding...

ability to recognise

good from evil—which is wisdom...

A civilization is the tangible creations of a communal understanding...

Philip Atkinson

"If a reform program is revealed gradually, a free press will dissect it and create opposition to it. Because one sector of society will support one reform but not another, a reformer must work by stealth, isolating one set of issues from the next, and often relying not on the media but on the gaps in communication that exists within a society. " quoted in an article in

Atlantic Monthly, December 2001, page 78

"History is a series of random events organized in a seemingly sensible order."

James Atlas in NY Times

"He's not prolific, he's incontinent."

French critic commenting on writings of Jacques Attali

"I write fiction because it is a beautiful place to hide."

Jami Attenberg

"We are a plague on the Earth. It's coming home to roost over the next 50 years or so. It's not just climate change; it's sheer space, places to grow food for this enormous horde. Either we limit our population growth or the natural world will do it for us, and the natural world is doing it for us right now."

David Attenborough 1-22-2013

"...we've stopped evolving....we've stopped natural selection."

David Attenborough

Atwood:

"A voice is a human gift; it should be cherished and used, to utter fully human speech as possible. Powerlessness and silence go together."

"...however dark, a darkness with voices in it is better than a silent void."

"There must have been a chandelier, once. They've removed anything you could tie a rope to."

she says she writes 'speculative fiction'. Twitter WattPad

"...the lecture itself is like watching someone unreeling from her mouth a very long spool of blank paper ... that frightens me—that I am going to be up in public, unravelling from my mouth a long spool of blank paper."

"Prophecies are really about now. In science fiction it's always about now. What else could it be about? There is no future. There are many possibilities..."

...it is all about power for a lot of people. A lot of these things don't come out of a wish for power, they come out of fear....Social mobbings on Twitter are about being "on the side of those doing it rather than on the side of those having it done to them".

"I'm more interested in what's going on in the world than I am in myself," she says drily. "I'm not much interested in my deep, dark psyche, fascinating though it may be."

On writing: "I'm not a perfectionist. That's one clue." And she's not fussy about when or where she writes. "I'm a downhill skier. I get to the bottom. Once I've gotten to the end I do a lot of rewriting. I start rewriting from the front while I'm still writing at the back, just to remind myself what I've written."

she plots graphs for each character from the year they are born. "I want to know how old they are exactly – so I don't mess up."

"We are capable of the most amazing altruism and wonderfulness and we are also capable of the most vile atrocities and horrible acts. It's not news. We behave well when times are good."

"[Dystopian is] a society which we find less preferable than the one we're living in, and utopian is one in which we assume that things will be better than the one we're living in."

Margaret Atwood

"She explains that "creative anger" occurs when you're able to channel it "without panicking," and create a system, a series of steps to achieve a goal outside of anger. But "destructive anger," she tells me, is when "you shout out all around you" and direct your feelings of rage and anger at an object "which doesn't deserve it."

Atwood via interviewer Collier Meyerson

"In times of extremes, extremists win. Their ideology becomes a religion, anyone who doesn't puppet their views is seen as an apostate, a heretic or a traitor, and moderates in the middle are annihilated."

Margaret Atwood

limiting power quote in Great American Read episode 5 interview, re: Handmaid's Tale

"I planned my death carefully...the trick was to disappear without a trace, leaving behind me the shadow of a corpse, a shadow that everyone would mistake for solid reality."

beginning of Lady Oracle.

"Why do men want to kill the bodies of other men?

Women don't want to kill the bodies of other women.

By and large, as far as we know,

Men's bodies are the most dangerous things on

Earth."

"I was asleep before," said Elisabeth Moss's character, Offred. "That's how we let it happen."

by Michelle Goldberg, review: 'That's the point of dystopias - to figure out where society might be going.'

protest sign: 'Make Margaret Atwood fiction again.'

on saving old loveletters: "I don't think it matters whether they speak to *me* or not.

Whether they *speak* is more interesting."

Slow walking leads to rumination, which leads to poetry.

I'm going to be dead soon, so good luck with it all'

"If writing wasn't a pleasure, I wouldn't do it."

"I don't have a job, so I can't be fired."

"...I'm very willing to listen to other people's points of view, but I am not willing to be scammed."

"Everything in nature is on a bell curve. We have this two-box thinking [about gender] because it's biblical, so wool over here, linen over there,"

via Graeme Gibson, husband, on dementia: 'I no longer know their names, but then, they don't know my name either,'

via Hadley Freeman review:

When she writes her books, she types up yesterday's handwritten pages and handwrites the pages for tomorrow.

...Some people won't really discuss things with me because they are intimidated. I agree with Orwell: the truth does matter."

natural law: placental mammals will abort in the face of resource scarcity.

No one is forcing women to have abortions. No one either should force them to undergo childbirth. Enforce childbirth if you wish but at least call that enforcing by what it is. It is slavery: the claim to own and control another's body, and to profit by that claim.

first line of chapter 2, *The Handmaid's Tale*:

"There must have been a chandelier, once. They've removed anything you could tie a rope to."

end of Atwood

"Thousands have lived without love, not one without water."

W H Auden

"Thank God for books as an alternative to conversation."

"No tyrant ever fears

his geologists or his engineers. "

W. H. Auden

Auden's (from *The Dyer's Hand*): "Every autobiography is concerned with two characters, a Don Quixote, the Ego, and a Sancho Panza, the Self."

'He disappeared in the dead of winter:

The brooks were frozen, the airports almost deserted,

and snow disfigured the [public statues;

The mercury sank in the mouth of the dying day.

What instruments we have agree

The day of his death was a darkcold day...'

-W H Auden, 'In memory of W. B. Yeats'

"...the United States...has more in common with a failed state than a democracy...

America is no longer a Western nation....the nation is moving even farther away from

the core of democracy. It is losing its ability to compromise....America has

changed....reason has been replaced by delusion. The notion of tax cuts has taken on a

cult-like status, and the limited role of the state a leading ideology....America's fate should serve as a warning: We must protect our political culture, our institutions and our state."

Jakob Augstein, der Spiegel

"There is another form of temptation even more fraught with danger. This is the disease of curiosity."

"All diseases of Christians are to be ascribed to demons."

St. Augustine

Austin, J. L.:

"...comments on comments, criticisms of criticisms, are subject to the law of diminishing fleas..."

"I realized that I was 48 years old and I had not done anything of which I could be proud."

Sardana V Avksentieva, Mayor of Yakutsk, Russia

"...where you are at the present is the most important, but at the same time it's essential to not let go of where you've been. You should not have to let go of your roots to be part of American Society."

Avnee, British- and Indian-American, ny times 9-21-2014, p-SR 7

"Thank God for the things I do not own."

Teresa de Avila

"They rode the tiger. And now the tiger is eating them."

"Trump is Pavlov. We are the dogs."

David Axelrod on GOP, via Coates

Ayad, Moustafa:

"The far right, the alt-right, are all sort of galvanized by the Taliban essentially running roughshod through Afghanistan, and us leaving underneath a Democratic president."

Ayers:

from Bill Ayers' Demand the Impossible, 2016, own bk:

quoting Che Guevara: Be realistic. Demand the Impossible.

quoting Norm Chomsky: 'The smart way to keep people passive and obedient is to strictly limit the spectrum of acceptable opinion, but allow very lively debate within that spectrum - even encourage the more critical and dissident views. That gives people the sense that there's free thinking going on, while all the time the presuppositions of the system are being reinforced by the limits put on the range of the debate.'

quoting Czeslaw Milosz:

'In a room where
people unanimously maintain
a conspiracy of silence,
one word of truth
sounds like a pistol shot.'

quoting Mikhail Bakunin: '... freedom without socialism is a license for privilege and injustice, while socialism without freedom can become slavery and brutality...'

quoting George Orwell's torturer in 1984:

'Never again will you be capable of ordinary human feeling. Everything will be dead inside you. Never again will you be capable of love, or friendship, or joy of living, or

laughter, or curiosity, or courage, or integrity. You will be hollow. We shall squeeze you empty and then we shall fill you with ourselves.'

Ayers:

"Where do we go from here? A season of light or a season of darkness? Chaos or community? Barbarism or socialism? ...

The private-public partnership boils down to this: private profit, public cost. ...

quoting the Onion: 'An estimated 20 million U.S. children suffer from a poorly understood neurological condition called YTD, or Youthful Tendency Disorder.' ...

It doesn't take perceptive young people any time at all to sniff out the duplicity and the dirty-dealing ..., and to conclude that all schools lie. Teachers lie. Parents lie. ... the whole edifice of adult society is a complete phony, a tangled fraud sailing smoothly along on a sea of silence. ...

quoting William Deresiewicz: 'These enviable youngsters appear to be the winners in the race we have made of childhood. But the reality is very different ... Our system of elite education manufactures young people who are smart and talented and driven, yes, but also anxious, timid, and lost, with little intellectual curiosity and a stunted sense of purpose: trapped in a bubble of privilege, heading meekly in the same direction, great at what they're doing but with no idea of why they're doing it.'

quoting Madeline Albright: 'We are the indispensable nation.'

quoting Camus: 'Real generosity towards the future lies in giving all to the present.'

quoting John Dewey: '...appreciate at every turn the opportunity which chaos affords.'

end of Ayers

"...the Brandeis Ratio — the ratio of the average income of the nation's richest 1 percent to the median household income — has skyrocketed since Ronald Reagan took office. In 1980 the average 1-percenter made 12.5 times the median income, but in 2006 (the latest year for which data is available) the average income of our richest 1 percent was a whopping 36 times greater than that of the median household."

... we have reached the Brandeis tipping point.

... we propose an automatic extra tax on the income of the top 1 percent of earners — a tax that would limit the after-tax incomes of this club to 36 times the median household income.

Importantly, our Brandeis tax does not target excessive income per se; it only caps inequality. Billionaires could double their current income without the tax kicking in — as long as the median income also doubles. The sky is the limit for the rich as long as the "rising tide lifts all boats." Indeed, the tax gives job creators an extra reason to make sure that corporate wealth does in fact trickle down....

our goal is to change the way politicians speak about income equality...

or the sake of democracy, to end the continued erosion of economic equality in our nation.

Ian Ayres and Aaron S Edlin

"The United States sees itself as "number one" and China sees itself as the center of the universe. Americans core value is freedom, for the Chinese it is order. We view government as a necessary evil, for the Chinese government is a necessary good. We are inclusive, they are exclusive. Our time horizon is now, for the Chinese it is infinity. Our form of government is a democratic republic; China is an authoritarian/totalitarian regime. We anchor government legitimacy in the will of the people; for the Chinese legitimacy emanates from performance. And, in the context of international relations, we

aspire to an international order based on the rule of law. China aspires to an international order in which China rules in harmonious hierarchy.”

Jose Azel review of Allison

“The Civil War was a second American founding...The United States is a nation with two radically different ideas at its heart: white supremacy and equality under the law.”

Omer Aziz, reviewing Whitman Hitler's American Model

Azoulay, Ariella:

“It is our historic responsibility, not only to produce photos, but to make them speak,”