

A Week in Images and Quotes

April - 2026

On a recent segment of CBS Sunday Morning, a previous CEO of Goldman Sachs was being interviewed and I wondered if he might have some quotes of relevance for me. Here is what I uncovered:

- *You don't know how you'll react to things until you live through them.*
- *You can see that all these people who did really great things failed six times or didn't get going until they were much older. I think that's much more instructive and educational.*
- *Change is often the agent of progress in ways we can't always readily see in the early days.*
- *I'd say if you wanted to forestall bad events, the best thing to do is anticipate them and try to correct them before they get close.*
- *All you can do is the best you can do.*

Lloyd Blankfein

The history of science knows scores of instances where an investigator was in the possession of all the important facts for a new theory but simply failed to ask the right questions. Ernst Mayr

Perhaps it is our imperfections that make us so perfect for one another.

Jane Austen

There was a special this week on PBS devoted to Henry David Thoreau and this prompted me to look into my archives of quotes to discover the following:

Just so hollow and ineffectual, for the most part, is our ordinary conversation. Surface meets surface ... In proportion as our inward life fails, we go more constantly and desperately to the post office. You may depend on it, that the poor fellow who walks away with the greatest number of letters, proud of his extensive correspondence, has not heard from himself this long while. Henry David Thoreau

Vyshinsky: Why did you write the poem?

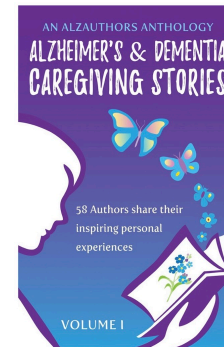
Rostov: It demanded to be written. I simply happened to be sitting at the particular desk on the particular morning when it chose to make its demands. Amor Towles, A Gentleman in Moscow, p. 2

WEDNESDAY

01

THURSDAY

02



Recently finished this collection of summaries of books from authors with a dementia theme in their work.

Pay attention to the people God puts in your path if you want to discern what God is up to in your life.

Henri Nouwen

FRIDAY

03

- *The stigmatization, separation and labeling of our fellow humans based on race or religion has never led to a more secure world.*
- *Without truthful encounters with the past, racial reconciliation is doubtful and diversity will remain little more than a hollow abstraction.*

Ellen B. McGirt

Once I gave myself permission to make mistakes, I could also allow myself to succeed. The series is different than it was five years ago. I'm a different person than I was five years ago. It's not only okay, but exciting to change your approach and your method and your technique of Hatha Yoga teaching. Liliias Foran

Quote taken from current documentary airing on PBS:

My desire is to know what I have lived, that I may know how to live henceforth.

Henry David Thoreau

SATURDAY

04

A Week in Images and Quotes

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SUNDAY

05

- I still regard myself as an amateur today and I hope that's what I'll stay until the end of my life. Because I'm forever a beginner who discovers the world again and again.
- Have confidence in the inventions and transformations of chance.

Andre Kertesz

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- *It is not what you say that matters but the manner in which you say it; there lies the secret of the ages.*
 - *What can any of us do with his talent but try to develop his vision, so that through frequent failures we may learn better what we have missed in the past.*
 - *It is almost impossible to state what one in fact believes, because it is almost impossible to hold a belief and to define it at the same time.*

William Carlos Williams

What you do is not as important as how you do it. ELP

MONDAY

06

TUESDAY

07

- *To be hopeful means to be uncertain about the future, to be tender toward possibilities, to be dedicated to change all the way down to the bottom of your heart.*
- *For me, being in a car or on an airplane is like being in limbo. It's this dead zone between two places. But to walk, you're some place that's already interesting. You're not just between places. Things are happening.*
- *Thinking is generally thought of as doing nothing in a production-oriented society and doing nothing is hard to do. It's best done by disguising it as doing something, and the something closest to doing nothing is walking.*
- *There are infinite shades of grey. Writing often appears so black and white. Rebecca Solnit*

Everything we do is in preparation for the journey of our spirit at the moment of our death. ELP

WEDNESDAY

08

THURSDAY

09

I am a regular reader of Austin Kleon's Substack postings and a recent one on the topic of Introspection intrigued me. Specifically, he mentions the writing of Michel de Montaigne and recommended a movie - Paterson. Here is my comment:

I decided to begin my next book, A Gentleman in Moscow, and much to my surprise on p. 22 the protagonist takes a book from his shelf: the Essays of Michel de Montaigne! I also started watching Paterson on Amazon this afternoon. I found two pictures of myself separated by 40 years awhile back and composed the following:

Who are these men who share the same name, separated by 40 years of experience? Does the younger man know what would be in store, or is this meeting just some coincidence?

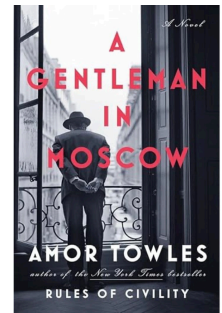
*Looking back or looking ahead.
in the end does it really matter?
You are who you are and
I am who I am
Whether I be the younger
or the latter.*

FRIDAY

10

SATURDAY

11



Finished reading today



A Week in Images and Quotes

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SUNDAY

12

- *Writing is revision. All prose responds to work.*
- *I'm going to a commune in Vermont and will deal with no unit of time shorter than a season.*
- *I know that to write you have to have stories you want to tell. You have to keep your mind alive, and you have to work hard.*
- *I do believe in God. I think God has given so much power to people, and intelligence, and said, "Well, you are on your own. Maybe I'm tired, I need a nap. You are mature. Why don't you look after yourselves?" and I think He's been sleeping too much.*

Tracy Kidder

Whatever it is you're seeking won't come in the form you're expecting.

Haruki Murakami

You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream.

C. S. Lewis

MONDAY

13

TUESDAY

14

- *In the end I would rather wonder than know.*
- *Now I will give you a piece of advice. I will tell you something that I absolutely believe you should do, and if you do not do it, you will never be a writer. It is a certain truth. When your pencil is dull, sharpen it. And when your pencil is sharp, use it until it is dull again.*
- *People, the people we really love, where did they come from? What did we do to deserve them?*

Mary Ruefle

You are not responsible for what happened. But you certainly are responsible for preventing it from happening again.

Max Mannheimer

WEDNESDAY

15

Your gifts lie in the place where your values, passions and strengths meet. Discovering that place is the first step toward sculpting your masterpiece, Your Life.

Michelangelo

THURSDAY

16

For money you can have everything it is said. No, that is not true. You can buy:

- *food, but not appetite;*
- *medicine, but not health;*
- *soft beds, but not sleep;*
- *knowledge but not intelligence;*
- *glitter, but not comfort;*
- *fun, but not pleasure;*
- *acquaintances, but not friendship;*
- *servants, but not faithfulness;*
- *grey hair, but not honor;*
- *quiet days, but not peace.*

The shell of all things you can get for money. But not the kernel. That cannot be had for money.

Arne Garborg

I seem to have many writing projects (documents) in varying stages of completion while realizing that I will be adding new content and updates on a regular basis. Everything is in the process of revision, and that's the way I like it! I have been going back through files from old USB drives and finding gems that I thought were lost to me, but they have reappeared. ELP

FRIDAY

17

SATURDAY

18

Take the teacher not the course. Find out who the great professors are - the great teachers - and take their courses because a subject that you may not think you're interested in may turn out to be infinitely fascinating because of the way it's taught.

David McCullough