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Introduction

They Said It. And it can have a powerful impact on our lives. I know that my life was greatly influenced by a number of quotes.

In the fall of 1979, as a college freshman, I read the following from Robert F. Kennedy, “Some men see things as they are, and ask ‘Why?’ I dream of things that never were, and ask ‘Why not?’”

That quote inspired me to take one of the biggest risks of my life. I organized a team of twelve of my cross country and track teammates to run almost 3,000 miles across the United States in the summer of 1980.

During times of hardship when my team questioned what I had gotten them into, or as I quietly reflected, I sometimes wondered why I had picked such an enormous project.

However, on June 5, when we reached the Pacific Ocean in Florence, Oregon, all doubts evaporated. It was that the quote that gave me the inspiration to ask “Why not?” The confidence I gained from successfully organizing our journey across the country gave me the courage and motivation to start my own business that summer at the ripe old age of eighteen.
Introduction - CONTINUED

It was Ronald Reagan’s approach to seeking peace through strength that most influenced how I positioned my businesses in negotiating. His method was crystallized for me when he said, “Come here to this gate! Mr. Gorbachev, open this gate! Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!”

It was Mark Twain’s, “True success in life is when you make your vocation your vacation.” that helped my wife Cheryl and I set our course in life. We decided to have our family early, and to use business to earn enough money to put ourselves in a position, by our mid 40’s, to travel and live anywhere in the world. After a month long trip to Puerto Rico four years ago we said, “Let’s stay longer; it is beautiful here.” This turned into living 7-8 months a year in Puerto Rico and spending the rest of our time traveling around the world.

My business partner Ron Snodgrass and I decided to compile these quotes to inspire ourselves and then to share them with you. One of the great things about quotes is that you can read the same 50 quotes every day, and find a new favorite each day.

Instead of simply giving you a series of random quotes, we decided to pick at least 25 quotes from five of the most quotable people in history: Mark Twain, Eleanor Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy, Steve Jobs, and John Wooden. We believe this format gives you greater insight into who they were as well as providing the context of their quotes.

Tim Flatt

This is our second preview edition – Many of our readers asked if we could make some of the quotes shareable on Facebook. We have started to add “Like” links so you can share the quotes on Facebook. Just click on the link and you will be able to inspire your Facebook friends with great quotes.

Enjoy, be inspired, be motivated, share these with others, and change your view on life and the world you live in.
Mark Twain  
1835-1920

A lie can get halfway around the world before the truth can even get its boots on.
A person who won't read has no advantage over one who can't read.
Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter.
Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a misprint.
Clothes make the man. Naked people have little or no influence in society.
Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear - not absence of fear.
Do the right thing. It will gratify some people and astonish the rest.
Don't go around saying the world owes you a living. The world owes you nothing. It was here first.
I have never let my schooling interfere with my education.
The secret of success in life is to make your vocation your vacation

Truth is stranger than fiction, but it is because fiction is obliged to stick to possibilities; Truth isn't.
Wrinkles should merely indicate where the smiles have been.
You can't depend on your eyes when your imagination is out of focus.
Get your facts first, and then you can distort them as much as you please.

Samuel L Clemens known to the world, as Mark Twain was one of the most prolific writers of the 19th Century. He lived in a rapidly changing world and his books provide insight into the past, the events of his personal life further demonstrate his role as an eyewitness to history. And along the way, he often had something to say about the changes happening in his country.

His most famous quote is, “If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything.”
Life is short, Break the Rules. Forgive quickly, Kiss SLOWLY. Love truly.
Laugh uncontrolably And never regret ANYTHING That makes you smile.

Life would be infinitely happier if we could only be born at the age of eighty and gradually approach eighteen.

Loyalty to country ALWAYS. Loyalty to government, when it deserves it.

Never put off till tomorrow what may be done day after tomorrow just as well.

The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up.

The difference between the right word and the almost right word is the difference between lightning and a lightning bug.

The man who does not read has no advantage over the man who cannot read.

Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become great.

The secret of getting ahead is getting started.
Eleanor Roosevelt
1884-1962

We are afraid to care too much, for fear that the other person does not care at all.

A woman is like a tea bag; you never know how strong it is until it's in hot water.

Beautiful young people are accidents of nature, but beautiful old people are works of art.

The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience.

Do one thing every day that scares you.

Do what you feel in your heart to be right – for you’ll be criticized anyway.

Great minds discuss ideas. Average minds discuss events. Small minds discuss people.

Happiness is not a goal...it's a by-product of a life well lived.

If someone betrays you once, it’s their fault; if they betray you twice, it’s your fault.

It is not fair to ask of others what you are not willing to do yourself.

Life is what you make it. Always has been, always will be.

Anna Eleanor Roosevelt was the longest-serving First Lady of the United States, holding the post from 1933 to 1945 during her husband President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s four terms in office. President Harry S. Truman later called her the “First Lady of the World” in tribute to her human rights achievements. She was the first presidential spouse to hold press conferences, write a syndicated newspaper column, and speak at a national convention.

Her most famous quote is, “No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.”
It takes courage to love, but pain through love is the purifying fire which those who love generously know. We all know people who are so much afraid of pain that they shut themselves up like clams in a shell and, giving out nothing, receive nothing and therefore shrink until life is a mere living death.

Learn from the mistakes of others. You can't live long enough to make them all yourself.

Life was meant to be lived, and curiosity must be kept alive. One must never, for whatever reason, turn his back on life.

Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends will leave footprints in your heart.

No matter how plain a woman may be, if truth and honesty are written across her face, she will be beautiful.

The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.

What could we accomplish if we knew we could not fail?

To handle yourself, use your head; to handle others, use your heart.

With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts.

You can often change your circumstances by changing your attitude.

You wouldn't worry so much about what others think of you if you realized how seldom they do.

You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You are able to say to yourself, 'I have lived through this horror. I can take the next thing that comes along.' You must do the thing you think you cannot do.

You have to accept whatever comes, and the only important thing is that you meet it with the best you have to give.
The Chinese use two brush strokes to write the word 'crisis.' One brush stroke stands for danger; the other for opportunity. In a crisis, be aware of the danger--but recognize the opportunity.

A man may die, nations may rise and fall, but an idea lives on. Ideas have endurance without death.

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.

Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future.

Conformity is the jailer of freedom and the enemy of growth.

Do not pray for easy lives. Pray to be stronger men.

Forgive your enemies, but never forget their names.

If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich.

If by a "Liberal" they mean someone who looks ahead and not behind, someone who welcomes new ideas without rigid reactions, someone who cares about the welfare of the people—their health, their housing, their schools, their jobs, their civil rights and their civil liberties—someone who believes we can break through the stalemate and suspicions that grip us in our policies abroad, if that is what they mean by a "Liberal", then I'm proud to say I'm a "Liberal.

Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.
If this nation is to be wise as well as strong, if we are to achieve our destiny, then we need more new ideas for more wise men reading more good books in more public libraries. These libraries should be open to all—except the censor. We must know all the facts and hear all the alternatives and listen to all the criticisms. Let us welcome controversial books and controversial authors. For the Bill of Rights is the guardian of our security as well as our liberty.

If we cannot end now our differences, at least we can help make the world safe for diversity.

Liberty without Learning is always in peril and Learning without Liberty is always in vain.

Libraries should be open to all - except the censor.

No matter how big the lie; repeat it often enough and the masses will regard it as the truth.

One person can make a difference, and everyone should try.

The great enemy of truth is very often not the lie--deliberate, contrived and dishonest--but the myth--persistent, persuasive and unrealistic. Too often we hold fast to the cliches of our forebears. We subject all facts to a prefabricated set of interpretations. We enjoy the comfort of opinion without the discomfort of thought.

The rights of every man are diminished when the rights of one man are threatened.

Those who make peaceful revolution impossible will make violent revolution inevitable.

To those whom much is given, much is expected.

Too often we enjoy the comfort of opinion without the discomfort of thought.

Victory has a thousand fathers, but defeat is an orphan.

We are not afraid to entrust the American people with unpleasant facts, foreign ideas, alien philosophies, and competitive values. For a nation that is afraid to let its people judge the truth and falsehood in an open market is a nation that is afraid of its people.

We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things. Not because they are easy, but because they are hard.

We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives.

We should never negotiate out of fear, but we should never fear to negotiate.

What is objectionable, what is dangerous about extremists is not that they are extreme, but that they are intolerant. The evil is not what they say about their cause, but what they say about their opponents.

Mankind MUST put an end to war, or war WILL put and end to mankind.
The time to repair the roof is when the sun is shining.

When power leads man toward arrogance, poetry reminds him of his limitations. When power narrows the area of man’s concern, poetry reminds him of the richness and diversity of existence. When power corrupts, poetry cleanses.

We are tied to the ocean. And when we go back to the sea, whether it is to sail or to watch - we are going back from whence we came.

We celebrate the past to awaken the future.
Ability may get you to the top, but it takes character to keep you there.

Don't let yesterday take up too much of today.

If you don't have time to do it right, when will you have the time to do it over?

It is amazing how much can be accomplished if no one cares who gets the credit.

Never make excuses. Your friends don't need them and your foes won't believe them.

Seek opportunities to show you care. The smallest gestures often make the biggest difference.


The best thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother.

The true test of a man's character is what he does when no one is watching.

Being a role model is the most powerful form of educating...too often fathers neglect it because they get so caught up in making a living they forget to make a life

Success is peace of mind in knowing you did your best.
You can't let praise or criticism get to you. It's a weakness to get caught up in either one.

You can’t live a perfect day until you do something for someone who will never be able to repay you.

Discipline yourself and others won't need to.

Do not let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do.

Don't let making a living prevent you from making a life.

Don't measure yourself by what you have accomplished, but by what you should have accomplished with your ability.

Failing to prepare is preparing to fail.

Failure is not fatal, but failure to change might be.

Happiness begins where selfishness ends.

Listen if you want to be heard.


The man who is afraid to risk failure seldom has to face success.

There is nothing stronger than gentleness.

Worry more about your character than your reputation. Character is what you are, reputation merely what others think you are.

You are not a failure until you start blaming others for your mistakes.
Almost everything...all external expectations...all pride...all fear of embarrassment or failure...these things just fall away in the face of death....leaving only what is truly important. Remembering that you are going to die is the best way I know to avoid the trap of thinking that you have something to lose. You are already naked...there is no reason not to follow your heart.

And the only way to do great work is to love what you do.... Don’t settle.

Be a yardstick of quality. Some people aren’t used to an environment where excellence is expected.

Being the richest man in the cemetery doesn’t matter to me. Going to bed at night saying we've done something wonderful... that's what matters to me.

Creativity is just connecting things.
Details matter, it's worth waiting to get it right.

Don't be trapped by dogma — which is living with the results of other people’s thinking.

Don’t let the noise of others’ opinions drown out your own inner voice.

Focus is about saying No.

Good Artists Copy, Great Artists Steal.

Have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow already know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary.

If you haven't found it yet, keep looking. Don't settle. As with all matters of the heart, you'll know when you find it. And, like any great relationship, it just gets better and better as the years roll on.

If you live each day as it was your last, someday you'll most certainly be right.

Simple can be harder than complex: You have to work hard to get your thinking clean to make it simple. But it's worth it in the end because once you get there, you can move mountains.

Sometimes life's going to hit you in the head with a brick. Don't lose faith. I'm convinced that the only thing that kept me going was that I loved what I did.

The heaviness of being successful was replaced by the lightness of being a beginner again.

The journey is the reward.

The people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world are the ones who do.

Things don't have to change the world to be important.

When I was 17, I read a quote that went something like: 'If you live each day as if it was your last, someday you'll most certainly be right.' It made an impression on me, and since then, for the past 33 years, I have looked in the mirror every morning and asked myself: "If today were the last day of my life, would I want to do what I am about to do today?" And whenever the answer has been "No" for too many days in a row, I know I need to change something.

You have to be burning with "an idea, or a problem, or a wrong that you want to right." If you're not passionate enough from the start, you'll never stick it out.

You have to trust in something - your gut, destiny, life, karma, whatever. This approach has never let me down, and it has made all the difference in my life.

Your time is limited, so don’t waste it living someone else's life.

Remembering that I'll be dead soon is the most important tool I’ve ever encountered to help me make the big choices in life.
Remembering that you are going to die is the best way I know to avoid the trap of thinking you have something to lose. You are already naked. There is no reason not to follow your heart.

No one wants to die. Even people who want to go to heaven don’t want to die to get there. And yet, death is the destination we all share. No one has ever escaped it, and that is how it should be, because death is very likely the single best invention of life. It’s life’s change agent. It clears out the old to make way for the new.

Your work is going to fill a large part of your life, and the only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work. And the only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven’t found it yet, keep looking. Don’t settle. As with all matters of the heart, you’ll know when you find it. And, like any great relationship, it just gets better and better as the years roll on.

Almost everything—all external expectations, all pride, all fear of embarrassment or failure—these things just fall away in the face of death, leaving only what is truly important.
Conclusioin

This concludes the preview of the, “They Said It” eBook.

The full edition will be available for FREE on or before January 1st, 2014, at:

Creative Business Buzz's Facebook page

Our goal is to inspire 1,000,000 with, “They Said It” by the end of 2014. If this book inspires you then help us spread the word two ways –

1- Share some of the quotes on Facebook and/or
2-Share this invitation for the free download on Facebook: CLICK HERE