

IT'S THERE FOR US

In a world which is full of things that are neither silly nor lovely, it's rather good to remember that silly lovely things are probably better than big things with capital letters. (Stephen Fry)

Unbounded intelligence, creativity, happiness, love, energy, power and peace are there for us. (David Lynch)

The only thing that the human species can do perfectly is make a mess out of stuff. (Frank Zappa)

IF WE'D HAD ANOTHER PLANET

If we'd had another planet, and we had other beings evolving towards a more perfect and spiritual type of being - which I think we are -, would they look like us? No, they probably wouldn't, would they think what we think is beautiful, beautiful, they might.... I mean this is why living is so exciting, really, because you're surrounded by different views and all the time you're learning, all the time you: 'gosh I never thought of it like that before'... And as long as you can keep your mind open... You know the huge danger that I see around us in the world today are these blinkered people who see only one narrow view and they don't really want to change. They're just happy - or they think they're happy in this little rad heading kind of from nowhere to nowhere, as far as I can see. (Jane Goodall)

STRIVING TO BE HIP

I mean the whole world is striving to be hip and cool and dadada you know like and well-defended (Joni Mitchell)

Don't try to be cool, be warm (Jacob Collier)

Let's try to be honest and talk about who we really are (David Byrne)

Everyone seeks happiness, joyfulness. But from outside, from money, from power, from big car, from big house. Even physical health. Inside not outside (Dalai Lama)

TOMORROW NEVER KNEW

You know what are we doing on this planet? You know I get confused when I look around at the world and I see everybody is running around. (George Harrison)

If there is a God he really fucked up when he made people (Frank Zappa)

We have these little entities and half of humanity say we must not give them consciousness. We must not move from AI to what is called AGI. Because if we do these machines might find us in the way. They don't need us. We would be like the Gods. So maybe this has happened time and time again. Somebody made the Gods. The Gods then got rid of them. The Gods made us, we got rid of the gods. We made the machines, the machines got rid of us. (Stephen Fry)

Joe doubting God, you know, in the old testament that seems like one of the most intelligent passages in the old testament to me. It should be doubted you know. (Joni Mitchell)

AMERICA IS A CRAZY PLACE

People don't get that. They talk about peace. Talking won't do it. Making a film about it won't do it. It's nice, but you're preaching to the choir usually. The non-peaceful ones don't go to see your movie, they don't look at that. They don't look at the painting, they don't read the book. (David Lynch)

There's an illusion in the United States that we have free press. (Frank Zappa)

America is such a crazy place. I mean when you consider that you can elect a person just by running the proper type of television advertising campaign, it's possible to convince a bunch of people to vote for 'm. (Frank Zappa)

- *Whoever controls the media controls the mind.*
- *You just quote Stalin?*
- *Jim Morrison*
- *Well ... he had a point*

(Dialog uit The Lincoln Lawyer)

Ideally the strongest nation in the world - which is the US - should assume a leadership role, and as a leader try to bring people together, try to bring humanity together. Unfortunately the policy of the current administration is doing exactly the opposite (Yuval Noah Harari)

We're so fucking stupid. This country had been around for a couple of hundred years and we think we're hot shit. (Frank Zappa)

We were founded on a very basic double standard. This country was founded by slave owners, who wanted to be free. So they killed a lot of white English people in order to continue owning their black African people, so they could wipe out the rest of the red Indian people and move west and steal the rest of the land from the brown Mexican people giving them a place to take off and drop off their nuclear weapons on the yellow Japanese people. (George Carlin)

I've been around, you know. There was a time I could see. And I have seen. Boys like these, younger than these. Their arms torn out, their legs ripped off. But there is nothing like the sight of an amputated spirit. There is no prosthetic for that. (Al Pacino in de film Scent of a woman)

I think the problem with people like this is that they are so stupid, that they have no idea how stupid they are. You see: if you're very very stupid how can you possibly realize that you're very very stupid. You'd have to be relatively intelligent to realize how stupid you are. (John Cleese)

Let's not be too rough on our own ignorance, I mean after all it's what makes America great! (Frank Zappa)

STAY ALIVE

I think it's funny life. It's amusing. Because we take everything so seriously, we care about everything passionately, we have fights, wars, worry about little things, and then we die. (Ricky Gervais)

Whatever happens, stay alive
Don't die before you're dead.
Don't lose yourself, don't lose hope, don't lose direction.
Stay alive, with yourself, with every cell of your body, with every fiber of your skin.
Stay alive,
Learn, study, think, read, build, invent, create, speak, write, dream, design.
Stay alive, stay alive inside you, stay alive also outside,
fill yourself with colours of the world,
Fill yourself with peace, fill yourself with hope.
Stay alive with joy.
There is only one thing you should not waste in life,
And that's life itself.
Learn, study, think, read, build, invent, create, speak, write, dream
(Virginia Woolf)

THERE YOU GO

- *You're so narrow-minded*
- *No*
- *You don't believe in anything*
Yes I do
- *But you're atheist*
- *Yeah that doesn't mean I believe in anything does it? It does mean that I believe in any god*
- *How you can not believe in God?*
- *Which one?*
- *What you mean?*
- *Eh...Zeus. (...?) (Greek god) Or Ra. Or Ganesh*
- *No, not those ones, the real one in the bible*
- *Jaweh*
- *Just God*
- *Well you know how you don't believe in all those other gods I mentioned. That's how I don't believe in yours.*
- *How you cannot believe that someone created all this then*
- *Why do you believe that someone created it all?*
- *Because it's so good! Can't just be chance can it? (....) What? The Big bang? Everything came from nothing? That's impossible.*
- *You're right; God did it.*
- *Right*
- *So where did God come from?*
- *He has always been around*
There you go.
(Ricky Gervais, uit de serie Afterlife)

THE LAST CHECK

The last check on power after the checks and balances of the governments have failed are the people (Bruce Springsteen)

We need concept of one-ness of seven billion human beings, in order to live happily, peacefully together. Okay. (Dalai Lama)

The biggest problem facing the world today is mental health. If everybody had good mental health then all the other problems would be solved. (Frank Zappa)

Anybody, Socrates, Plato, anybody who is interested in virtue, justice, truth, the right thing to do, is going to examine what is at the heart of good human behaviour.
(Stephen Fry)

I tell you what freedom is to me: No Fear! (Nina Simone)

LITTLE TINY THINGS

I imagine that an artist would see it one way, a poet might see it in a different way. Different images would be conjured up. A philosopher might see something else. A scientist would probably have a completely different feeling about it. So there we are. These different humans with our different beliefs, our cultures, our backgrounds or experiences. And so we look on the world around us, and we see, we interpret what we see in very different ways. We pick out what we see. Some people will pick out little tiny things and see them as beautiful. Other people won't even notice them. The shape of a wet leaf on the pavement, even in an ugly place, a footprint on the sand, filling up with water, the whole picture that you can get, a child's footprint, and a dog's paw and the tide coming in. (Jane Goodall)

*Birds flying south in V-shaped formation
The sound of windchimes on a front porch
Flowers bravely breaking through the pavement
Cat paws in the snow
A ragged doll
The tree in front of my house
Colours in the sky on a summer's night*

*Little tiny things that no one notices
Footsteps in the sand
Little tiny things that make me happy
Raindrops on roses, whiskers on cats
Brown paper packages tied up with strings make me smile*

*First buds on leaves in springtime
The wrinkle in my grandma's hand and how it felt
A couple of cows peacefully chewing their grass
All the colours of the leaves in autumn*

*Little tiny things that no one notices
Footsteps in the sand
Little tiny things that make me happy
Things I see, things that I hear:
Rain on a roof, walking on snow, sprinklers in a park
Filling the bath, ice in the glass, striking a match
Wet sneakers squeak, a page being turned
Raindrops on roses, whiskers on cats*

*Little tiny things that no one notices
Little tiny things that make me happy
Little tiny things that make me smile*

(Words: many persons, arr. by CVB)

IT DEPENDS ON TRUST

Ever since I was a very small child, there was something about trees. I love trees. When I was growing up in England, there was one special tree in the garden, a beach tree, not a very big one, but for me it was big. And I used to climb into it and I would sit up there close to the birds and they seemed to sound different. And I could hear the wind through the leaves and it was just such a wonderful wonderful experience. And I was too young at that time to really understand how that quiet peaceful beauty of being up with the leaves and the flowers is a way of connecting to the world as it could be, should be. And it's the consolation to me that the trees give me the consolation of knowing that it's still there for us. We just have to reach out and take it. And it's all around us. The world as it... There are little glimpses all around us of a reality that's stronger than the mess that we've made of the world. (Jane Goodall)

People should know and remember the word transcend. Means go beyond. Get to the treasury within each one of us. The treasury is the ocean of pure consciousness. Underline the whole field of relativity. Underline of matter and mind. And it's a field that's eternal. Always been there. (David Lynch)

If you look at the world, it's unfair, it's cruel, it's unjust, there's violence, there is unpleasantness. But it's also majestic, utterly beautiful and incredibly inspiring. (Stephen Fry)

Our knowledge has made us cynical. Our cleverness, hard and unkind. We think too much and feel too little. More than machinery we need humanity. More than cleverness we need kindness and gentleness. Without these qualities, life will be violent and all will be lost... (Charlie Chaplin uit The Great Dictator)

I think to have hope today when so much seems hopeless, is terribly important. Me think of being born into a world which had been despoiled, not by you, and having no hope as a young child, that's a tragedy. I believe that we, humans, are evolving from very primitive creatures, who just have the main reason for existence finding food and recreating and propagating, to a more spiritual kind of life on earth... a more moral kind of life on earth... (Jane Goodall)

What you really learn from the longterm history of humanity is the amazing human ability to build trust. Ultimately it all depends on trust between humans. (Yuval Noah Harari)

A LITTLE PRAYER

What did God forget in the 10 commandments are the hysterical believings of a group of desert tribes. Those desert tribes have stored up more misery for mankind than any other group of people in the history of the planet. And they're doing it to this day. (Stephen Fry)

*We, this people, on this small and drifting planet
Whose hands can strike with such abandon
That in a twinkling, life is sapped from the living
Yet those same hands can touch with such healing, irresistible tenderness
That the haughty neck is happy to bow
And the proud back is glad to bend
Out of such chaos, of such contradiction
We learn that we are neither devils nor divines*

*When we come to it
We, this people, on this wayward, floating body
Created on this earth, of this earth
Have the power to fashion for this earth
A climate where every man and every woman
Can live freely without sanctimonious piety
Without crippling fear*

*When we come to it
We must confess that we are the possible
We are the miraculous, the true wonder of this world
That is when, and only when
We come to it.
Zingt: When it looks like the sun won't shine anymore
When one of us, or two of us, or all of us can say: "I am willing to be a rainbow in
somebody's cloud"
(Maya Angelou, uit A Brave and Startling Truth)*

PART OF THE PACKAGE

*There's beautiful things in life. So if you're suffering, you know it's part of the package.
You know you look at it, we're born and we also have to die. We know that. So it makes
sense that we'll gonna be real happy and things are going to be real fucked up too.
(Patti Smith)*

A DECENT WORLD OF REASON

*One recreates one's act of existence as one goes along. One enriches it as best as
possible. One fulfills commitments which one has acquired or are imposed upon one.
And one fights, one resents those who try to make life not worth living. Such as
dictators, such as oppressors, exploiters, those who try to diminish one's quality of life.
(Wole Soyinka)*

*Art is inclusive, it brings people together. Art looks for truth, art embraces diversity,
and that's why art is a threat. That's why we are a threat to autocrats and fascists.
Unlike a film we can't just all sit back and watch. We have to act, and we have to act
now. Without violence, but with great passion and determination, it's time for
everyone who cares about liberty to organize, to protest, and when there are elections
of course to vote. (
Robert de Niro speech bij Oscars 2025)*

*You, the people have the power - the power to create machines. The power to create
happiness! You, the people, have the power to make this life free and beautiful, to
make this life a wonderful adventure. Let us fight for a new world - a decent world.
Let us fight to free the world - to do away with national barriers - to do away with
greed, with hate and intolerance. Let us fight for a world of reason, a world where
science and progress will lead to all men's happiness.
(Charlie Chaplin uit The Great Dictator)*

*It's a deep thing. Happiness is a deep thing. Because I don't think there is such a thing
as simple happiness. I think there's all sorts of stuff going on underneath a person's
ability to be optimistic about the world. And so to me happiness is a form of defiance, I
would say. (Nick Cave)*

IN THIS WORLD

Now, I have hope because I believe in the truth of what the great American writer James Baldwin said. He said in this world there isn't as much humanity as one would like... but there's enough. (Bruce Springsteen)

Unbounded intelligence, creativity, happiness, love, energy, power and peace are there for us. (David Lynch)

BE HAPPY

It is a time of the people because technology has really democratized selfexpression. In stead of a handful of people making their own records, or writing their own songs, everybody can write them. Everyone can post a poem on the internet and have people read it. Everyone has access, an access they never had before. There's possibilities for bringing down our these corporations and governments who think they rule the world. Because we can unite as one people through technology. We're all still figuring it out and what power we actually have. But the people still do have the power. More than ever. And I think right now we're going through this painful sort of like adolescence again. What do we do with this technology? What do we do with our world? Who are we? But it also makes it exciting. You know all the young people right now, the new generations, they're pioneers in a new time. So, just I say: Stay strong. Try to stay ... have fun, but... Stay clean, stay healthy. Because you know, you have a lot of challenges ahead. And.. be happy! (Patti Smith)

LOVE

Love is really just about the most valuable thing that there is. Love never looks for love. Love's not puffed up or envious, or touchy. Because it rejoices in the truth, not in inequity. Love sees as a child sees. Love's the greatest beauty. (Joni Mitchell)