

MY INFLUENCES

~ PEOPLE ~

-An Artist's Personality Exploration-

How to
UNDERSTAND
How One Becomes
an **ARTIST** and an **INDIVIDUAL**

by

Eric Homan

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PEOPLE/ INDIVIDUALS/ FAMILY/ FRIENDS/ TEACHERS

-God/ "Order"

"God is a concept by which we measure our pain. I'll say it again. God is a concept by which we measure our pain." -"God" by John Lennon.

Robinson Crusoe on Mars: "God?" -"Order. God. Good." -"Divine Order. Good."

-Jesus Christ/ The Last Temptation of Christ

Jesus committed a complicated form of suicide. He choose to be the Lamb - to give up his life in self-sacrifice.

I keep thinking about The Last Temptation of Christ: it's one of those rare movies that *heals* the viewer, who may be emotionally wounded. "When one friend or woman leaves, another takes their place. There is a universal friend... and a universal woman."

The Last Temptation of Christ: Jesus, the doubtful, overflowing with human weaknesses... "I'm the saint of blasphemy"... a man possessed by God, possessed by emotions... Listen... there is only one woman in the world - one woman of many faces. This one falls and the next one rises." *Love has many faces.*

The Last Temptation of Christ: *The New Testament*... He struggles. People spit on him. Jesus was dancing! ...Jesus and the Seven Dwarfs... I judge a movie by how many times my eyebrows raised during the movie. This one got me many times.

The Last Temptation of Christ: Jesus had migraines and felt surrounded by sin... William Dafoe wasn't allowed to smoke on the set because it would ruin the mood with Christ smoking a cigarette... Jesus drank and danced, hung out with prostitutes... "Congratulations, Jesus. You passed the temptations of a woman and a family. We're both bigger than that"... If one woman falls, another takes her place. "There is only *one* woman in the world. Go inside."

I viewed The Last Temptation of Christ with my mother. Good film. I admired the alternate reality perspective of Jesus where he lived as a "normal man instead of the almighty savior he was supposed to be. No wonder Catholics were offended. Father Keith was the one who shocked me the most when he expressed his admiration of the film in one of his sermons.

I viewed The Last Temptation of Christ in full length this evening to an awe-inspired mind. I gave it **** for its changing of the saga of Christ in a more human perspective. Excellent film masterpiece.

-His Holiness the Dalai Lama

"If you have a sense of caring for others, you will manifest a kind of inner strength in spite of your own difficulties and problems. With this strength, your own problems will seem less significant and bothersome to you. By going beyond your own problems and taking care of others, you gain inner strength, self-confidence, courage, and a greater sense of calm." ~His Holiness the Dalai Lama

-My Family

To be perfectly honest, I didn't have many artistic role models in my family or bloodline... let alone any type of art or culture. I grew up in a small town called Coldwater, Ohio (pop. 5,000) on the mid-west side of the state nearby the Indiana border. (For recreation, there was bowling and attending sporting events.) My parents were schoolteachers. My oldest sister Lara had artistic ability, which initially started me up with a competitive drive. Eventually, she left art behind and concentrated on 4-H and teaching. I had one aunt on my mom's side that painted landscapes and portraits. My uncles and aunts on my dad's side were mostly farmers or domestic housewives, with one bank president and a schoolteacher. Because of my outcast standing, I was never attracted to those ways of life. I wanted more out of my art. I had the creativity - I just needed to focus it! So I found my role models elsewhere, mostly by reading about them at the library or by watching movies.

Yet I do have an inkling of how I did come to be with an advanced imagination and a liking for movies. While I was growing up, my father was a pretty strict parent to my two older sisters and I. He wasn't what some of my peers would call a "cool parent", but that's all right. Because of that strictness to his

attitude, there wasn't a great deal of fun in our household. If I did something wrong or got bad grades, my parents would limit my watching television privileges or my computer video game playing privileges. I was never grounded because I rarely left the house anyway. I didn't have many friends, so I gradually had to create my own entertainment through creating my own imagination. It was all in the pursuit of having *fun*. I needed company, so I naturally found a love in movies, music, comic books, and video games. Whenever I was sent to my room as punishment, I'd "get back" at them by spending extra time in there for hours sulking and playing with my toys or reading, only to leave to go to the bathroom. That was the first recollection of *withdrawing* from reality through building my own fantasy worlds.

Yet I do recognize that my parents and family raised me into a considerate, "well-behaved" human being. And for that I must thank them.

My Family

-Mom and Dad - My Accidental, Default Artists

7-21-01: Yes, it's true to a certain extent... my parents were artists. They created organic metabolisms, children, called "Lara", "Tanya", and "Eric". They had one failure in between "Lara" and "Tanya" that was a miscarriage. My mom and dad were Michelangelos and van Goghs. The only reason people didn't recognize them as artists was because everyone makes babies. I turned out different and original, so I fully recognize them as great artists. It may be stated that they didn't make the artist – just the canvas in a human body with workable brain. The artist got his inspiration and creativity from other people and sources, but they did provide me with an accommodating upbringing and a comfortable household in order for me to grow into that artist. They were the inevitable patrons to the arts in the artist. Yes, Eric Frank Homan has been sponsored by his mom and dad.

-My Mom, Elizabeth Homan

10-12-21: Today is the 25th anniversary of one of the worst days of my life: when my mother was killed in a car accident by a speeding driver passing another car in a no-pass lane on top of a country hill. She was coming back from doing volunteer work with a group of others. Four of the five in the vehicle were killed. With that single event, everything changed. My whole life trajectory was altered... fractured by sudden shock and grief. It caused a ripple effect that lasted for years and probably will my whole lifetime. I feel it subtly and subconsciously every time I commute back and forth to work with constantly have speeding drivers going way, way too fast over the speed limit on the interstate. Those reckless, selfish people swerve around other cars because they're more "important" to get to wherever they're going to just a few seconds faster. Those careless actions of people who just want their freedom of the thrill of speeding cause accidents to innocent people around them... people with hearts and heartbeats. For some, that need for speed is just another type of drug. My mom's passing affected so very many lives including her husband, her children, her two older sisters, her many nieces and nephews, her neighbors, her former students, and those she was volunteering to help at the local hospital that she was seeing during her one and only year of retirement. Her spirit of helping others continues on with a scholarship in her name that is given out each year to an exceptional student at Coldwater High School. For those of us left behind having to deal with incalculable loss, we just have to continue on and make sense of the senseless... perhaps to share stories like hers to make people think more when they are driving their fast cars. Regardless of the grief caused by her death by someone so careless, today I'll be remembering the love, goodness, kindness, and knowledge that my mother gave so many people throughout her shortened 59 years of life. And I hope you will, too. Thank you, mom. We love you. Your son, Eric

-Lisa, My Wife

9-1-06: The thing about Lisa that I just adore is that she is loving. *She's loving!* She gives back *love*. And that's something I never got to such a degree from most of the women I've known personally. That is why I feel this relationship is a keeper... a winner.

9-4-06: Let me just state it up front that Lisa has made being in a relationship *easy* for me. And it's all about her personality and willingness to be with me that I find so wonderful about her. When I'm with her, I cannot think of another person or thing. She "completes" me in a sense. I feel no stress or worry. Life simplifies in the best way I could possibly imagine. I am happy. It's that simple, people: I am happy. And I give Lisa all the credit in the world for it. She's made this relationship work. She's the guiding light to make me whole again. My life has a balance that it hasn't had... perhaps ever!

It is pretty remarkable how well Lisa and I get along. Is it her relaxed, positive attitude towards life that

makes her work well with me? She's not so opinionated to make me feel suffocated. She's not a "sugar mama" either, which is good (and bad). I suppose I've wanted to "marry well" and get the better things in life. But that isn't buying happiness at all. "Marrying well" means being with someone who brings you happiness rather than misery and superficial expensive trappings.

I recall in years past I would spend this long Labor Day weekend alone with nothing but my computer, movies, and comics to keep me company. My friends weren't always in or available. I am happy now that I have someone special to spend my free time with. I feel like I've got a life now. A real life that I feel proud of and humbled by in the best way. Love can do that to you. I'm no longer afraid or sheepish about telling Lisa I love her now. It's very real.

Lisa's Important Down-to-Earth Impact on Me That Straightens Me Out

6-26-20: I told Lisa last night how much I appreciated her down-to-earth outlook on life. It's essential to keep learning. With her job as a dietitian, she is expected to purchase her books for her re-education. I'm getting a new textbook that is being shipped to me for free. She also reminded me that every day where she works in the Critical Care Unit, she is seeing people on their absolute worst day. If you think you're having a bad day, you should see these people who are near death. It's an eye-opening experience. I told her that this was one of the reasons I loved her. She straightens me out emotionally for thinking too much about myself and my own depressions.

-My Aunt Lorna and Uncle Jack

If I hadn't been allowed to stay with my aunt Lorna and uncle Jack during the summer of 1994 so I could take that Intro to Drawing class at Sinclair Community College in order to get a portfolio of work together, I wouldn't have gotten a scholarship to CCAD and begun my art career. So I will always be in their debt for their kindness.

Teachers

-Mrs. Guggenbiller, My 3rd Grade Teacher

1-4-95: Yet the best moment during my custodian work hours occurred when I passed Mrs. Guggenbiller in the elementary hallway. We suddenly struck an energetic conversation. I talked about my future at the Columbus College of Art and Design, and how my Christmas went. We were talking so amazingly openly, I just had to tell her that she has always been my favorite teacher. I watched her blush and told her how much I enjoyed her comforting, empathetic hugs. Then she gave me a warm hug right there in the middle of the hallway. I – we - were both touched deeply. I said something truthful and kind. She said, "Thanks" repeatedly with an unforgettable smile. We said, "Goodbye" and we went our separate ways. I was ecstatic.

2-16-95: My mom called me into my room to tell me that Mrs. Guggenbiller, my favorite and 3rd grade teacher, told her that she was almost moved to tears when I told her how much I appreciate her. I quietly replied to my mom that "I meant it".

8-1-02: Once we got back to Ft. Recovery, I called up my old 3rd grade school teacher, Connie Guggenbiller aka Mrs. Guggenbiller. So Nathan and I journeyed three miles over to her house to visit her for an hour. We hadn't seen each other for eight years (since my high school graduation party) and I explained what I had done with my life in that time. She seemed rather happy and pleased with what I have done with myself. I managed to express myself confidently, courteously, and humorously with her. I wanted to let her know in person how much she's meant to me for most of my life. Nathan told me as we were leaving their driveway that I "was a very nice person to have visited her and her husband – especially at 10 p.m. I'm glad I thought about calling her up. IT was the least I could do. She was an absolutely great teacher. She was my favorite teacher throughout my childhood years. I only wish all my teachers were as warm, caring, and thoughtful as she was.

-Ron Saks

12-16-02: Today I had my third consecutive party to go to for the CCAD faculty. This one was much more casual and informal – the way I prefer them. I'm still just realizing that the semester is over tomorrow. While walking over to the party with Ron, he confessed to me (for the second time this year) that he really appreciated having me on the staff in Media Studies. "Have I told you this week how glad I am that you're here?" were his exact words. I have to admit that Ron is really a great guy. He goes out of his way to make you feel appreciated. And that's someone you really want to work with.

3-7-11: Ron talked with me when he was leaving for the day this late afternoon and complimented me once again on how much hard work I've put into archiving the student work together for the accreditation process, as well as with reshaping the curriculum. "I want you to know that it's not going unnoticed." That made me feel a bit better. Ron's very good at being a personable human being. It's absolutely one of his greatest strengths. He gives off a positive, healthy vibe. And that's pretty rare for bosses.

2-14-14: My Cinematic Arts student Naomi Rose recounted a story to me: "Education is expensive, but not as expensive as no education." These were the wise words from Cinematic Arts chair Ron Saks.

-Kon Petrochuk/ Kon Pet Moon

9-26-05: "Teaching at an art school is like being on recess. Just imagine what it would be like to work in a shoe department your entire life dealing with just shoes all day for years on end?" –Kon Petrochuk, my colleague and former teacher.

"All you need is art and love, and you're happy inside." –Kon Petrochuk.

Two Unknown Photographers: by Kon Pet Moon... Using hundreds of photos and zooming in to *examine* them... Strange photographs in a deeply psychological magnify glass... "He was short, inexperienced with women, which made him less threatening to me and more safe than other aggressive experienced men"... "He felt disadvantaged by his height. He couldn't have any normal relationships with women. He didn't have any dates. So when his first relationship ended, he was devastated"... "They used each other when they dated"... "The relationship was so meaningful to him because he had so few"... "He related to kids."

Friends

-A Tribute to My Friends

8-29-98: A dream I had about my mother's funeral provoked me to remember seeing friends and classmates of mine from high school come to the mom's viewing at the funeral home. I've never been so lost and vulnerable emotionally. Mom's death was the definitive insanity for me. When they arrived, either together or by themselves, I felt the comfort of being alive with a real sense of their friendship. I needed comforting, and I got it without asking. As a reaction I immediately sent Joe a letter.

For so long I felt alone, never quite relating to people, especially my hometown friends. They never understood my artistic or creative views. So I ended up withdrawing from them and into my own fantasy world. During the funeral I realized that I had forgotten a quality that they had but never had a chance to show - *compassion*.

-Joe Pleiman: A Living Tribute to an Old Friend

6-25-95: *Luckily, a best friend called. Joe and I discussed his new love interest and that "it doesn't make any difference if she's two years younger."* He asked why I paid for his Dale's meal – and I told him the honest truth. No matter how many movies Joe gets me, his simple friendship was the most priceless debt of all. Paying for his lunch was just a mere, easy sign of gratitude and friendship. Our friendship "saved" me tonight. *Movies were the creative illusion. Friendship was the creative reality.*

12-23-98: *I've got friends who are better friends than me. Joe decided to spend time with his friends, including me, during his break rather than all his time with his girlfriend. He's impressive. I do have other artistic obligations that he doesn't have - I have to keep working in order to stay creative. Yet, he can give up his time. And he did for me. And I really appreciated that. He's a real hero, this friend of mine.*

6-21-05: "Joe and I were very good friends when we were in junior high and high school together. We usually hung out on weekends, had lunch together, cruised around our small town, and watched movies. He was a necessary friend that I dearly needed to help me get through those difficult school days when you felt like such an outcast and reject. I was essential to have a friend. Joe filled that spot. Yet I knew that we wouldn't always be close. I knew that the months after graduation I'd leave Coldwater forever behind me and I'd be off to art school and wherever my future took me. We kept in contact, but the lack of close proximity drew us apart. I made new friends and worked hard for a life that would take me far beyond a small town lifestyle that had always kept me so suppressed. Looking back now, I know that I had someone who helped me through it all that allowed me to get where I am today. Without a Joe Pleiman, I wouldn't be alive today. I needed a friend. I got a friend. So I say in the most heterosexual way possible, I love you... and thank you. Congratulations on your wedding day."

-Justin Jason

7-18-97: *Tonight, a different art school acquaintance and fellow computer animation classmate, Justin Jason, revealed to me his emotions, thoughts about religion, and his radically imaginative perception of the world... because he believed I was "worthy". His enthusiasm in pursuing his ideas was... exhilarating. I've been so lonely this summer. Finding an artistic kindred spirit in Justin has been quite a revelation and a blessing.*

10-19-97: I experienced a *Day* with my classmate and friend Justin Jason. I felt like I grew up along the way because I had found someone who I could talk to who shared similar ideas and concepts about life. We traveled to Hocking Hills and hiked along the cliffs. Once the exhilaration of being in nature waned and my body felt wildly exhausted, I felt a dire longing to be *home*. Yet the sincerity of our conversation and feelings allowed me to reject most of my exhaustion.

We later talked at his place - a museum of "The Far Side", Salvador Dali, astrology, "Calvin and Hobbes", his

girlfriend's clothes, Star Wars, pet cats, vanilla scented candles, Giger, sexuality, and van Gogh. For the first time, I felt like I had met some of the characters from Pump Up The Volume that I had always wanted to be acquainted with. I felt more comfortable talking and being with only one person. It was so much easier to think and feel - for the silence offered thoughts instead of constant conversation and noise, especially in this environment of free feelings and creative sensations.

11-1-97: Justin and I went out to reshoot for Motion Picture class since our film didn't properly load into the camera during the entire time we spent out filming. Thankfully, the experience of collaborating and spending time with Justin is a pleasure. We were out looking and filming textural patterns that were made by nature, and then double exposing them with human-made textural patterns. It was about finding the little things that 99% of other artists and tourists wouldn't notice. (Like how the incurve of a cave was reflected in a unique rippling of water nearby a natural waterfall.) We were both common artistic spirits, both in love with nature, Dali, experimentation, and the fantasy of it all.

1-26-02 : "Living is my favorite pass-time. Knowing great people like you is my other favorite pass-time. It's great when I can combine the two - they're synergistic. I'll catch you later." -Justin Jason.

5-1-02: I called back Justin Jason at his "ranch" in Columbus. I value our friendship very deeply. Especially after living alone in Ft. Lauderdale, I've realized that friends are hard to find, hard to have, hard to keep. I will never do anything to harm our friendship. He knows my cautionary views on pot and alcohol.

-Mike Folliett

2-9-04: After sitting and listening through this morning's visiting artist from Film Roman ("The Simpsons"), I unexpectedly met one of my old classmates, Mike Folliett, in the computer lab. He was one of my closest classmates when I was a student at CCAD whose distinctively stylized video work stood him apart from all of my other Media Studies classmates. Actually, it was Mike and Justin Jason who really turned me onto being experimental with what can be done with video artwork, for which I confessed aloud to Mike as we had lunch together. He was impressed by how much work I've been doing. "You've been busy," he laughed out of disbelief. I often forget how much work I've produced through the years. I take it for granted that I've been working like a steam engine (to borrow a line that Kirk Douglas says as Vincent van Gogh in Lust For Life). From 1997 to 2004, I've produced enough work for fifty years!!

-Matt Plotecher

5-13-02: I finally called up old CCAD classmate, friend, and comrade in arms, Matt Plotecher, and left a message. He called me back an hour later and we talked for over an hour. How bittersweet to re-discover old art school friends. We got caught up on our lives since we graduated. I learned from him that he had moved out to L.A. and looked for a job in the industry. He wanted desperately to work as an animator for Disney. He ended up with a night custodian job at Disneyland. I related to him on an emotional and artistic level. So it wasn't fun to inform him of my "accomplishments" like winning mediocre Telly Awards and other awards. Matt confessed that he couldn't take the "dishonesty" of Hollywood anymore. He was also collecting his own supply of rejection letters. We agreed about being discouraged with moving to a new area and not having friends to hang out with. Matt reminded me of an artist who never managed to prove or fulfill himself creatively. He is the me who was directionless after graduation from CCAD. We both made plans to go to grad school. He is the good-natured, good-humored voice of despair and disappointment in life. He's experienced real hard failures in ways I've only glanced at briefly. He's been living the non-creative life in bad parts of town without money to support himself. He fascinates me because he is me in a way. Only I managed to go. Perhaps I should give myself the credit for having taken the risk of actually making the move and going ahead with my ambitions instead of sitting on them. Matt still wants to go to grad school one day. I hope he does.

2-21-04: My friend Matt Plotecher sent out an email to everyone he knows requesting songs that made us think of him. Oh, this was too much fun for me to do. I had a field day with this one... Some are joke, some are perhaps for real:

Bob Dylan's "Just Like A Woman": "Nobody feels any pain... tonight as I stand inside the rain".
"Tears of rage, tears of grief... Why must I always be the thief? Come to me now, you know, we're so alone, and life is brief." Bob Dylan on "Tears of Rage".
"But you and I, we've been through that, and this is not our fate. So let us not talk falsely now, the hour is getting late." -"All Along the Watchtower" by Bob Dylan.
Common sense about life: "You don't need a weather man to know which way the wind blows."
"Subterranean Homesick Blues" by Bob Dylan.
"I can be cruel... I don't know why..." -Tori Amos on "Cruel".
"...Gotta be a sacrifice." "iieec" by Tori Amos.
"Manic depression is a *frustrating mess!*" -"Manic Depression" by Jimi Hendrix.
"This is the strangest life I've ever known." -" Waiting For The Sun" by The Doors.

"It's like the perfect day to lock yourself inside." "Static" by Beck.
Beethoven's "9th Symphony".

"Had to listen had no choice. I did not believe the information. I just had to trust imagination. My heart going boom boom boom." -"Solsbury Hill" by Peter Gabriel".

"The place where I come from is a small town. They think so small, they use small words - but not me. I'm smarter than that. - I worked it out. I've been stretching my mouth to let those big words come right out. I've had enough, I'm getting out... to the city, the big big city. I'll be a big noise with all the big boys..." -"Big Time" by Peter Gabriel.

"Get alive with the dreamer's dream." -"Steam" by Peter Gabriel. Sounds like a public service announcement for society to start *feeling* from experiencing a visionary artist's work.

Eminem's "Lose Yourself": "Look, if you had one shot, or one opportunity to seize everything you ever wanted-One moment... would you capture it or just let it slip?... You better lose yourself in the music, the moment, you own it, you better never let it go. You only get one shot, do not miss your chance to blow. This opportunity comes once in a lifetime, yo!"

"Children are innocent. A teenager's fucked up in the head. Adults are even more fucked up and elderlies are like children. Will there be another race to come along and take over for us? Maybe Martians could do better than we've done. We'll make great pets!" -"Pets" by Porno for Pyros.

"Reality used to be a friend of mine." -"Set Adrift on Memory Bliss" by P.M. Dawn.

"There's colors on the street... Red, white and blue. People shufflin' their feet, people sleepin' in their shoes. But there's a warnin' sign on the road ahead. There's a lot of people sayin' we'd be better off dead. Don't feel like Satan, but I am to them. So I try to forget it, any way I can. Keep on rockin' in the free world." "Rockin' in the Free World" by Neil Young.

-Kalpa (Kalpana Ariyawansa)

10-14-03: I talked to my old CCAD classmate Kalpa last night for the first time since '98. He mentioned he was working at Pizza Hut delivery. He was working at AMC theaters before that. He's taking web design classes in order to get better freelance jobs. This is *madness* to me. Kalpa was one of the most enthusiastic, hard-working animation students I knew back when I was in class with him. He was also one of the nicest people I've ever known. It breaks my heart to find out that he hasn't gotten a better job yet with his artistic talent. I know that he doesn't have the financial support that I've had to be able to go to grad school to be able to teach. I do feel some guilt for my success. I didn't exactly find it fun to inform him that I've now got a condo and a full-time teaching job at CCAD, and he's working at Pizza Hut full-time. We both had similar talents. I'd even admit he was a better technical artist than I was. He had *potential*. Realizing this fills me up with immense humility.

8-27-21: Update: Kalpa is now an award-winning filmmaker, director, and writer stationed in Sri Lanka and Los Angeles.

2-12-15: All, As you know from some of the reason emails that I've been sending out, this coming Monday, February 16th we are hosting the Midwest Premiere of the Sri Lankan feature film "Dirty, Yellow, Darkness" created by two of our alumni Kalpa Ariyawansa (Co-Director, Writer) and Jaan Shenberger (Cinematographer). They, along with Vindana Ariyawansa, Kalpa's brother and Co-Director, Writer, will be here for the 6:30PM screening and having a Q&A session following. Please encourage your students to attend.

Additionally, they have offered to do in-class visits during the day on Monday and Tuesday, the 16th and 17th. Please let me know if you would like to have them come in to your class to talk more about the film, their career paths, meet with your students and/or provide feedback on student work.

Thanks. Ron

Please invite Kalpa, Jaan, and Kalpa's brother Vindana to come to my 3:30 p.m. Monday Video I class and my 8 a.m. Tuesday Video I class. Kalpa and Jaan were friends of mine outside of class as well back in the late 90's. My students were also notified that if they attend the film screening and write up a film review/ analysis, they would receive extra credit. -Eric

2-16-15: Kalpa Ariyawansa, his brother and co-director Vindana Ariyawansa, and Jaan Shenberger came to my Video I class to talk with the students about their experiences with making their first low budget feature-length movie. It went pretty well.

2-17-15: Kalpa, his brother, and Jaan came back in to talk to my morning Video I class. For the most part, it was an even better visit for me personally because I had seen their movie and could respond more specifically about key elements and visuals from the movie. I also had command of the class to lead the discussion, which made me feel much more at ease and comfortable.

-Ryan Treptow

3-1-04: And so I (belatedly) ventured over to Ryan's place this evening so we could go out for dinner and hang out. Once Ryan and I got a bit more loosened up on wine, we started to *really* talk – personal talk about "happiness", relationships, love, ambitions, dust to dust, and the speed of life once one has grown older. It was about *communicating* and *addressing* aspects about our lives that normally we wouldn't discuss around most people. That's

what friends are for. What started off as a vanity parade became something intelligent, sincere, and real. By engaging ourselves in such conversation, I received quite the healthy and hearty reality check. I questioned who I was, what I was doing, and what I've been holding back from doing. It was like playing Russian Roulette with each other where we'd put a shotgun up to each other's personalities and press the trigger with a question about our deepest self (selves).

-Caleb Strauss

7-17-02: Hey Caleb, I don't mean to get sentimental, but I will this one time on you. I was reflecting on my life at this point and felt I should say "thank you" to you. I was watching one of my favorite movies, *Say Anything*, last week on DVD and one line stuck with me. It was when the Diane Court character (played by Ione Skye) was at a graduation party and a girl from her class came up to her. She exclaimed to Diane: "If it wasn't for Diane Court, I probably wouldn't have gotten into Cornell because you made me study twice as hard. Thanks". In a way, you were the one who "pushed" me to work harder than I've probably ever worked to get ahead in Computer Animation. If I noticed you were working, seven days a week, I had to work *eight* days a week then. Anyways, I feel that you had some odd part in how I've gotten where I am in my life. So put it there, bud. Eric

People

-Thomas Edison

Thomas Edison: Biography: "What would Thomas Edison do with computers today?"... Blue Moods... As a child Edison was easily bored and learning disabled. Yet he was also very smart, constantly curious, and surrounded by books... He loved inventing more than his family. He spent less time with his family than most would.

"Genius is 1 percent inspiration and 99 percent perspiration." -Thomas Edison.

"Not only will atomic power be released, but someday we will harness the rise and fall of the tides and imprison the rays of the sun." -Thomas Alva Edison.

"I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work." -Thomas A. Edison.

-Rube Goldberg

"You have to have courage to be a creator." -Cartoonist and inventor Rube Goldberg.

-Albert Einstein

Words that I live by: "Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world." -Albert Einstein.

"I wish I had had more fun." -Albert Einstein at the end of his life.

"Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid." -Albert Einstein.

"The world is a dangerous place to live; not because of the people who are evil, but because of the people who don't do anything about it." -Albert Einstein.

-Howard Hughes

The Aviator: Howard Hughes: "It's the largest private air force in the world"... "We're not like everyone else. Too many acute angles. Too many eccentricities"... "What were you doing? You were like a different person in there!"... "It's a regular boob buffet"... "It's been a grand adventure. But it couldn't possibly have last. We're too alike, you and I."

-Mahatma Gandhi

Gandhi: "Then this must be fought. We are children of God like anybody else!"... Here as a man of darker skin complexion who was publicly humiliated and beaten. He stood up for what he believed in and spoke out with peaceful means without fighting back. Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. both reminded me of myself when I was growing up in school where I was also humiliated and teased in public – but I never fought back. I knew the power of determination. My non-violent protest was to show that I was still standing even after they tortured me with scornful words... "What's the matter with me?"... "They may torture my body, break my bones, even kill me. Then they will have my dead body –not my obedience!"... He was arrested for "disturbing the peace" by practicing peace... "I want to embarrass all those who treat us as slaves"... Use Gandhi's *active* resistance in a junior high and high school setting. Dozens of the nerds, geeks, outcast, queers, and social misfits in each grade will lay down before the bullies who try to torment them. It'll be resistance through peaceful means of confusing them by acknowledging their harassment as cruel and inhuman punishment. This scene steals from this movie, but it is effective in any setting where injustice occurs. "I want to change their minds, not kill them for weaknesses that we all possess"... Mahatma means "great soul"... "You must humiliate us in order to control us"... Such wisdom: "We are achieving peaceful, nonviolent non-corporation

until you leave"... Renewing marriage vows: "You are my best friend"... "We will provoke them until they resist. We are in control. They are not. That is the strength of civil resistance"... "Don't hit back! No violence!"... Gandhi is really a spiritual cousin to Pump Up the Volume. Get the message out to the despairing masses and they'll follow and spread the word. They're like religious movies – cinematic bibles... Take the beatings over and over – and let the world witness it... Giving up on married life for his mission in life... Fasting to death until the fighting and madness has stopped.

"Whatever you do will be insignificant, but it is very important that you do it." –Gandhi.

-Martin Luther King Jr.

Selma: "It can't wait, Mr. President"... "Serving White Only Since 1855"... "We know there's tension in the home already. We can weaken the dynamic"... "As good a place to die I guess"... "I joke about that to take the edge off"... "I need to hear the Lord's voice"... "They are sainted now"... "Our goal is raising white consciousness"... "Get out of here, nigger!"... "Negro agitators"... King suffered from bouts of self-doubt... "You sound tired"... Night March... "There are no words to soothe you"... "God was the first to cry for your boy"... "The hardships and humiliations of the negro"... "Your citizens are under attack here!"... "People are dying in the street for this. It cannot wait!"... Death-threat "crank calls"... "The fog of death constantly hanging over"... "How they are going to kill my children!"... "Your lives will be in danger"... A decoy Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.... The bridge assault was as powerful as scenes from "Schindler's List". It is Alabama state troopers as homegrown racist terrorists using their authority and weapons against innocent, non-violent protesters who were simply marching together. Meanwhile, the whites on the sidelines whooped and cheered... "I can't understand who President Johnson can send troops to Vietnam when he can't send them to Selma, Alabama"... "I need to be home (with family and his wife) for a day"... "The Bible says 'An eye for an eye!'"... "We're going back to the bridge"... "Join our march against injustice and inhumanity"... "Martin Luther King's call to action was televised"... "It was answered by mainly white people, clergy"... "Thousands go south on moral crusade"... "These pictures are going around the world"... "Thousands have gathered here to demonstrate their dignity"... "An attack on innocents"... "I couldn't stand by when he put out that call to clergy"... A powerful moment of prayer on the bridge... "You know what we hate more than niggers? White niggers!"... "You're sending people out to slaughter when we told you there was trouble"... "If our president won't protect our rights"... "I can't go on like this"... "We shall overcome"... "I can't hide. We can't hide. You understand that"... "I'm just like anybody else. I want to live long and be happy"... King was only 39 years old when he was murdered.

"Everybody wants a long life. Longevity has its place. But I don't care about that now. I may not get there with you, but I want you to know tonight that we as a people will get to the Promised Land!" –Passage spoken by Martin Luther King Jr.

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that." —Martin Luther King Jr.

-Thomas Jefferson

Thomas Jefferson: A Film by Ken Burns: "He is the greatest enigma of major figures in American history"... "He was a reluctant politician"... "He remained a puzzle even to those who knew him best"... "Stories of the frontier"... "He realized that human beings had the ability to do remarkable good"... "British America"... "He is a shy man. He has a slight speech impediment. And he has a high, weak voice and is not given to asserting himself in any way"... "He's much more comfortable crafting language in private where he has control"... "He was suffering privately. His second daughter had died at 17 months old"... "The owner and the owned"... "Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness"... "Proclaiming American independence"... "They had just lost a baby. He was frantic to go back home to see Martha"... "America postpones the issue of slavery. And Jefferson is right in the middle of this national paradox (that all men are created equal)"... "She had given birth to six children in ten years, and lost three of them"... "This was the real Thomas Jefferson. He loved deeply, he felt deeply"... "His wife died and he didn't leave the house for six weeks. For a man who loved control, this was the one time he lost control"... "Whites were better than blacks, who can't write poetry or music"... "Within this Jeffersonian optimism, there could exist this racist dark side"... "The general prey of the rich on the poor"... "Then his youngest child, 3 years old, died"... "He was a lonely widower"... "There was an urgency in his heart that took him by surprise"... "The following dialogue took place in my head and my heart"... "He reasserted his head for the rest of his life"... "Too much of his life was lived in pain"... "The head absorbed the heart"... "Hamilton's followers were called Federalists. Jefferson's followers were called Democratic Republicans"... "Washington tried desperately to steer a middle course between his two favorite lieutenants"... "Politics had become everything I hate"... "He emphatically said 'yes!' to life"... "Monticello is a metaphor for Jefferson's soul"... "A farmer-scientist"... "Many believed that the American Experiment was failing"... "We are all Republicans. We are all Federalists"... "He came to power in what is called the Second American Revolution"... "He was actually a very moderate president"... "The Louisiana Purchase. It was the greatest land deal in history. It was the making moment of U.S. history. It was unprecedented for a country to buy an empire"... "Sally Hemings remains the notorious mystery of Jefferson's sexual life"... "By 1808, he was anguished and exhausted"... "A sign of political genius was knowing when to stop"... "The flowers have their short reign of transcendence and beauty"... The letter correspondences between Thomas Jefferson and John Adams: "They noticed qualities in each other that were missing in themselves"... "I prefer the dreams of the future than the history of the past"... "What is the use of grief?"... "I cannot live without books"...

The simultaneous deaths 50 years to the day of the signing of the Declaration of Independence of John Adams and Thomas Jefferson"... "The power of words. Ideas matter"... "My work is done."

"The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots." –Thomas Jefferson.

-Barack Obama

Barack Obama: Bio Channel Presents: He read an article about skin whitening that really upset him... "He felt the first stirrings of loneliness"... "He dabbled in alcohol and drugs"... "He didn't go out much. He wanted to read and absorb as much as he could"... "He realized that he wanted to help people"... "I think seniority is important. But I think that vision, imagination, and hard work is more important"... "He learned a lot from the loss"... "After his messy parents' life, he wanted a life of order for his own family life."

-Jimmy Carter

Jimmy Carter: Rock and Roll President: "He was just an anomaly that I'd never seen before"... "We know what it means to work"... "He played the stereo (as a musical instrument)"... Bob Dylan: "He's a kindred spirit of mine"... "It was time for someone with great integrity and dignity to take this office"... "A leader, for a change"... "Trying to reach a younger generation"... "There was a toll taken"... "We've been hurt and we've been disillusioned"... "I remember going to bed that (election) night not knowing the result"... "He has an encyclopedic knowledge of all music, not just rock music"... "He put his life and soul into it (the Camp David Accords)"... "He was a man of the earth. For God's sake, he was a peanut farmer!"... A working man's American president!... "The Iron hostage crisis completely paralyzed the Carter administration"... "We're the most powerful country in the world, and we can't rescue these hostages"... Carter was being told to bomb Tehran. But he knew that they would just kill all the American hostages. It was a no-win situation. Politically, he would have looked like a hero and all American-tough. But he also would have had all those dead hostages... There was oil shortages and rising inflation. "It made Carter appear that he was weak"... Carter lost in a landslide to Reagan... "He maintained the peace. His administration never fired a missile or started a war"... "We realized that we had a lot of life left, and we had to sit and figure out what we wanted to do with our lives"... He wanted to help people... "A simple man"... "He's also a poet. He's also a dirt farmer."

-Harvey Milk

The Times of Harvey Milk: "At first, Harvey showed no signs that he'd make history"... "The Mayor of Castro Street"... "Break down the gay stereotypes"... "I was afraid somebody was going to take a shot at him. He said it could happen at any time, at any place. And I'm just not going to worry about it"... They wanted to have a ban on gays becoming state teachers... "How dare you about your business in a casual way? Don't you know the course of history has been changed!?"... "GAY POWER. HARVEY MILK LIVES"... "I was troubled"... "The Twinkie Defense: junk food made Dan White extra depressed." So basically, you can be as depressed and "disturbed" as you want to be, kill prominent elected officials, and only have to serve eight years in jail. Wow. There's our surreal judicial system. And if a black man had committed this crime for the same "junk food depression" reasons, he'd get the chair!... "The jury's decision is violent. We are reacting with anger because we are angry!"... "Some people still believe that if you kill a gay, you're doing a service to society"... Dan White only served five years in prison for killing the mayor of San Francisco and supervisor Harvey Milk. He received no psychiatric treatment while in prison... "If you were born gay, one of your options was suicide." Harvey Milk gave gays hope of what else they could make of their life. "Without hope, life is not worth living. You've gotta give 'em hope."

Milk: "I need a change"... "My fellow degenerates"... "If homosexuals want their rights, so would prostitutes and thieves"... "I do believe that homosexuality should be illegal"... "I don't know if I've got another one in me"... "Sir... I think I'm going to kill myself"... "There is nothing 'wrong' with you"... "You are not 'sick', you are not wrong, and God does not hate you"... "There's going to be a riot!"... This is a good film to show to gay teenagers to see that there are other people out there just like them and that they are not "an abomination of God" as some "normal majority" dare to believe... "We *must* fight!"... "We've gotta give 'em hope!"... "Never fit in!"... "Now you're a bit like us. An outsider"... "Do you know of any homosexuals?"... "If their families don't truly love them for who they are, maybe they should lose their families"... "You can do better." –"When I come home, I don't have to talk politics. I don't have to talk intelligently. I don't even have to talk at all!"... "This is our *lives* that we are fighting for!"... "I teach Spanish – not sex!"... Homosexuals were being made to feel so "wrong" for being themselves that many of them were attempting suicide... "You're looking more and more out of touch"... "You can't *humiliate* me. You can't *demean* me"... "Without hope, life is not worth living"... "If a bullet should enter my brain, let that bullet destroy every closet door."

-Joan of Arc

The Passion of Joan of Arc, considered to be one of the greatest motion pictures ever filmed, awed me with its close-ups of the characters emotions. Joan's face of desperation seized attention and empathy. She was the sacrifice.

-Rocky Dennis/ Mask

Mask: The inspiring tale of Rocky Dennis, a red-haired teenage "Elephant Man" in California... "Don't worry, Mr. Principle. I look weird, but otherwise I'm real normal"... There's a lot to Rocky that I identify in myself. He (and his

mother) deals with his condition by using a great, warm sense of humor. He gets horrible headaches. He collects baseball cards. He's heavily teased and "made fun of" at school. He's got a sense of humor, but he's the only one who gets the cleverness of the joke. Even if he has a deformed face, he's still got a big heart. It's unbelievably touching to see Rocky smile and beam. That brings hope and happiness in this world... "But I *am* different." –"Yeah, and you're more beautiful on the inside than most people"... "Hey kid! Why don't you take off your mask!"... "All you care about is getting loaded and laid!"... "WHY BE NORMAL?"... How does it feel to watch your friends get girlfriends and you're stuck with yourself watching from the sidelines. This movie gives you that perspective from the sensitive eyes of an outsider. You can't get girls to actually *like* you when your face is inflated and deformed... "You've got to get a better attitude on life. When something bad happens to you, think of something good as well"... Sentimental Harley Davidson bikers... "My parents are so protective of me"... "We are gorgeous people"... He falls in love with a blind young, sweet, innocent, beautiful girl with long blonde hair blind who won't judge him on just his looks... "I want to kiss you, but my parents are watching"... "Every time I call for Diane, her mother always tells me she's not there. Do you think that's weird?"... "I've been meaning to tell you for a year." His big dream of going to Europe and riding a Harley across the continent is abandoned when his closest peer tells him he's moving back to Michigan to live with his father. Rocky's dream is crushed along with him... "I'll take my mask off if you take your mask off, you son-of-a-bitch!"... His heartbreak is hardest to watch because he needs and deserves the most love. What he doesn't need is more loneliness... "Why haven't you called me?"... "We may not be able to run away, but we can run away in our minds. We can remember the good times we had together... We'll always be together even when we can't be together."

Mask: While experiencing this movie about a physically deformed, gentle red-haired teen, I noticed how hypnotic my sympathy had become for him. My emotions confronted their emotional pinnacle - prominent thanks to this incredibly touching character. Sensitivity evolved into empathy when he realized that girls didn't like him because of his facial disfiguration, but they still thought he was a funny, nice guy. But you can read it in his face that that's not going to be enough to get a girl. I wondered if it took a lacking of beauty to be able to love one's friends, and oneself. He managed to meet another girl, Diana (Laura Dern) (who looked and acted shockingly like one of my girlfriend, just with blond hair), who was blind and could accept his love and friendship without the repulsion of physical beauty. I wished - as I grew in emotional empathy - that I could be his friend since we shared similar troubles, pains, and dreams. How I envied his exposing the repressed disgust he had with those who felt repulsed by him. I loved this character, this man. He was a role model of keeping oneself positive even under crippling circumstances.

-Nostradamus

"Secrets of the Unknown: Nostradamus": As a child I was always more interested in the unknown than the know. The legends of Bigfoot, UFOs, sea serpents, Yetis, pyramids, ghosts, the Bermuda Triangle, and other mysterious foundations on our earth captivated my sense of wonder, terror, and amazement. I adored the fact that seemed like fiction. Within all these mysteries was the prophecies of Nostradamus. Within his words was the initial spark that ignited my imagination.... Some people grew up with the cloud of the Cold War and the threat of nuclear war over them. I grew up with the prophet cloud of Nostradamus. We were supposed to have a great war that would eliminate most of civilization at the end of the twentieth century – Armageddon in 1999. What was there to live for? Or was he just trying to scare us into shape so we wouldn't have war? So growing up in the 80s and 90s was harder than it seemed with Nostradamus' incredibly correct foresight. Off and on throughout the years, I had been obsessed with the power of his prophecies. I wanted to crack his cryptic code and avoid a disaster. It was sort of my own private mission... "He had the ability to push his subconscious forward in time – and maybe that gift lies dormant inside us all."

Nostradamus: Prophecies written in coded and confused sentences.

The Man Who Saw Tomorrow: Master of my fate, I viewed this movie about *Nostradamus*. With Orson Welles narrating with his foreboding voice, the filmmakers actually dared to dramatize his future prophecies of the third anti-Christ and nuclear holocaust. The result was dated, incorrect, hilarious, and bizarrely scary since Nostradamus' previous predictions were so chillingly accurate. I wonder if Nostradamus predicted that his prophecies -- would be made into so many "provocative" documentaries?

-Christopher Columbus

1492: Conquest of Paradise: "There was a time when the new world didn't exist"... "Beyond that... infinity"... "I want to travel all over the seas. I want to get behind the weather"... "The distance is unknown. It is said to be *infinite*"... "Why should I believe in you?" -"May I speak frankly?"... "God has abandoned us. This voyage is cursed!"... A tribe of bald Indians... "I think we have returned to Eden"... "We are mistaken as gods"... "This land intoxicates my senses and my soul"... "Nature is their God. It's as if God and nature are one. They see him in the leaf, in the stone, in the shell"... "Don't you think that to rise so high in so short a time is a dangerous occupation?"... "You're not sorry. You chose the life you lead for yourself"... "You're a dreamer!"... Christopher Columbus wanted to search out what was not found. How can any dreamer not empathize with this man?... "If any of our names are to be remembered, it is because of *his*."

-John Muir

"In every walk with nature, one receives far more than he seeks." -John Muir.

The National Parks: America's Best Idea:

"The Scripture of Nature (1851-1890)": "Where nature can give heal to body's mind and soul"... "Nature's sublime wonderlands"... "A mountain so massive it makes its own weather"... "A labyrinth of caves"... "Cathedrals of stone"... "Arctic dreamscapes"... "The greatest collection of geysers in the world"... "Geographies of memory and hope"... "In a sense, we're going home"... "National Parks are one of the best ideas America has ever had"... "People look into the National Parks and see a reflection of their own dreams"... "I found my eyes full of tears of emotion"... "Dream about the possibilities of life"... "It's a shared experience of going to these places"... "Upon seeing Yosemite for the first time: "I have seen the power and glory of the supreme being. I have seen His handiwork. Its testimony is in those rocks"... "Yosemite means those who should be feared – killers"... "For most, the scenic reward was worth the hardship of getting there"... "Looking at the massive cathedral rocks"... "One visitor started quoting the Bible: 'Now let me die... for I am happy'"... "A new heaven and a new Earth"... "Eden"... "This country, America, is Eden"... "God can be found more easily in nature than in the works of man"... "Little oases of wildness in the desert of our civilization"... "Going back to wild nature is restorative. It's a way of escaping the corruptions of urban, civilized life. Of finding an innocence within ourselves and returning"... "Go to the mountaintop and see God"... "Europeans visiting America in the 1860's ridiculed Americans as a backwards nation that didn't have the majestic wonders Europe had. They thought that American had overly commercialized Niagara Falls"... The nation preserves large areas of land under federal protection from private ownership"... "We discovered this garden of Eden"... "A gathering of life and a gathering of spirit"... John Muir: "Keeping a journal that he would keep for the rest of his life"... "The Big Tree Room"... "He said he wanted to hear the song of the waterfall"... "He celebrated trees"... "He saw spirituality in granite"... "He had this wonderful sense of ecstasy, of being born new every day within this wilds of rock"... "It was all part of his unconditional surrender to nature"... "He contemplated the life of a raindrop"... "A God that revealed Himself *through* nature"... "If Yosemite was a temple, he would become its high priest"... "I want to baptize all of my followers in the beauty of God's mountains"... "John Muir, the man who seemed to talk to flowers and rocks was seen as an eccentric"... "The National Park Idea"... "Who publishes the sheet music of the winds?... Who reports the works and ways of the clouds?"... "To spread his gospel of nature"... "Colter's Hell (Yellowstone)"... "Reports started leaking out about this magical place – Yellowstone"... "A place where mud is boiling"... "Newspapers refused to print stories about Yellowstone because they thought it sounded like fiction"... "The Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone"... "They gave name to the other geysers as well: The Castle, The Beehive, The Giant"... "They came across more curiosities, of unimaginable strangeness and beauty"... "I realized I was lost"... "Alone in an unexplored wilderness"... "Wasting away from exhaustion and hunger, Everts began seeing apparitions"... "Yellowstone would be the first National Park in the history of the world"... "Yellowstone National Park was huge. 2 million acres of mountainous terrain"... "We had at last reached Wonderland"... "A great breathing place for the national lungs"... "To preach nature like an apostle"... Glacier Bay, Alaska... "Muir was weaning away everything that had compelled him in his life: the mountains, the glaciers, the wilderness"... "When Muir came back to Yosemite, he was shocked by the gaudy sights he witnessed"... "His cathedral had been turned into a carnival. This was not what he had envisioned it into becoming"... "A grand landscape garden"... John Muir had once described himself as an unknown nobody"... "People are realizing that going to the mountains is going home. That wildness is a necessity. Mountain parks and reservations are useful, not only as fountains of timber, but as fountains of life." –John Muir.

"The Last Refuge (1890-1915)": I could watch this miniseries all day long. It's so pleasurable... "Roosevelt loved to kill. He loved to kill a quadruped"... "To build up his health and character"... A buffalo running through the Badlands... "Our National Parks are an idea"... "Our vast wilderness is being destroyed in the name of progress"... "These wonders are to be preserved for our children, and our children's children"... "How essential natural beauty is"... "They came across an ancient city on the side of a plateau – Mesa Verde"... "His enthusiasm increased almost beyond his control"... The new religion: nature worship... "Nothing will be left but black stump monuments"... "Roosevelt had Yellowstone practically to himself"... "FOR THE BENEFIT AND ENJOYMENT OF THE PEOPLE"... "I've arrived"... "Leave it as it is. The ages have been at work on it. Man can only mar it"... "People loved to hear John Muir preach his deeply held gospel that that salvation could be found through immersion in the natural world"... "Time alone with the trees"... "This has been the grandest day of my life!"... "She was having a transcendent experience"... "National Parks are a symbol of democracy"... Crater Lake in Oregon has the clearest waters in the world... Devil's Tower was the first National Monument... "National Parks represent the wildness inside of us. A place where we can be lonely, where we can experience solitude. A place of refuge, of sanctuary"... "Nothing dollarable is safe"... They want to dam Yosemite National Park after the 1906 earthquake of San Francisco... "I wonder if leaves feel lonely when they see their neighbors fall on"... "There must be a place for human beings to satisfy their souls"... "I got as close as I could to the heart of the world"... Special Features: "We shoot at dawn and dusk since those are the best times for light"... "God is our lighting director"... "He brings his special eye to everything that we do"... "Overwhelmed by the beauty of it."

-Fredrick Nietzsche

"That which does not kill us makes us stronger." –Fredrick Nietzsche.

"When you gaze long into an abyss, the abyss also gazes into you." –Fredrick Nietzsche.

-Jean-Paul Sartre

Notes from *Introducing Sartre*: "Salvation through art"... He wanted to lead a revolt against society...

“There is no God with a world of so much excess”... “We are afraid of our freedom”... “Human life was fundamentally absurd”... Self-Visions... Make up a private myth about ourselves... “Even though we have no choice but to play a role, we should do so with a conscious enthusiasm that may even give us a degree of authenticity”... “He goes off to commit joint suicide with his father”... “The discovery of the reality”... “For the Existentialist, such exclusion from normality could be nothing but a good thing. It would have formed the natural and desirable apprenticeship for anyone who wished to write about the human condition as it really was”... “‘What I would have liked to be is not a lonely and fatherless child who grew up to be a great writer and a famous philosopher.’ What would really have made him happy would have been to be a member of a large and vigorous family, kept in order by a father of granitic solidity, and compelled from his earliest years to learn to mix with his natural equals in the normal rough and tumble of the primary school and of children’s games”... “The decision to write is a result of failure. ‘I turned to literature because I had no friends of my own age, no father to give me a sense of security, and nothing else to do.’”

-Napoleon Bonaparte

“Life is a burden to me. Nothing gives me any pleasure. I find only sadness in everything around me. It is very difficult because the ways of those with whom I live, and probably always shall live, are as different from mine as moonlight is from sunlight.” –Napoleon Bonaparte at seventeen.

-Malcolm X

Malcolm X: Spike Lee used his filmmaking skill as a weapon for expression and understanding, which left me with respect for his movie and myself: "I'm not white and I don't put out. So why would you want to call me, Malcolm?" -asked a black Catholic girl to Malcolm... "You get used to this life and it puts you to sleep. You stop thinking and acting for yourself"... "Take **care** of your body"... Is God black? Jesus? His Apostles?... "Some of you are still in prison - prisons of your mind".

Malcolm X (1972): “We were so hungry we were crazy. We had to steal food”... The amazing quality that Malcolm X had was the fire and passion in his voice when he spoke. He spoke from the truth and facts of hard life that the black population has had to endure in this United States of America. I am not African-American, but it does not fully matter. I can appreciate and respect what he says and stands for because it is righteous and powerful. He is the prophet of hitting you with the truth. Someone finally had to... “Freedom is something you have to do for yourself”... “I live like a man who has already died. I have no fear whatsoever”... I’m probably a dead man already”... Malcolm X College. Malcolm X: “Don’t con me!”... “I read and study. A man must respect his body and his mind”... “God is black”... A movie to open ones eyes... “You don’t even know who you are. You’re nothing”... “How do we know that Jesus wasn’t black? Jesus was not a pale face”... “Don’t be shocked when I say that I was in prison. Some of you are still in prison – the prison of your mind”... “No, I’m *not satisfied*”... “They send drugs, alcohol, and prostitution down here to pacify us!”... “What’s wrong with you? Are you so committed that you can’t even face the truth?”... They were harassed with crank calls that broke them down psychologically. “The phone keeps ringing. I’m going crazy every time the phone rings.”

-James Baldwin

I Am Not Your Negro: James Baldwin... A journey into black history that connects the past of the Civil Rights Movement to the present of Black Lives Matter... “I am saying that a journey is called that because you cannot know what you will discover on the journey, what you will do with what you find, or what you find will do to you”... “God is angry for those who integrate”... “Being spat upon by a mob as she made her way to school”... “It filled me with both hatred and pity”... “My countrymen were my enemy”... “Race Mixing Is Communist”... “The suffering which has been in this country so long denied”... “He corroborates their reality”... “I’m terrified at the moral apathy, the death of the heart, which is happening in my country. These people have deluded themselves for so long that they really don’t think I’m human... They have become, in themselves, moral monsters”... “That’s what segregation means. That you don’t know what happening on the other side of the wall, because you don’t want to know”... “The picture of the white cop standing on the negro woman’s neck in Birmingham”... “The Secret of Selling the Negro”... “Bobby Kennedy said that it was conceivable that in 40 years we might have a negro president”... “It is a terrible thing for an entire people to surrender to the notion that one ninth of its population is beneath them”... “I’m sorry”... “They have just killed Malcolm”... “And I can’t say it’s a Christian nation”... “Who Needs Niggers?”... Wounded Knee Massacre 1890... “He’s not dead yet, but it’s a head wound”... “But you’re so bitter. Well, I may or may not be bitter. But if I were, I would have good reasons for it. Chief among them that American blindness, or cowardice, which allow us to pretend that life presents no reasons for being bitter”... “Nothing can be changed until it is faced”... “History is not the past. It is the present.”

-Alfred Kinsey

Kinsey: A time when society at large was under the “fact” that masturbation would make you go blind or insane... “The woods and fields became my new place of worship”... “What a disappointment you turned out to be”... “I think I really fell in love with you tonight”... Twenty years of work on two books on gall wasps that nobody cares about... The father’s demons get transferred to the son and then to his son... “Human beings are bigger, slightly more complicated gall wasps!” ... “I’m just not enough for you”... “Why are some cows oversexed?”... “Why do some men

need thirty orgasms a week?"... "I guess we'd grown bored sexually a long time ago without even realizing it"... "You would like to stick with the normal. You don't want to *shake people up*"... "*Am I normal?*"... "I've had sex with 17 of my cousins. I've had sex with 22 different species of animals. I've had sex with over 5,000 different partners"... "As long as you don't hurt anybody"... Researching sex was a therapeutic way of solving a nation's sexual confusion and anxieties. Knowledge and information can heal millions and allow people to not feel so uncomfortable about their own sexual feelings that may seem "perverted" by cultural standards, but are really quite normal. Some people even felt so alienated and persecuted by their true inner feelings that they were suicidal. "Things have gotten much better. After I read your book, I realized that many other women were in the same situation. I found the courage inside to tell my friend about my feelings for her. And to my great surprise, the feeling was mutual. You saved my life, sir."

-Timothy Treadwell

Grizzly Man: A documentary on the life, mission, passion, and death of Timothy Treadwell: He wanted to leave the human race and become one with the grizzlies... He and his girlfriend were killed and eaten by a grizzly. All they found of his body was his head with backbone attached, his hand with a wristwatch, and that was about it. The rest had been eaten... "He definitely lived on the end"... "The bear was full of people. It was full of clothing"... "He captured such glorious improvised moments that union-driven studio crews could never dream of"... "Living in a world of bears is a simpler world, and that is why some people desire to be part of that world"... "The camera became his only companion that he communicated his inner being, demons, and exhilarations. His work started to take on the quality of a confessional"... He was a recovering alcoholic whose life was saved by the wild landscape and the animals within it. "Thank you God for giving me a life. I had no life. I have a life now with these animals. Thank you!"... The miracle is animals"... "It is so weird to realize how alone you are"... "*If I show weakness, I'm dead. They will take me out, they will decapitate me, they will chop me up into bits and pieces -- I'm dead. So far, I persevere. I persevere*"... "This landscape in turmoil was like a metaphor for his soul"... "He was looking for a different persona"... "He was a kindred spirit"... "I couldn't take the anti-depressant medication any more. I can't have the middle grounds. I have to have the highs and lows. It's part of who I am. It's part of my personality. He definitely had a dark side to him"... He has a sentimental, childlike view of nature and how precious it is. Yet he also encounters that there are predators in the "perfection" of nature as well... People invading upon his own Eden... The bears were his saviors.

-Hooters Girls

Sorry, guilty pleasure.

-Elvira aka Cassandra Peterson

Elvira: Mistress of the Dark: Acting effectively with one's cleavage... "It's the anti-Christ!"... "So what do you do for fun around here?"... "The bowling alley"... "How's your head?"... "I haven't had any complaints yet!"... "I'll hang myself in an oven"... "I was more than just a pair of boobs!"... Ca-ca do-do casserole... "That was the first time I was an appetizer for the main course!"... Burning Elvira at the stake for being a sexy witch!

Elvira's Haunted Hills: "You look pretty"... "Are you sure it's not some kinky foot thing?"

Comic Book Men: Season Six: Elvira! "She is every horror fan's fantasy come to life."

-Betty Page

The Notorious Betty Page: "Her pictures captured the fantasies of a nation"... "Do you have anything that's a little bit *different?*"... Betty Page in Bondage... The innocent, nice girl Betty Page... "Every guy in town wants to date that girl"... "I'm going to marry that gal"... "Clothes, pose, and expression"... "Some people think I'm funny for spending so much time alone"... "We get a lot of requests for women in high heel stiletto shoes and boots"... "I pose for pictures and it seems to make people happy. That can't be all that bad, can it?"... "It's just costumes. We're just dressing up. There's no harm in it"... "Betty Page: The Pin-Up Queen of the Universe"... "She encapsulated the paradox of having such a joyful, happy face while being tied up. The reason she's still so popular now is that she had an innocence, exuberance, sweetness, and happiness to her"... "She never achieved her dream of being a movie star."

-Robert W. Kearns

Flash of Genius: "Are you going to quit teaching?"... "I just want to do something important"... "There's a big difference between a good idea and a good product"... "There's a lot of unsuccessful talent running around out there"... "It's another thing, too. Luck, timing"... "I'm sort of an amateur's idea person myself"... "I know I embarrass you." -"I don't like you like this"... "*It doesn't matter*"... This is about more than *money*"... "I'm really glad you're doing this. If you don't fight, none of us will stand a chance"... "I heard everything you said last week. I'm trying to change"... "I have work to do and you're keeping me from it"... "I told you not to get your hopes up about mom"... They went from offering him \$300,000 to \$1 million to \$30 million! "This is insane!"... "I'm an inventor - a contributor to society."

-Michael Eisner

Notes from *The Disney Touch* by Ron Grover: The Movies Studios are basically big banks that produce

movies they think will make them money. Once I understood that, it all made sense. Why make a risky, weird movie? You want to make money. That's what it's all about. Just like a bank does. They are not in this for the art or the creativity. Not in the least... Wildly prolific line: "The problem was that Eisner seemed to have other ideas. 'As soon as everyone starts writing books about how great you are, that's when things start to fall apart'... "Worse than the bleak figures was the haunting reality that eh creative spark that had once symbolized Walt Disney Productions had long since died"... "By today's corporate standards, Walt Disney should have failed"... "Young Walt Disney's first business venture ended in bankruptcy in 1923"... "Despite the disappointment Disney dreamed on"... "For \$5 million, the company purchased a total of nearly 28,000 acres outside the tiny rural town of Orlando"... "He planned not only hotels and restaurants but an entire city of the future. The Experimental Prototype Community of Tomorrow (EPCOT) was to be a complete and self-contained city, with its own schools, apartments, and shopping facilities"... "Once its founder was no longer around to plot the future, Walt Disney Productions became a prisoner of its past".. "Teenagers flocked to see *Jaws* and *Animal House*, not Disney's dimwitted comedies starring Don Knotts and Tim Conway"... "But Eisner, who had worked with Barry Diller at both ABC and Paramount Pictures, was tired of operating in Diller's shadow"... "Eisner had other offers. Diller still wanted him at Fox"... "Walt Disney had been a personal hero for Michael Eisner. But going to Disney, Eisner decided, would have to be on his own terms"... "At Denison University, a small liberal arts college in Granville, Ohio, he enrolled as a pre-medical student"... "Eisner used many of the same storytelling techniques that he had practiced for Saturday morning cartoons - the importance of story line, character development, and conflict"... "Paramount believed that for a movie to be successful it needed the right story line. The story lines could be embarrassingly simple - the underdog makes good, such as *Bad News Bears* or *Flashdance*, or a fish out of water, like *Beverly Hills Cop*. But eh movies sold tickets, and lots of them"... "In many ways, the new Disney chief told the group, Disney was a company ready to be exploited"... "The trick in this business is to find the next Steven Spielberg or George Lucas"... "Disney had also mismanaged its hotel business"... "Disney's pay scale, in contrast, was abysmal"... "Eisner and Katzenberg brought the Paramount work ethic to Disney"... "Kids are becoming grown-up quicker. What would appeal to the eight- or nine-year-olds in the 60s and 70s was now appealing to the six-year-olds"... "Midler had nowhere else to go, and so she signed with Disney for \$600,000 with a small share of the profits"... "Eisner and Wells were not afraid to throw Mickey and Donald into the hard sell"... "The two Disney executives were still aggressively pursuing Hollywood's downtrodden, untested, and over-the-hill"... "As they had at Paramount, Eisner and Katzenberg bared their knuckles to keep costs under control. The studio refused to make films with costly special effects or lavish battle scenes. Travel was kept to a minimum, and whenever possible, filming was done in and around Los Angeles. Many of the scenes were interiors that could be safely tucked into Disney's studio, where outside interferences could be minimized"... "I don't like the langue either, but you have to keep creative people"... "The Scorsese film, however, turned out to be too dark and moody for the general audience. The \$52 million in ticket sales that *The Color of Money* generated hardly classified it as a failure, but it fell far short of Eisner's blockbuster expectations"... "The movie also featured a sound track from A&M Records with 1960s hits that enhanced its allure to the yuppie audiences that Disney had targeted"... "By the time Michael Eisner and Frank Wells arrived on the scene, licensing had grown into a major business. More than \$2 billion a year was coming in from products based on everything from G.I. Joe to the Transformers. Disney enjoyed a solid niche, but toys based on movies like *Star Wars* and *E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial* were capturing the imagination of America's young"... "Roger Rabbit eventually became an amalgamation of rabbits from old Disney, Warner, and MGM cartoons"... "Behind his back, his animators worried that 54-year-old Roy Disney was nothing more than Walt's 'Idiot Nephew,' a person born into money and position who had little aptitude for business. Roy Disney knew about the snickering behind his back"... "Neither of the new Disney executives knew anything about Roy's ability to pick winning film projects"... "Jeffrey Katzenberg, on the other hand, knew how to pick winning projects"... "Much of Disney's success in exploiting its ancillary businesses was simply good fortune. The markets for videocassettes were booming, kids were returning to syndicated programming, and more than half the country had signed onto cable television"... "One way to lure free-spending teenagers would be to make EPCOT Center a little spicier, or at least more fun"... "Many of Walt Disney's other classics were adaptations of European fables"... "As Eisner made the announcement, the Communists pelted the Disney executives with eggs and ketchup"... "Disney could have used the Muppets to enhance its other properties"... "Increasingly, studios were spending \$50 million and more in hopes of achieving box office success. Smaller, less wealthy companies, were doomed to continue to fail"... "Creativity was the soul of the Walt Disney Company, but the legal department was its heart"... "*Airplane* and *Ruthless People* were substantial hits, and we wanted an increase. They were doing great, their stock was up, and we wanted to participate."

-Steve Jobs

Jobs: "We have something really special to share with you today"... "We've been working on a secret project"... "It will revolutionize an entire industry. It's a music-playing device"... "It's a thousand songs in your pocket"... "Theoretically, there is no limit to what computers can do"... "People are complaining about your behavior"... "You're good, damn good - but you're an asshole"... "You made something for yourself. You willed it into existence. This is freedom!"... "Nobody wants a computer"... Steve Jobs knew what we wanted before we knew that we wanted it. He knew everyone would want a computer if it were designed user friendly and appealing... "You sold me on a home computer. This is just a board"... Apple Computer 1... Steve had the vision. Watts had the brain and know-how...

“We’re working in a market that doesn’t even exist yet!”... “Imagine combining your typewriter with your television set. It’s your personal computer”... “How did you know we’re working out of our garage?”... “We’re a start-up company”... “I know that look in your eyes. It tells me you’re onto something big”... “You need to protect your interests”... “He changed”... “An Apple Computer has bravado. It has social status”... “If we want to be great, we have to risk failure”... He would verbally abuse his co-workers for trying to be honest and realistic with him... He didn’t have the time to even see his own child. “As a father, I implore you to sign this”... “Our company outgrew them”... “This was my chance to do what I loved”... “I’m growing up.” – “No. You’re not”... “We have a problem. Steve is hemorrhaging this company on fantasies that are simply not possible”... “He’s like a kid in a candy store.” – “But it’s his candy store!”... “IBM followed us”... “You have to look at this from a shareholders point of view. He’s great. But he’s a time bomb. So defuse it”... “They’re concerned about your perfectionism.” – “They’re not seeing the big picture!”... “Where’s your design team?”... “We’re trying to create a simpler, easier to use interface”... “We don’t stop *innovating!*”... “You can either get on board, or you can get the fuck out!”... “You’re on the Macintosh team now”... “Are you creative?”... “It has to be something that you’re passionate about, or else you won’t have the perseverance to see the project through”... “He’ll do whatever it takes to succeed”... “We’re not selling computers. We’re selling what they can *do* with a computer”... “If you want the company to remain profitable”... “Don’t make me the villain because I’m looking out for our company’s best interests”... “If you keep heading down this path, I will not be able to protect you”... “It’s a blatant rip-off”... “Get me Bill Gates on the phone”... “It sure as shit is somebody’s fault”... “I’m leaving, Steve”... “We both knew this was coming for some time”... “You’re the beginning and end of your own world. And it’s gotta be lonely”... “It’s been a journey”... “Steve, have a seat”... “I find it increasingly difficult for me to do my job when someone else casting a looming shadow over everything I try to do”... “Raise the red flag. You can’t win this one”... “The new CEO says that sweeping changes are necessary”... “How would I feel about being bored on the Titanic?”... “Why are you still here at Apple? Why do you stay?” – “There are still some of us who still believe in what Apple used to stand for”... “The computer or Walkman should be a natural extension of the individual”... Make computer sexy and well-designed... “I want you to design something new. Make something useful”... “He has to see the writing on the wall”... “There’s no sexiness to computers. No curves. They should be art”... “I always want you to be honest with me”... “We’re not Microsoft or Dell. So we need to stop trying to be that”... They need to *Be Different*... “We’re going to make Apple cool again”... “You can build your own things that other people can use”... “They made a difficult decision easier by agreeing to step down from the board”... “So you’re forcing us out”... “So you’re eradicating the board”... “Some may see them as the crazy ones. Others may see genius”... He was an inventor and an artist.

Steve Jobs: The Man in the Machine: “He made everything”... “Singular dreamer”... “iSad”... “There’s something else going on here in life. There’s another side to the coin”... “It was an important way to sticking it to the man”... “Jobs was very much a storyteller. He was always constructing a persona”... “He wanted to be a renegade, but also legit”... “Creativity is a lot of about anarchy”... “Work hard. Play hard”... “He gave you the feeling of forward movement”... “Let’s put Steve Jobs up front. Let’s tell our story”... “You can see the creative part of themselves being expressed”... “He was going for a computer that was an extension of the self”... “He manipulates you. Seduces you”... “I consider these people to be artists. In another time, they would be painters and poets. But because of the times we live in, they are expressing themselves in this new medium of computing”... “I will work you harder than you ever did in your life”... “For some, it is not sustainable”... “I lost my wife in that process. I lost my children in that process”... “The work was intense. The commitment to doing it was intense”... “There were an awful lot of prima donnas in that outfit”... “Find Zen in his life and work”... “This is called ‘Lisa’”... “He was confident, but awkward. He was a study of contrast”... “There was a lot going on inside him”... “He was unkind”... “That he was rejected and that he was special”... “He had the opportunity to reinvent himself”... “Some of the people that helped reinvent him were left behind”... “Bob had no taste for management. So he took a stock option of Apple”... “He rewrote history and created a fiction”... “How much of an asshole do you have to be to be successful?”... “He went into magnificence”... “What can I say? I hired the wrong guy”... “Steve in the wilderness”... “People that are maniacal about work. And Steve Jobs is the most maniacal person I’ve ever met”... “A search for perfection would never find him peace”... “The place was just in chaos. Apple was close to bankruptcy”... “You have to work on a consumer product because that is what will turn the company around.” Hence, the iMac... “He created reality distortion around him”... Jobs loved the Sony Walkman. “Go build a music player”... “I know how to do it now. I need \$10 million”... “Can we help you express yourself in richer ways?”... “Reinvent the Phone.” iPhone... “Society’s connection with an object”... “The ‘Alone Together’ phenomenon of people using the iPhone. It has become an isolating technology”... “It’s a dream machine. You become fascinated by what you can find within these screens”... “A counter-culture businessman”... “I’d been working 4-5 years and not seeing much of my family”... Debunking the myth... Suicide safety nets outside an Apple manufacturing plant... “People didn’t want to hear negative things about Apple. They loved this company”... “They love the status symbol of having this thing in their hand. They just felt cool”... “Prepare to die”... “Entrepreneurs love to control things around them”... “Finding more beauty in the fallen leaf than the one on the branch”... “The sadness of the soul expressed in the beauty of things”... “This magical, intimate machine.”

“Your time is limited, so don’t waste it living someone else’s life. Don’t let the noise of others’ opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition... Stay hungry. Stay foolish.” -Steve Jobs.

-Robert W. Kearns

Flash of Genius: Robert W. Kearns... "Are you going to quit teaching?"... "I just want to do something important"... "There's a big difference between a good idea and a good product"... "There's a lot of unsuccessful talent running around out there"... "It's another thing, too. Luck, timing"... "I'm sort of an amateur's idea person myself"... "I know I embarrass you." -"I don't like you like this"... "*It doesn't matter*... This is about more than *money*"... "I'm really glad you're doing this. If you don't fight, none of us will stand a chance"... "I heard everything you said last week. I'm trying to change"... "I have work to do and you're keeping me from it"... "I told you not to get your hopes up about mom"... Ford went from offering him a settlement of \$300,000, then to \$1 million, then finally to \$30 million over fifteen years later! Yet what he wanted most was for Ford to say publicly that they lied and stole his invention. He wouldn't accept their money and eventually took them to court and won... "This is insane!"... "I'm an inventor - a contributor to society."

-Richard O'Barry

The Cove: "I wish we could have done this film legally"... Richard O'Barry, dolphin expert and activist... "It's like driving into 'The Twilight Zone'. It seemed like a town that loved dolphins and whales"... "This dolphin slaughter"... In a hidden cove near the Japanese coastal village of Taiji, sonar is used to confuse dolphins and lead them into a cul-de-sac where they're trapped and killed... "We need to know the truth"... "I never planned on being an activist. It's just that one thing leads to another"... "I could have made millions from running a swim with the dolphins center... "Handled with infinite care"... "It's the stress that kills dolphins. They're very sensitive to sound"... It is an accident of evolution that dolphins seem to be smiling, the film informs us. They just happen to look that way. Their hearing is incredibly more acute than a human's, and the sounds of loudspeakers and recorded music, rebounding off the walls of their enclosures, can cause them anxiety and pain... The depression of a dolphin. The suicide of "Flipper"... "I was going to free every captive dolphin I could"... "I spent 10 years building up this dolphin entertainment industry, and spent the last 25 years trying to tear it down"... "At the Whale Museum, you can watch the dolphin show and eat dolphin at the same time"... "Rewarding the fishermen for their bad behavior"... "You can get \$150,000 for a live-show dolphin"... "Dolphins are whales. Size doesn't matter"... "No change will come from the government. All social change comes from the passion of individuals"... Surfing with dolphins... "The way to stop the slaughter in the cove is to expose it"... "Don't Take Photos!"... "He was intentionally provoking me. They want you to hit them or do something to get you out of here. To get us arrested and get it on video"... "It's terrible to imagine that this horror happens in one of the world's most beautiful places"... "People were watching the rocks. What if the rocks watched back?"... Hiding High Def cameras in fake rocks... They assembled their own "Ocean's 11" team, including free divers, Mandy-Rae Cruickshank and Kirk Krack. In their wetsuits and mermaid-like tail, they appear like humanoid dolphins... Watch a baby dolphin be slaughtered... They bully the activists by videotaping them and taking their photos constantly. They also get into their faces... "The general population doesn't know about what is going on out here"... "The fishermen say that this is their tradition, this is our culture. You don't understand. You eat cows. Well, we eat dolphins. But that's the big lie. How can it be their tradition if most of the Japanese people don't even know about it"... "The Japanese people don't know they're eating dolphin because the dolphin meat is heavily laced with mercury, the most toxic, non-radioactive element on Earth"... "The fishermen who are eating the dolphin are poisoning themselves. But they're also poisoning the people they're selling the dolphin meat to!"... Minamata Disease... "Children were starting to be born deformed. It happened once. It's going to happen again"... "The symptoms to Mercury poisoning are memory lost, loss of eyesight, loss of hearing. It happens over time." So basically, people go stupid over time!!... "He doesn't want to know if he's poisoning others"... "They can torture you, legally, while you're being held in prison"... "You wanted to capture something that will make people *change*"... "He established that these animals were singing"... "A new generation has to take over from here"... "Pray for the departed souls of whales"... "There is something visceral about being in the water with an animal like this. I'm connecting with an intelligent being"... "Dolphins are self-aware as humans are self-aware"... "That's an eerie sound"... It's all about spin. "The fishermen said they don't slaughter dolphins for money - it's about 'pest control'. The Japanese government believes whales and dolphins eat up too many fish in the ocean and harm the fishing industry. The truth is men are causing the systematic decline of fish in the ocean"... "Japan has had enough of the West telling them what to do, when to do it, and how to do it"... "You're either an activist or an *inactivist*"... "Mandy, you're good to go!"... The harpooning of helpless dolphins. The waters go red. It's one giant killing field... "What was the right thing to do?"... "I was as ignorant for as long as I could be"... "I have to see this end in my lifetime"... Timelapse video of tens of thousands of Japanese people passing by an activist with a monitor strapped to his chest showing the slaughter of dolphins in Japan. Yet eventually, a few stop to notice... "A sample of the Deputy of Fisheries' hair tested positive for mercury poisoning"... "*We can be heroes.*"

-Dr. Jack Kevorkian

You Don't Know Jack: The mission of Jack Kevorkian: he realized that he could help people who are dying to ease their pain: by creating a device to commit suicide (euthanasia) humanely... "It'll be your own area of specialty"... "Doctor is also a death profession"... "My Mercy-tron Machine will ease your suffering and give you your death"...

"It's inhumane. You don't let them wither away. You inject them so they can die peacefully"... "Now you're America's quack!"... "How cares what people think?! It's what she *feels!*"... "She goes through the terror of being... lost"... "Death with dignity"... Die peacefully in a park... "Thank you"... "The doctor should do what is best for the patient"... "He kills a woman and calls it compassion"... "They call him 'Dr. Death'"... "Self-termination is a basic human right and everyone should have it"... "I want to die"... "When you have no quality of life left... no more"... "There is a religious dogma that thinks that God wills us to suffer"... "When a doctor gives you a pill, he's 'playing God'"... "We're here to prevent a suicide!"... "This is not the world I want to raise my three boys in. It's not a world I recognize"... "You're clinically depressed. We can't help you with your suicide"... "Life is God's Choice!"... "You are worse than an abortionist!" -"Oh shut up, you witch!"... "I have a religion, lady. And his name is Bach"... "Suicide is the ultimate sin"... "To save on paper. Dr. Kevorkian is incredibly cheap"... "Here's the truth, Mr. Thompson"... "For Christmas, I asked him what he wanted. He wanted to die"... An art opening of Dr. Jack Kevorkian... "I... want... to... end this"... "I will not eat in jail! You are *assisting* in my suicide!!"... "I want Tom to be free. I've watched him suffer for too long"... "Kill Jack! Kill Jack!"... "When they pass a law that is immoral, you must disobey it"... "Mercy Clinic"... "I've got the cancer. Pancreatic"... "It's a 'Common Law' to not believe in the Bible"... "Those videotapes are our golden ticket"... "I think the biggest mistake of my life was not getting married"... "Could you have loved?"... "God missed his chance to take me. I'll go to him instead"... "Imagine a toothache in every bone in her body. That was what was happening to her"... "It's my decision"... "I'm all alone and I'm running out of time"... "You had purpose, Jack"... "I'm not a fanatic. I'm a zealot. I'm fighting for me"... "It's a game. If I lose, I win"... "I don't care what happens to me. And I'm not afraid because I'm right"... "Take all that pain, suffering, and sympathy out of the courtroom"... "Jack Kevorkian is one of the most audacious serial killers this country has ever known"... "I would rather be dead than to lose my integrity"... "It was a service, a medical service that was being done"... "I see the emotion. I understand it. But it's not relevant"... "You can consider yourself stopped."

-Temple Grandin

Temple Grandin: "I'm not like other people"... "I think in pictures, and I connect them!"... Grandin's various idiosyncrasies (such as talking, too loud, too fast, and too much)... Her more abstract talents, especially the extraordinary visual acuity that enables her to remember virtually everything she's ever seen... Every sound is louder than it should be... "Something's gonna set her off"... She's hyper-sensitive... "I'm not stupid!"... "Your child is clearly autistic. She's an infantile schizophrenic. I recommend institutionalization"... Fading to white for a memory flashback... She memorizes everything she reads. "I just looked at it!"... "I made a machine that can hug! Do you want a hug?! It feels really good!"... "But you don't want to be touched by people?" -"No!"... "F for freak!"... "She talks too fast. She talks repetitively. The children make fun of her. Then she goes into a panic attack. And then they make fun of that, too"... "I think she's terrific!"... "I know you've been through a lot"... "At some point, she's going to hit life head on"... "Trust me, we know how different she is. Different, but not less"... "This girl has an amazing mind!"... "She thinks in pictures"... "Language and Algebra are just gibberish to her"... "She's an amazing *visual* thinker"... "Weirdo!"... "You have a very special mind. You see the world in ways that others can't. It's quite an advantage. You know something, if you weren't such a goof and developed this talent, you could easily go on to college"... "You're quieter in your Squeeze Machine"... "I see your voice"... "You have sounds and I have pictures"... "When I was younger, I closed myself off to people"... "You will never walk alone!"... "Where did it go? Horse heaven?"... "You've been published!"... Good people but they have no way of empathizing"... "I hate parties! There are too many people and no one listens to me!"... "People make me feel bad!"... "This is a masterpiece"... "You killed them because of your stupidity!"... "Nature is cruel - but we don't have to be!"... "I don't want my thoughts to die with me. I want to have done something"... "I still want my life to have meaning"... "Most autistic people are very sensitive to sounds and colors. Over-simulation hurts!"... "I'm not cured. I'll always be autistic"... "People worked hard that I was engaged. People knew I was different, but not less! I had a gift. I could see details that other people were blind to. My mother pushed me to become self-sufficient"... "I went to boarding school and college. Those things were difficult, but they helped me open doors to new worlds"... High functioning sect of Autism and creativity.

Temple Grandin: "The Autistic Brain"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MWePrOuSeSY>

Temple Grandin is one of the world's most iconic scientists. A leading expert on animal behavior, she has even been the subject of a movie, in which Claire Danes played her in an award-winning performance. Her accomplishments are legion, including her creation of livestock-handling facilities based on animals' natural behavior. But her greatest impact might be as one of the most prominent adults with autism. The condition has given Grandin unique insights, orienting her work on animals and allowing her to rethink human nature. The result is a series of best-selling books— "Animals Make Us Human," "Animals in Translation," and "Thinking in Pictures," among many others—as well as the hug (or "squeeze") machine, used for calming hypersensitive patients. More recently, autism itself has become the subject of her research. Her most recent book, "The Autistic Brain," presents the latest physiological research and charts the shift from neurological to genetic approaches to the condition. Grandin shares this new work with her trademark intelligence and accessibility.

What autism is: a developmental disorder... If we got rid of all the characteristics that make autism, you wouldn't have any computers or electricity... When you have a little bit of these traits, it can provide an advantage. When you have too much of these traits, it can be a disadvantage... Dr. Albert Einstein had no speech until age 3. He

would have been diagnosed as autistic in many school systems... Thankfully, someone let him develop his abilities... He got exposed to lots and lots of new ideas... Steve Jobs was a loner and didn't have any friends... Getting into a computer club was what saved him by getting him into a group of those with shared interests... Autism is a very broad spectrum and diagnosis is not precise. It is a behavioral profile... Half of Silicon Valley is on the spectrum... Then there are those who are much more severe. It's a huge spectrum... Asperger Syndrome: so now if you're a geek and a nerd and are socially awkward, you now get an autism diagnosis... The core problem with autism is being socially awkward... Visual Thinking has been a huge asset in my career designing livestock facilities... "I've seen a lot of kids who are a lot less severely autistic like me who are not going anywhere. They're getting addicted to video games. They haven't learned job skills. They've got to learn how to do work... People that do IT work... Too many kids being overprotected... Tutoring saved me by getting through college... With STEM, my kind of mind gets locked out... Build on the kids' areas of strength... My interest in art was always encouraged. If I hadn't taken art and sewing, I wouldn't have gotten anywhere. I was encouraged to do all kinds of art... Dance is a required course up there... Steve Jobs was an artist... An artist designed the interface to a smart phone, not an engineer... I am a photo realistic visual thinker – poor at Algebra... What are they going to do when they grow up?... There is this bias that everyone is exactly the same... I wasn't very good at public speaking when I first was getting started... Accept the fact that they think differently... Pattern Thinking Spatial Visualizer... Developing a talent for her to do work that other people want... This is the reason why you need us art minds who can't do Algebra... We really do need all kinds of minds... Animals See Details... Being attentive to visual detail... An animal's world is sensory based. Their memories are sights, sounds, taste, and touch... My thinking is bottom up. Everything is learned by specific examples. Concepts consist of specific examples places in categories... My thinking is Associative and it is not Linear... We need more bottom-up thinking in government policy... A major design fault vs. an easy-to-fix glitch... Curiosity Mars Rover Team... World Needs All Kinds of Thinkers... I've been to Google, Disney Imagineering, PIXAR. They're all full of people on the mildly autistic spectrum... You're got to stretch these kids just far enough outside their comfort zone. Don't put them in the deep end of the pool... If you don't stretch them, they don't develop... Tesla, who invented the power plant, was probably autistic... Tips for helping kids who are different to succeed... Programing jobs... Mentoring kids who are different... **Our education system is failing to stimulate and educate some of our more visual, pattern, and art-type of thinkers...** The math minds need us... Art class was my salvation in elementary school. It was the only place where I was not teased... The bullying stuff has really gotten out of hand on Facebook... **Too many talented, quirky kids are going nowhere because they have no mentors to channel their abilities into challenging careers...** They're playing video games and collecting social security checks... The forgotten people... Sell your work, not yourself... The boss cannot be vague... It's just like coaching an actor in a play... Sound sensitivity, light sensitivity... "I've been taking anti-depressants for thirty years. They stopped my constant panic attacks... Need a quiet place to work... No scratchy clothes... "Gifts Kids With Emotional Problems"... Get people out of their silos... She needs the discipline of a job... You work hard on early intervention... Good with LEGOS... They will remember anything that they are extremely interested in... I like the logical way I think... It's important to work in a profession and have your own identity. I am an animal scientist first.

Notes from *Thinking in Pictures: My Life with Autism* by Temple Grandin: "Unprecedented because there had never before been an 'inside narrative' of autism"... "Temple Grandin's voice came from a place which had never had a voice"... "Hans Asperger"... "The sense of language as an almost miraculous power"... "Her intense desire for, but fear of, contact"... "'Hugging' she craved, but in a way she could entirely control"... "Behind all the bizarreness, the pathology, to recognize the unusual potential of this strange student, and to channel her obsessions into the opening of a scientific life"... "As if (in her own words) she were 'an anthropologist on Mars'"... "The intervening ten years have been years of increasing professional recognition and fulfillment for Temple"... "When we went for a stroll she confessed that she had never been able to 'get' Romeo and Juliet"... "Her great awkwardness"... "I don't want my thoughts to die with me I want to have done something... I want to know that my life has meaning... I'm talking about things at the very core of my existence"... "Temple, now forty-seven, has never ceased to ponder and explore her own nature"... "Autism is part of who I am"... "A fascinating book because it provides a bridge between our world and hers, and allows us a glimpse into a quite other sort of mind"... "I think in pictures"... "Visual thinking has enabled me to build entire systems in my imagination"... "I value my ability to think visually, and I would never want to lose it"... "When I was a child, I thought everybody thought in pictures. I had no idea that my thought process were different"... I was able to figure out which things scared the cattle, such as shadows and bright spots of sunlight"... "Every design problem I've ever solved started with my ability to visualize and see the world in pictures"... "They were flabbergasted when they saw that the ramp now worked perfectly"... "The great inventor Nikola Tesla was also a visual thinker"... "Now I realize it was not stupidity but a lack of visualization skills"... "I thought they were a gift from God"... "I learned the value of slowing down while drawing during a college art class"... "Discussions with other autistic people reveal similar visual styles of thinking about tasks that most people do sequentially"... "The Lord's Prayer was incomprehensible until I broke it down into specific visual images"... "The word 'Amen' at the end of the prayer was a mystery: a man at the end made no sense"... "I knew I did not fit in with my high school peers, and I was unable to figure out what I was doing wrong. NO matter how hard I tried, they made fun of me"... "People with autism have tremendous difficulty with change"... "It is human nature to strive, and this is why people will climb mountains"... "I

still struggled in the social arena”... “This ability to modify images in my imagination helped me to learn how to generalize”... “I had to force myself to relax”... “It was almost a religious experience”... “Develop Talents in Specialized Brains”... “Children who are visual thinkers will often be good at drawing, other arts, and building things with building toys such as Legos”... “Tutoring me in algebra was useless because there was nothing for me to visualize”... “The more I learn, the more I realize more and more that how I think and feel is different”... “When I failed to start talking like the little girl next door”... “I showed the symptoms of classic autism: no speech, poor eye contact, tantrums, appearance of deafness, no interest in people, and constant staring off into space”... “I was given the label ‘brain-damaged’”... “Tantrums also occurred when I become tired or stressed by too much noise, such as horns going off at a birthday party. My behavior was like a tripping circuit breaker”... “I can remember the day I bit my teacher’s leg. It was late in the afternoon and I was getting tired. I just lost it”... “If I had a tantrum was not to get angry or excited”... “I was like a scientist studying the grains under a microscope. As I scrutinized their shapes and contours, I went into a trance which cut me off from the sights and sounds around me”... “A preference of being alone”... “Any disruption of routine causes a panic attack, anxiety, or a flight response”... “*In fact, many Asperger individuals never get formally diagnosed, and they often hold jobs and live independently*”... “When I daydreamed, my teachers yanked me back to reality”... “Teachers need to speak slowly to accommodate a nervous system that processes information slowly”... “Living in a completely disordered sensory world”... “Imagine a state of hyperarousal where you were being pursued by a dangerous attacker in a world of total chaos. Not surprisingly, new environments make low-functioning autistics fearful”... “Inflamed an over-aroused nervous system”... “I have no problems if I mentally rehearse every scenario, but I still panic if I’m not prepared for a new situation”... “Often I withdraw”... “Autism is not me. Autism is just an information processing problem that controls who I am”... “The amount of pressure a person desires may be related to his or her nervous arousal level”... “He also made a pressure suit consisting of a wet suit with an inflatable life jacket under it. He could adjust the pressure”... “*Like many autistic children, I looked normal*”... “People with severe sensory problems have a horrible time trying to figure out what reality is”... “It came as a kind of revelation, as well as a blessed relief, when I learned that my sensory problems weren’t the result of my weakness or lack of character”... “Many autistic people know that there is something about them that is different, but they don’t know what it is”... “When I built my squeeze machine and Tom McKean made his pressure suit, we did not realize that we were inventing a therapy method that has now helped many children. Many of the behaviors of people with autism seems strange, but they are reactions to distorted or overly intense sensory input”... “At all times I am in control of the amount of pressure applied to my body”... “My childhood temper tantrums were not really expressions of emotion so much as circuit overloads. When I calmed down, the emotion was all over”... “Just the threat of teasing made me fearful; I was afraid of walk across the parking lot because I was afraid somebody would call me a name”... “The intense fear and anxiety I used to experience has been almost eliminated by the antidepressant medication I’ve been on for the last thirteen years”... “Perhaps because I am less emotional than other people, it is easier for me to face the idea of death. I live each day as if I will die tomorrow”... “However, I am not just an objective, unfeeling observer; I have a sensor empathy for the cattle”... “My first inkling that my emotions were different came in high school, when my roommate swooned over the science teacher”... “Prior to the site visits, animal welfare was just an abstract thing. After they saw suffering firsthand, they made big changes and forced their suppliers to comply with animal welfare guidelines”... “Normal people have emotional empathy but some of them lack empathy for sensory over sensitivity in autistic people. *Some of the best therapists who work with individuals with sensory problems can empathize with these difficulties because they themselves have struggled with sound, touch, or visual oversensitivity*”... “Even though I was raised in a strict household, my abilities in art were always encouraged and never taken away as punishment”... “I was a poor reader at age eight”... “The other teachers and professionals at the school wanted to discourage my weird interests and make me more normal, but Mr. Carlock took my interests and used them as motivators for doing schoolwork”... “If I studied hard enough to get into college, I would be able to learn why pressure had a relaxing effect. Instead of taking my weird device away, he used it to motivate me to study, get good grades, and go to college”... “*Teachers need to help autistic children develop their talents*”... “My guess is that the professor may have been offended by Tom’s direct manner, not understanding that being direct to the point of rudeness sometimes is a characteristic of autism”... “teenagers and adults with autism need to build on their strengths and use their interests”... “College was a confusing place”... “For people with autism, rules are very important, because we concentrate intensely on how things are done”... “I have been lucky, because my understanding of animals and visual thinking led me to a satisfying career in which my autistic traits don’t impede my progress. But at numerous meetings around the country I have talked to many adults with autism who have advanced university degrees but no jobs. They thrive in the structured world of school, but they are unable to find work. Problems often occur at the outset. Often during interviews, people are turned off by our director manner, odd speech patterns, and funny mannerisms”... “A fellow employee told me that he was turned off by me”... “I ended up in a career where I could use my visual skills to design cattle-handling facilities”... “In another plant, I met a head maintenance man who was clearly an undiagnosed Asperger. The man who fixed my copier had Asperger traits. I have also been interviewed by several journalists who were on the spectrum. Some college professors are also Asperger”... “I really like their slogan, ‘reengaging students in learning’”... “There is a big world out there of interesting things and kids need to be exposed to them”... “The paradox is that milder forms of autism and Asperger’s are part of human diversity but severe autism is a great disability. There is no black -and-white dividing line between an eccentric brilliant scientist and Asperger’s”... “It was probably invented by an Aspie who chipped away at rocks while the other people socialized around the campfire. Without autism traits we might still be

living in caves”... “I am one of those people who are born with a nervous system that operates in a perpetual state of fear and anxiety. Most people do not get into this state unless they go through extremely severe trauma”... “Tofranil, also boosts brain levels of serotonin, a substance that calms down the nervous system”... “Many people with autism are fans of the television show *Star Trek*”... “I vividly remember one old episode because it portrayed a conflict between logic and emotion in a manner I could understand”... “I was always observing, trying to work out the best way to behave”... “*All my life I have been an observer*”... “*My peers spent hours standing around talking about jewelry or some other topic with no real substance*”... “Even today, personal relationships are something I don’t really understand”... “They are attracted because their intellects work on a similar wavelength”... “I’ve remained celibate because doing so helps me to avoid the many complicated social situations that are too difficult for me to handle”... “he thought that it would be all right to look in her windows. In his literal, visual mind he thought that since he would not be recognized, it was okay to stand outside and watch her”... “When my parents were thinking about getting divorced, my sister felt the tensions, but I felt nothing, because the signs were subtle”... “From past experiences I have learned to avoid situations in which I could be exploited and to stroke egos that may feel threatened”... “I had a special attic room in the dormitory where I went to think and meditate. Going to the special room, known as the Crow’s Nest, was essential to my sense of well-being”... “Special interest groups such as *Star Trek* conventions or historical societies are great places to network and find other people with similar interests. The people on the spectrum who are depressed and unhappy often have no interests they can share with another person”... “There are some really smart Asperger’s and high-functioning students who need to be removed from the social pressure cooker of high school”... “But for some high-functioning high school students, it might make sense for them to take classes online or at a community college”... “Switching to crying enabled me to not lose a job due to either hitting or throwing things. At the Swift Plant, I often retreated to the cattle yards to cry”... “Severe problems with sensory oversensitivity wrecks the lives of many people on the spectrum”... “My connection with these animals goes back to the time I first realized that the squeeze machine could help calm my anxiety. I have been seeing the world from their point of view ever since”... “*A great deal of my success in working with animals comes from the simple fact that I see all kinds of connections between their behavior and certain autistic behaviors*”... “In my diary I wrote, ‘If hell exists, I am in it’”... “It was simply intense visualization and concentration”... “It is very likely that animals think in pictures and memories of smell, light, and sound patterns”... “Since I have pictures in my imagination, I assume that animals have similar pictures. Differences between language-based thought and picture-based thought may explain why artists and accountants fail to understand each other”... “I have often observed that the senses of some people with autism resemble the acute senses of animals”... “I have learned that cattle are afraid of lots of little visual details like reflections on a wet floor, a wriggling chain, or high-contrast colors such as a yellow ladder against a gray wall. If these distractions are removed the cattle quietly walk up the chute”... “*Mild autistic traits often show up in the parents of relatives of children with autism*. Another study published in the *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, by G. R. Delong and J. T. Dwyer, indicated that over two thirds of families with a high-functioning autistic child had a first- or second-degree relative who had Asperger’s syndrome, the mild form of autism. Based on hundreds of discussions with families I’ve met at conferences, it is clear that many parents of autistic children are visual thinkers with talents in computers, art, and music. Other common traits in the family histories of autistics are anxiety disorder, depression, and panic attacks”... “Depression and anxiety occurred in the parents of autistic children. Recent studies found there is often a history of manic-depression in the families of children with autism”... “It is likely that *genius is an abnormality. If the genes that cause autism and other disorders such as manic-depression were eliminated, the world might be left to boring conformists with few creative ideas*”... “Studies have shown that artists, poets, and creative writers have higher rates of manic-depression or depressive disorder than the general population”... “*Simonton concludes that ‘in order to be creative, it seems you have to be slightly crazy’*”... “During the past three years I have become fully aware that my visualization skills exceed those of most other people. I would never want to become so normal that I would lose these skills. ***Similarly, being childlike may have helped me to be creative***”... “It is interesting that autism is caused by brain immaturity. In many ways I have remained a child. Even today I do not feel like a grownup in the realm of interpersonal relationships”... “Albert Einstein, Ludwig Wittgenstein, and Vincent van Gogh all exhibited developmental abnormalities during early childhood”... “Like me, he was more attached to ideas and work”... “The swirls in the sky in his painting *Starry Night* are similar to the sensory distortions that some people with autism have”... “Most of the great geniuses have had very uneven skills”... “Darwin’s saving grace was his passion for collecting. This provided the motivation to go on his famous voyage”... “During my career, I have met many brilliant visual thinkers working in the maintenance departments of meat plants. Some of these people are great designers and invent all kinds of innovative equipment, but they were disillusioned and frustrated at school. Our educational system weeds these people out of the system instead of turning them into world-class scientists”... “Music transforms him and may temporarily open the door to emotion”... “The genes that cause schizophrenia may confer advantages in a milder form. This may also be true for manic-depression and autism. In my own case, I believe my contributions to humane slaughtering of cattle and improved treatment of animals have been facilitated by my abnormality”... “Thinking with the Subconscious Mind”... “I have seen students with IQs of 150 where nothing was being done to develop their intellects and prepare them for careers”... “Many famous scientists and musicians such as Carl Sagan and Mozart were probably Asperger’s. Famous people on the autism/ Asperger spectrum are profiled in books and on websites”... “It made no sense to me that my religion was better than theirs. To my mind, all methods and denominations of religious ceremony were equally valid, and I still hold this belief today. Different religious faiths all achieve communication

with God and contain guiding moral principles. I've met many autistic people who share my belief that all religions are valid and valuable"... "Music and rhythm may help open some doors to emotion. Recently I played a tape of Gregorian chants, and the combination of the rhythm and the rising and lowering pitch was soothing and hypnotic"... "When I was a college sophomore, *I called this order force God*"... "Many of my heroes, including Einstein, did not believe in a personal God"... " 'Religion without science is blind.' I like this because both science and religion are needed to answer life's great questions"... "Probably within my lifetime, scientists will determine how to create life from basic chemicals. Even when they have accomplished this task, though, they will not have answered the question that has plagued people for all time: what happens when you die?"... "Like the concept of infinity, it is too ego-shattering for people to endure"... "What is really significant in life?"... "For me, religion was a means of attaining a certain kind of truth"... "It was a major step in defining my purpose in life"... "This was emotion gone wild"... "In nature, particles are entangled with millions of other particles, all interacting with each other. *One could speculate that entanglement of these particles could cause a kind of consciousness for the universe. This is my current concept of God*"... "I believe that if souls exist in humans, they also exist in animals, because the basic structure of the brain is the same"... "Still, it is a sobering experience to have designed one of the world's most efficient killing machines. Most people don't realize that the slaughter plant is much gentler than nature. Animals in the wild die from starvation, predators, or exposure. If I had a choice, I would rather go through a slaughter system than have my guts ripped out by coyotes or lions while I was still conscious. Unfortunately, most people never observe the natural cycle of birth and death. They do not realize that for one living thing to survive, another living thing must die"... "We will have the power of God to create totally new forms of life"... "As a person whose disability has provided me with certain abilities, especially with regard to understanding how animals sense the world"... "Maybe monks who chant and meditate are kind of autistic. I have observed that there is a great similarity between certain chanting and praying rituals and the rocking of an autistic child. I feel there has to be more to this than just getting high on my own endorphins"... "For the first time in my life logic had been completely overwhelmed with feelings I did not know I had"... "No words. Just one pure moment of silence. I can picture it perfectly"... "The concept of right and wrong is too abstract for an autistic child to understand. They have to learn right from wrong by being given many examples of right and wrong behavior. These examples can then be placed into different categories in their brains"... "When I was in elementary school, the Lord's Prayer made little sense. It was too abstract."

-Lewis & Clark

Lewis & Clark: The Journey of the Corps of Discovery: "We expect to make great discoveries"... "They would be getting a first glimpse into a then-young nation"... "They were the first Americans to witness the Rocky Mountains. The first to cross the Continental Divide"... "After encountering wonders beyond belief"... "It would be the greatest adventure of their lives"... "The other, brilliant, but troubled"... "The Corps of Discovery"... "It's America's story"... "The future was always West. Hope and possibility. It's about what could be. It's about potential and hope"... "A Northwest Passage: a water route to the Pacific"... "Thomas Jefferson noted 'depressions of the mind' in Lewis"... The Louisiana Purchase for \$15 million from France. "For just 3 cents an acre, Jefferson more than doubled the size of his country. It was the greatest land deal in history"... "No one knew for certain what Jefferson had just bought"... "They had no idea of what to expect"... "They were instructed to record all of their daily experiences so they knew what was there"... "The melancholy streaks that befell his family. He certainly was a man who could fall into deep depressions. And yet he had a will power and an energy to overcome those depressions. There were blank entries in his journal that suggested he was suffering from severe manic depression. It took tremendous will power to overcome those depressions and continue to act"... America in its virginity, where there are no people or noise yet. It is a beautiful, precious place... The Garden of Eden... "As they furthered northwest, they noticed the landscape changing. The landscape seemed to go on forever"... "The Great Plains: They had never seen anything like it in their lives. They couldn't believe what they were seeing"... What makes this such a great documentary is in how it captures this sense of awe of discovering new territory and all of its inhabitants, including animals they'd never seen before. It's like going to a zoo with a 4-year-old who has never seen animals before. Such awe and magic!!... "This scenery already rich with rich, pleasing, and beautiful"... "This was paradise!"... Encountering the dangerous Lakota Indian tribe in South Dakota... "The scarcity of timber"... "They had never seen a black man before"... "The Bird Woman"... "Sacajawea was given the rattlesnake potion"... "They're about to go into the *real* unknown"... "They pushed further west on the river than any white man had gone before"... "To hear a woman's laugh around the campfire bolsters the men's spirits"... "She rescued the journals of Lewis and Clark"... This documentary has the feeling and magic of "Dances with Wolves". It's that wonderful sense of freedom, adventure, and discovery of the Old West before it was poisoned with progress. This movie is so romantic as well. Clark names an especially beautiful river they just discovered after a young woman he knew back in Virginia he one day wished to make his wife... "They'd meet a huge bear like they'd never seen before It was the Grizzly"... "Will this river ever have an end to it?"... "They were unprepared for its wild beauty"... "A most romantic appearance"... Montana and the White Cliffs... "We passed by some very curious cliffs, like the ruins of an ancient city"... "These scenes of enchantment seemed like they would never end"... "The grandest sight I ever beheld"... "Then he found another waterfall, then another, then another"... "Off in the distance, they could see mountains that were much larger than what they had ever seen in Virginia"... "Nothing seemed to be going right"... "The Northwest Passage"... "He was reaching the Continental Divide - The Northwest Passage"... "The

dream ended of an all-water route. The geography of reality and the geography of hope were clashing at that point"... "If it snows, they're done. They're going to die. They desperately needed to find horses. The survival of them all depended on it"... Written by Dayton Duncan... The analogy of Lewis and Clark with the space race. "In many respects, the expedition was like going to the moon"... "Instead they were confronted by endless mountains"... "It was her long lost brother"... Camp Fortunate... "And then his thoughts turned inwards"... "At the age of 31, he asked if he had done enough"... "He had found something dark and moody to write about"... "Party and horses greatly fatigued"... "They ate their candles. They ate anything. They were starving"... "Not knowing where your next meal is to be found"... "Once again, a woman came to their aid"... "For the first time, the current was with them"... "They entered the Gorge of the Columbia and once again entered into an entirely different world"... "There's waterfalls everywhere"... "You start to smell salt air. The anticipation must have been unbearable"... "Cape Disappointment, for we couldn't find any vessels to trade with"... "Rainy and Wet. Disagreeable weather. They were always wet"... "It was discovery after discovery after discovery"... "They wished before anything to get their journals back to Jefferson even if they did not"... "And they knew they were going to be heroes... if they could get back"... "There is a different mood on the journey back: they're irritable. Lewis is short-tempered"... "Speeding home with the current"... "As the adventure faded into memory"... "Auction and Negro Sales"... "Lewis was soon overwhelmed by the problems in his life. He courted several women. But none would marry him"... "Lewis disintegrated. He fell apart at the seams"... "He went into an introspection"... A documentary of gentle time-based still-lives... Lewis shot himself. He killed himself... "They opened up the geographies of the imagination"... "They found the American future. They went from coast to coast"... "They worked as a team"... I think what really stuck me about this documentary and the National Parks documentary was the underlying subtext of grown men battling depression - yet finding redemption, healing, and solace in nature and exploration. Those are qualities that I found deeply moving and empathetic.

-Joseph Merrick/ John Merrick/ The Elephant Man

I experienced the pain and anguish of David Lynch's The Elephant Man, a morally devastating tale of who was the real freak of nature - John or his intimidators? I even found viewing the emotionally painful sequences to be much crueler to watch than John's disfigurement.

The Elephant Man: The doctor didn't laugh, he cried. "I pray to God that he is an idiot"... John Merrick: "I've never been treated so well from such a beautiful woman"... His voice was so frail and trembling, yet so immaculately humble - always trying to be the kindest person he can possibly be. As he felt his body dying, he took his own life. Earlier that night, he was given a standing ovation, which was the kindest reception this world has ever given him. To watch John Merrick try to live and be thankful for the kindness around him was profoundly emotional.

The Elephant Man: He smells. He has red-hair. He's the world's greatest freak. "He doesn't belong here"... "I was afraid to talk"... "I'm not used to being treated so well by a beautiful woman"... "I've tried so hard to be good"... "We never hurt him. Just having a laugh, that's all"... To all the beautiful freaks... "Nothing will die."

-Will Rogers

"Everything is changing. People are taking their comedians seriously and the politicians as a joke." -Will Rogers, American humorist, who died in 1935.

-J. Robert Oppenheimer

The Day After Trinity: J. Robert Oppenheimer... "There is a weight on me that few men have had to bear"... "You may wonder why men of a kind heart and humanistic feelings would go and work on a weapon of mass destruction"... "He had a very sharp tongue"... "Oppenheimer was a Jew with friends and relatives in Nazi Germany"... "To save Western Civilization"... "It was feared that Nazi scientists were already building an atomic bomb in 1939 when Albert Einstein informed President Roosevelt that such a thing was even possible"... "I was caught up in that patriotic fever"... "The bomb project had a sudden urgency"... "The dream somehow got hold of him"... "He wanted to learn the deep secrets of nature"... To work on the bomb in the middle of nowhere in New Mexico... "Los Alamos was a boom town"... "It was a time when the whole country was pulling together for a cause that was just"... "He was the conductor of this orchestra"... "He was intellectually superior to us"... "It was the most expensive scientific project in the history of the world"... Oppenheimer's leftist background... "It was a new and strange world"... "What was going on in Los Alamos?" So they spread false rumors... "American intelligence had learned that the German atomic bomb effort had failed"... Suddenly, V-E Day happened"... "What we were doing was morally wrong"... "This horrible thing to come"... "He had a partnership with the U.S. Army and was given unlimited amounts of money"... "In a sense it was a Faustian bargain"... "Trinity Site: where they tested the first atomic bomb"... "This experimental detonation"... "I had no conception of what an atomic bomb was, the violence and strength of it"... "It would help win the war"... "There was a secret arrangement with the governor of New Mexico to evacuate the state in case there was a catastrophe"... "There had been some speculation that it might be possible to explode the atmosphere, in which the world disappears"... "To build a bomb in order to create a better world"... Since Truman didn't share the information about the atomic bomb with Stalin, this began the Cold War... "The sun was rising in the wrong direction"... "A

violently-colored bowl rolled up"... "Japan was in ruins, most of her major cities destroyed"... "They had to use it. They felt this was in our own defense"... "Americans braced themselves for a bloody invasion of the Japanese mainland"... "To win the more quickly"... "When the bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, my first initial thought was 'Thank God it wasn't a dud'"... "What have we done? What have we done?!"... "100,000 died instantly in Hiroshima, 40,000 injured, 20,000 missing"... "We were no more guilty than anyone else who built weapons to win the war"... "Father of the Atomic Bomb"... Senator McCarthy made sure that Oppenheimer lost all security clearance because of his left-wing politics. McCarthy labeled him a Communist... "It killed him spiritually. It destroyed him"... "What's your thought about halting the spread of nuclear weapons." -"It's twenty years too late. It should have been done the day after Trinity"... "Now I am become death, the destroyer of worlds"... Narrated by Paul Frees... A tragic hero.

-John Kerry

Going Upriver: The Long War of John Kerry: Who wants to give up their life to save face for the U.S. of A.?... "Our collective anguish"... "Hey! Listen Up, America!"... "We committed war crimes."

-Anonymous

"An artist's legacy endures through is art." –Anonymous.

-Jack Rebney/ "Winnebago Man"

Winnebago Man: "I don't want to talk about me!"... "I was immediately mesmerized. Who was this guy?"... "The worst day of this guy's life"... "His unrestrained anger was strangely liberating"... "Where was Jack? Was he aware that he's become a new kind of celebrity?"... "The Star Wars kid ended up in a mental institution because of the humiliation he got"... "Viral videos are very phenomenal"... "Fuck. Not even funny anymore"... Examining the psychological effect on viral video stars... Humans get joy from seeing others humiliated... "It erases the whole illusion"... "It's funny if you don't know him"... "Found Footage Festival"... "I can't make my mind work!"... "I think he was overwhelmed"... "Part of me felt bad for Jack Rebney"... "All of my searches were dead ends"... "I nervously called him back"... "He lives on top of a mountain in northern California"... "I guess I am a hermit"... "I have everything that I'm interested in. I have my books, a computer, a telephone to call my friends"... "There's a considerable amount of humor to it"... "Live alone in the woods"... "He enjoys being on camera again"... "He keeps reaching out to me"... "He wants to get his concerns out in the world"... He's still got a lot of rage inside... "He's always wanted an audience. But he also wants to be completely isolated"... "He didn't want to deal with the outside world"... "There was a time in my life where I hit rock bottom"... "Reclaim his reputation"... Searching for a story and a purpose... "It's the god damn fucking wilds!"... An angry old man... Nervous laughter... "I want you to use your notoriety"... "I don't need an audience"... "I have no interest in this youtube!"... The return and revenge of a viral video "star"... "This is nonsense!"... "Are you happy with me making this documentary about you?"... "He's got to open up to the camera"... Maybe there's a reason why he lives alone and is divorced... "What do I want from Jack?"... "He adores the sound of wind chimes"... "Fuck you, Buddha!"... "I hope he's still bitter"... "Can you give me any reason at all why I should smile?"... "It's a modern day freak show"... "The world's angriest RV salesman"... A psychological examination of the age of the viral video star... "Every time I'm angry, I watch this clip and it makes me happy." Viral videos as a strange form of catharsis... "I thought he was a kind soul"... "He's everybody's angry grandpa"... "That's the human condition right there"... "We don't say what we truly feel"... "I say exactly what I have on my mind"... "His unrestrained self"... "Do you believe any of that shit."

-Barry Crimmins/ Call Me Lucky

Call Me Lucky: Barry Crimmins, the best comedian you've never heard of... "He was completely honest and true"... "The truth teller"... "I knew things were not easy for him"... "Your senses are constantly assaulted"... "He had demon spirit"... "I don't know what made him tick. But that was the way he was"... "He is surrounded by gorgeous nature"... "He is away from society and show business"... "Chopping that wood gives him a good outlet"... He was a mixture of anger and sentimentality... "There are still a few things I need to accomplish"... "I'd like to overthrow the government and close the Catholic Church"... "He is his own worst enemy. He doesn't have an agent. He is incredibly stubborn"... "It's not a good mix for career advancement"... He was before Bill Maher and Jon Stewart... "How did he make any money"... "I'm a communist with AIDS and I bite!"... "You have to make sure that your work is not derivative of other people"... Telling a comedian that his work is derivative of other comedians... "He started giving a Civics lesson as part of his comedy routine"... "He was outraged by bullshit"... "I hate to despise anyone. But they are harming and maiming innocents"... "The next day, it seemed like everyone had abandoned me. I felt horrible and so alone"... "Women are the #1 reason I'm not a homosexual today"... "He was more about anger while I was more about depression"... "He would like the world to share his values"... "Fuuuucckk you!"... "He would go into a rage"... "There was something shaky and weird about him"... "My mother liked Black-Eyed Susans"... "Crimmins bares soul"... "This guy, the babysitter, would take me down in the basement and rape me"... "I had almost been raped to death multiple times"... About halfway through the movie, it takes a radical shift relating a 1992 monologue where Crimmins graphically revealed for the first time in public his horrific sexual abuse when he was a child. This led to a tireless effort, often at the expense of his own health, to be an advocate for children's safety... "There was always anger there in him"... "When you see on the Internet the face of the little boy being raped, you can see the humanity leaving

the kid"... "Things are going to come back to you when you were abused. Something is going to trigger a memory. A difficult, painful memory"... "I wished everyone could see the children with the dead eyes and defiled bodies. I wished no one could see the children"... "A Socialist version of 'Laugh In'"... "Please excommunicate me"... "This was six weeks of grooming until he finally raped me"... "I was raped by a priest"... "I was in a deep, dark depression"... "Telling little kids to swallow his semen while telling them it is the body of Christ"... "Most sexual offenders were sexually abused themselves. Who knows what would have happened to me if I had been raped a few more times?"... "Would I be the rapist today?"... "I am the country of the fucking heartbroken and screwed over"... "I don't know if he had the coping skills yet worked out to deal with the rape"... "There is like a need for him to get back what was taken from him then"... "I don't give a fuck anymore"... "I was given a gift"... "If you can understand where their quirks came from"... "Their insanity is their survival techniques"... Revisiting the basement where you were raped as a boy"... "I made it through. I was real close to being killed. Call me lucky"... "I'm not coming back here again"... "When I first met him, he was a raw nerve"... "He gives a voice to the injustices of the world"... "What's so radical about wanting hope?"... "That's where comedy comes from. Pain"... "It's a gesture of healing"... "It's from something deep inside of him"... "I'm certainly a better person from having known him"... "Sometimes the most anti-religious people act the most religiously"... "We have to testify what really happened to innocence in this world. We have to take care of innocence in this world. We have to tell the truth about what happened to innocence in this world"... "Your lives depend on it"... "I'm trying to be a good guy"... "There are so many people who have gone through what I went through"... "My drug of choice is friends"... "He's one of the kind"... "He's sort of a dick"... "Who taught me how to write through editing."

-Nelson Mandela

Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom: "I didn't want trouble"... "There is no law for us"... "Something has to change. Education. Hard work"... "You cannot do everything"... "He's a troublemaker"... "They are having a party and we are not invited!"... "Let them clean their own houses!"... "I've been away a lot. I've been doing it for us. I've got to have you believe that"... "No wonder your wife left you. Who is going to be the man of the house when you are in prison?"... "I have been finding out about you, too"... "I was away too much"... "They are calling me a terrorist"... "I want freedom"... "I knew how it would be"... "They got him"... "It is an ideal for which I am prepared to die"... "This is it, boy, for the rest of your life." In a tiny, gray jail cell cage... "Don't let them see you lose your temper"... "Please be advised that your son, aged 13, has died in a motor accident"... "Together we have power"... "I haven't touched my wife in 21 years"... "They think you are old and tired"... "We have to do something to restore confidence"... "I want something more than revenge. I want to live without fear and hatred"... "I have seen what fear has done to your people. You have always been afraid of our people and it has made you into an unjust and brutal people"... "Make them suffer as we suffer"... "You've impressed them"... "I loved who she was"... "I have come to the decision to release you"... "Don't be fooled by the cheering. There's anger out there"... "We understand that change must come"... Racism and reverse-racism... "I have decided that it would be better if I lived separately"... "We have both been alone too much, Winnie"... "Due to the tensions that have arisen between my wife and I, we have mutually agreed that a separation would be best for each of us"... "It is near civil war"... "Do something. Do something. Do something"... "I am telling you that you are wrong"... "I have forgiven them. If I can forgive them, then you can forgive them"... "We cannot win a war. But we can win an election"... "*Be peaceful*"... "I still dream the old dream"... "I have walked a long walk to freedom"... "They can be taught to love."

-Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and Eleanor Roosevelt

The Roosevelts: An Intimate History:

"Get Action" (1858-1901): "FDR: An undistinguished student"... "They had bigger dreams"... "Things had happened to them that they had to overcome"... Theodore was frequently ill as a child... "He wasn't expected to live very long"... "She filled her son's imagination"... "Life itself was an ongoing battle"... "She was old beyond her years"... "Thought by many as most likely to succeed"... "Create. Act. Be somebody"... "He found in wildness a world in which to restore himself"... "There is so much enjoyment in the country"... "My sweetest little wife"... Theodore's wife and mother died in the same day... "That was a blow so enormous"... "Get action. Be sane. If he didn't get action, he wouldn't be sane"... "It was a grief he had in his soul"... "He needed to get away. He needed to escape the grief that followed him. So he went to the West"... "This was the persona that he crafted"... "He didn't dare slow down. There were demons"... "The Badlands became a place to rebuild his broken spirits"... "He proved himself to them"... The sport of "bear killing"... "He had more adventures than you could imagine"... "It transformed his spirit"... "It was from his time in the West that the romance of my life had begun"... "By acting not afraid I learned to not be afraid"... "That complexity in him"... "Hard work and the joy of life"... "He couldn't seem to find his focus"... "What do you amount to?"... "To draw attention to himself"... "You could say he was slightly crazy. But it was a very balanced crazy. He kept his demons very balanced"... "He was highly functional"... "He had weaknesses that he had to overcompensate for"... "It had been fun"... "Reviling in victory and gore"... "Roosevelt's self-importance"... "The vice presidency back then was where political careers went to die"... "Here is the task and I have to do it to the best of my ability."

"In the Arena" (1901-1910): "A proud father and husband"... "A hyperactive adult"... "Each man wanted something from the other"... "Southern Democrat: 'Niggers' need to learn their place again"... "His laugh was infectious"... "He wrestled with diplomats"... "Mine owners adamantly opposed to change"... "He tried to right the wrong"... "He didn't show how hurt he really was"... "He was disappointed in love as well"... "America had become a world power"... "Only the United States must police the Western Hemisphere"... "He had fallen in love with his fifth-cousin Eleanor"... "Her mother made her feel unattractive"... "The way to be used is to be of use to others"... "She was a lonely little girl"... "She found fulfillment in helping others"... "We're a player. We're not an isolationist nation anymore"... "Theodore Roosevelt won the Nobel Peace Prize"... "Kermit sometimes suffered from the family curse of depression"... "Desperate to be noticed"... "Ceaseless action could defeat despair"... "The little angel ceased breathing"... "If Lincoln had lived in times of peace, no one would know his name"... "My future is past"... "Reveal its melancholy of the African landscape"...

"The Fire of Life" (1910-1919): "He was on his way"... "He had to be in the arena"... "He would have exploded from unspent energy if he hadn't run for the presidency"... "He could tell Franklin Roosevelt when he was wrong"... "I try not to think about the damage to myself personally"... "He's so used to being popular and loved, and suddenly he has pariah"... "But he fell into a depression"... "He was quite brave about it in public, and quite sad about it in private"... "We started down the river of doubt and into the unknown"... "He undertook another great adventure"... "He had begun drinking to obliterate his melancholy"... "It was my last chance to be a boy again"... "He had endured the greatest hardships of his life"... "The Great War"... "Roosevelt could not stop from speaking out"... "It was the cry of a broken heart"... "War is good for us"... "Returning home half-dazed by the sense of impending change"... "I think was when it all ended for him"... "He gets very old very quickly"... "You must do what you think you cannot do"... Eleanor discovers Franklin's mistress... "The threat to the Roosevelt marriage"... "He was a very selfish, very self-centered person"... "No one would ever love her for long."

"The Storm" (1920-1933): "His career at an apparent end"... "He restored the faith of a badly frightened country"... "The polio transformed him in many ways. He could stand a trial by fire and could help others do the same"... "She had resolved to find real work"... He suddenly lost the use of his legs... "He momentarily lost his faith"... Polio... "Those were the lonely years"... "He was so depressed. He had to sit with his demons"... "Great suffering can change a person"... "Polio gave FDR the gift of empathy"... "He became obsessed with helping people"... "This was his creation"... "Their psychological progress was beyond measure"... "They went there out of despair"... "*If one patient was giving in to despair, they should go to Double's Knob right away. One look at the glorious view, he believed, would give the person the will to go on*"... "These are unprecedented and unusual times"... "I pledge a New Deal for these American people"... "Happy days are here again"... "Smile of Victory"... "The Depression got still worse"... An assassination attempt on President-Elect Roosevelt: "These things are to be expected"... "He promised bold action"... "This guy can do it. He can lift us up."

"The Rising Road" (1933-1939): "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself"... "Maybe the Depression will never end"... Daisy Suckley... "He was armored with Christian faith that the universe was well-organized"... "The greatest part of The New Deal was FDR's smile"... "The country was depressed. They needed a man who was incapable of depression (even though he wasn't)"... "He was utterly unafraid of experimentation"... "Above all, try something"... "He was called a dictator, a Socialist"... Fireside Chats on the radio. "He spoke to them as an equal"... "The CCC, The Civilian Conservation Corps"... "Developing National Parks"... FDR hid his inability to walk... "I don't think anyone as inflicted as he was could be elected to national office today, which is sad"... "A few things at Warm Springs always raised his spirits"... "He got from Suckley the admiration that he needed"... "FDR: Friend of the Forgotten"... "The Party With a Soul"... "Most Americans saw events overseas as none of their business"... "FDR saw the government as the collective responsibility to care for people in need"... "How can we study history?"

"The Common Cause" (1939-1944): "I am a tired and weary man"... "And then everything changed"... "The US Army was poorly prepared for war. It was smaller than Romania's"... "He was as political artist"... "WHY NOT PEACE WITH HITLER?" read a woman's protest sign... "They believed a British surrender inevitable"... "Isolationists were outraged. Talks of impeachment were started up again"... "This nation must adequately defend itself for measures of defense"... "We would never go to war unless the case of attack"... "The world as a neighborhood"... "Freedom from fear"... "He had the gift of eloquence"... "Engaged in a deadly, yet undeclared war at sea"... "And as a deterrent, he dispatched a large portion of the Pacific fleet to Hawaii"... "The focus on defense had revived the economy"... "As always, Roosevelt hid his feelings"... "He cannot relax and really rest"... The calm of Sunday morning mass is interrupted by a distant bomb exploding, and then a much closer explosion!... "What laid ahead (after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor)"... "Americans had broken the Japanese code. Roosevelt knew an attack in the Pacific was imminent"... "Roosevelt looked upon those ships in Pearl Harbor as if they were his babies"... "Absorbing the information as it came in"... "I ask that the Congress declare a state of war"... "Germany and Italy, siding with their Japanese ally, declared war on the United States"... "Hitler declared war on us without thinking it through"... "They heard the music of history in their heads"... "The American public was clamoring for revenge"... "He reminds people

that there will be failures before there are victories. There will be losses before we have wins"... "We will get through this"... "If my speeches ever become routine, they will lose their effectiveness"... "The invasion of occupied France would have to be delayed"... "It also brought the Great Depression to an end"... "The defeat of the Third Reich was accomplished using of American weapons"... "We are dealing with an insane man"... "His last great adventure in South America"... "He continued to suffer from crippling depression"... "Depression would overwhelm him unless he had a mission"... Kermit Roosevelt committed suicide. But they lied to his mother that he had died of a heart attack... "He was suffering from severe hyper tension"... "Only a few people knew that he was fatally ill."

"A Strong and Active Faith" (1944-1962): "He said that he might retire from office before his fourth term ended"... "Roosevelt had ambitious post-war plans"... "He began seeing an old love because she was a reminder of a simpler life"... "Like Daisy Suckley, she was there to admire him"... "The D-Day Prayer"... "No one was willing to attempt that Roosevelt would be able to survive a fourth term"... "Six presidents have died while in office"... "The Republican fiction writers"... "He had to show them that he was alright"... Many families had portraits of FDR hanging in their houses... "Enjoy every last minute around those you love"... "Churchill saw the Russians as more of a threat than Roosevelt wanted to believe at that moment"... "Nobody knew if the atomic bomb would work"... "There was no support to march American troops into Poland to get the Russians out"... "He wanted to sleep and sleep and sleep"... "They sat in the setting sun for over an hour"... "His hopes for the post-war world"... "Franklin D. Roosevelt – the hope of the world – is dead"... "I knew deep down in my heart that something dreadful had happened"... "The president had slipped away"... "The president is dead"... "What can we do for you? You're the one who is in trouble now"... "There was an extraordinary sense of loss of not knowing how we were going to go on"... "They were on their own"... "Thousands wept along the tracks as his funeral procession train made its way to Washington"... "Did you know the president?" – "No. But he knew *me*"... "Then that life has been well-lived. And there are no regrets"... "Love and Sympathy to Eleanor"... "The way to be loved is to do things for people"... "The Universal Declaration of Human Rights"... "He had a lively interest in her work"... "She was a chronically lonely person"... "She had sad days of her own, mostly to do with her children. It brought her close to suicide"... "In order to stay sane, she had to stay active"... "She needed to be needed"... "Her mother looked at her as an ugly girl. His father was an alcoholic"... "Each one is stronger because of these trial by fires"... "You keep at it and eventually the fear is worn away."

"To announce that there must be no criticism of the President, or that we are to stand by the President, right or wrong, is not only unpatriotic and servile, but is morally treasonable to the American public." -Theodore Roosevelt.
"Patriotism means standing up for the Country, not the president." -Theodore Roosevelt (1918).

-Ulysses S. Grant

"If we are to have another contest in the near future of our national existence, I predict that the dividing line will not be Mason and Dixon's but between patriotism and intelligence on one side, and superstition, ambition and ignorance on the other." -Ulysses S. Grant.

-Winston Churchill

"Success is stumbling from failure to failure with no loss of enthusiasm." -Winston Churchill.
The Gathering Storm: "He's a dreadful bully!"... "We're bankrupt"... "He's in a black dog day"... "I'm finished. I'm a ghost witnessing my own demise"... "I have no power. No prospect of power"... "Need I remind you that it was the British that invented the concentration camp during the Boar War. We are merely following your example"... "We must economize"... "He believes that a strong Germany will keep Russia in its place"... "Put our defenses in order"... "Are you a worrier?"... "Painting calms the nerves"... "I put your happiness before my own. Don't accuse me of being selfish! Don't you dare!"... "I want him isolated. Tell the Whips"... "KBO. Keep Bugging On"... "Life is drab without you"... "Someone is trying to push him out of the Conservative Party"... "He'll never get over it"... "We're powerless"... "How can you say that? It's just mindless optimism"... "I wonder how long we've got"... "This country is at war with Germany."

Into the Storm: "What is your opinion?"... "I've heard that he can be reliable." – "Impulsive is a kinder word"... "Could be destiny?"... "We've been outmaneuvered"... "One must assume that Germany will invade us"... "Hitler is not to be trusted"... "Sometimes, I despair." – "Of course you do. If you didn't, you wouldn't be human"... "Try to relax"... "Why don't you try some painting?"... "We must prepare ourselves. The loss of life will be immense"... "Hitler has plans for invading the British Isles"... "We shall defend our island no matter what the cost may be"... "*We shall never surrender*"... "He may be a warmonger, but he's also a fighter"... "The weight may be more than we can bear"... "What reserves do we have?" – "There are none"... "You cannot make peace with dictators"... "He was full of plans and ideas"... "The Japanese have attacked the Americans. Somewhere in Hawaii, sir"... "We're all in the same boat now." – "This is momentous news, Mr. President"... "They have the men and the resources. We cannot win it without the Americans"... "He's hopeless in ordinary life"... "Belief is power"... "It is a wicked thing to take away men's hope"... "He's had a heart attack. He should be kept in bed rest for six weeks. But that's impossible"... "There is nothing you can do until the election results are announced"... "I like the illusion that I'm in control"... "Singapore

has fallen”... “Let us move forward, steadfastly together into the storm and through the storm”... “You must stop brooding. You were brooding about that wretched debate”... “If this is the best our boys can fight, we shall lose the Empire”... “Unless you can find a way to protect our supply convoys, we’ll be starved to death”... “We disguise our merchant ships as icebergs”... “You’re talking about the deliberate slaughter of civilian men, women, and children. There’s bound to be moral objections”... “War is war”... “If he didn’t believe it, he would never have found the strength to win the war”... “The Polish problem”... “Where am I going?”... “I feel very lonely without a war”... “I can’t go on like this. And I won’t.”

Darkest Hour: “Shame!”... “Step down and let us find a new leader!”... “This is totally absurd!”... “You’re not as kind as you used to be”... “They’re giving me the job because the ship is sinking”... “Which self should I be today?”... “Having your enemies close?”... “Without victory, there can be no survival!”... “He’s incapable of even pronouncing the world ‘peace’”... “Their speed is devastating”... “We are looking at the collapse of Western Europe in the next few days”... “France must be saved”... “He’s delusional”... “He’s an actor in love with the sound of his own voice”... “He has 100 ideas per day. 4 are any good”... “Because the terror is coming”... “In the poorer quarters, that gesture means something different”... “Up your bum!”... “They are pushing us into the sea!”... “It’s suicide”... “We have to show that maniac that he cannot conquer this island”... “I take full responsibility”... “We must be rational”... “I know, I know. You’re on my mind day and night”... “I want you to order an assembly of boats”... “A wildness in the blood”... “Signal that we intent to fight it out until the end”... “This romantic fantasy of fighting until the end”... “How many more dictators need to be wooed and appeased until we learn that you cannot reason with a tiger when you’ve got your head in its mouth?”... “I am told that we will need a miracle to even get 10% of our men out. Courage”... “Every man for himself”... “Belgium has fallen. France will soon follow suit”... “We must prepare for the imminent invasion of our island”... “I would be willing to consider terms”... “You could rule in exile”... “You have the full weight of the world on your shoulders”... “Broker talks with Herr Hitler”... “Are you not afraid?”... “Go to the people”... “The biggest civilian fleet ever assembled”... “Initiate Dynamo”... “Have you never seen a Prime Minister ride the Underground before?”... “How is your mood?”... “Fight the Fascists!”... “Never!”... “We will never give up”... “We would be a slave state”... “There shall be no negotiated peace”... “We must draft a vote of ‘no confidence’”... “To ride out the storm of war”... “We will never surrender!”... “What just happened?” –“Mobilized the English language and sent it into battle.”

-Dr. Bennet Omalu/ Concussion

Concussion: Forensic pathologist Dr. Bennet Omalu... “My specialty is in the science of death”... “My mind is going mad”... “If I know how they live, I will know how they died”... “You need a girlfriend”... “Be less of an artist. Fit in a little more”... “I’m starting to forget things”... “All we have to do is finish the game”... “You have to be the best version of yourself”... “He’s worse. Much worse”... Football players suffering breakdowns for reasons that don’t show up on brain scans... “What am I missing?”... “Mike Webster”... *Put on the earphones to listen to music to get into the zone*... An outsider looking in seeing something new... “I don’t know what I’m looking for”... “It’s going to cost you a fortune”... Driven... Watching and observing football players getting hit hard in the head. “Jacked up!”... “The brain sits in a fluid completely disconnected to the human skull. Watch what happens”... Department of Neurology... “All of these animals have shock absorbers built into their bodies”... “God did not intend for us to play football”... “By my estimation, Mike Webster sustained 70,000 blows to the head”... “I am telling you that playing football killed Mike Webster. And I am certain that there are others”... “Name it. You have to give this a name”... “We are going to publish”... “May I kiss you?”... “Steeler Great Terry Long Commits Suicide: Family Searches for Answers”... Humans don’t have built-in shock absorbers for their grey matter—and release a protein that builds up and causes hallucinations, memory loss, and much more trauma... World-weariness... “You are good. And I’m sure you see good in me”... “He looks like a nobody”... Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy, or CTE... “You’re an uneducated quack and your career is over”... “Apparently, the National Football League owns neural science. Who knew?”... “They want you to retract your findings”... “If you retract, this all goes away”... “They’re terrified of you”... “The NFL *owns a day of the week. The same day the church used to own*”... “CTE told his brain to drink a gallon of antifreeze”... Receiving crank calls... “You’re in trouble, but you’re not wrong”... “The NFL has known about this concussion crisis for years”... “I don’t want to see any more of these men vanish in the back of a pick-up truck”... Brain-damaged veteran players... “Something is wrong with me!”... “Get your shit together!”... “Playing was what we lived for”... “He said he was a little dazed, but all right”... “No one made it to the funeral”... “*Whatever it takes* to keep the whole thing going and keep them in the game”... “We should be working together”... The awful truth about our love for football... “If you continue to deny my work!”... “Tell the truth!”... “Football is America’s game”... “That feeling when someone you love and admire screws you over”... “This whole thing was staged”... “The science means nothing to them”... “Linking head injuries with depression, dementia, early onset of Alzheimer’s”... “I haven’t done anything wrong, but I am being punished”... “You are still with God. Ask him to help me”... His boss loses his job for something stupid... “I don’t care (that I lose my job). I’m *tired*”... “Everything that I am is here”... “I’ve got it. The Surgeon General needs to be a sign on their helmet saying that playing football may be hazardous to your health”... His wife has a miscarriage from the stress of all the harassment. “I am so sorry. There is no heartbeat (for the baby)”... “They destroyed us”... “My mind keeps slipping. I just can’t keep doing this.” And so these players usually end up

committing suicide... “He said that we were right”... “They can’t explain this one away”... “Through her eyes I can see the beauty, the power, the grace of the game”... “He has given me a dangerous gift – the gift of knowing”... “A football player does not know that he could lose his mind, his family, his money, his life. They have to know”... “You are beyond all of that now”... I could totally relate to the scene where the doctor is watching the high school students butt heads and realize he is never going to change anything.

-Edward Snowden

Citizenfour: In January 2013, Laura Poitras started receiving anonymous encrypted e-mails from "CITIZENFOUR," who claimed to have evidence of illegal covert surveillance programs run by the NSA in collaboration with other intelligence agencies worldwide. Five months later, she and reporters Glenn Greenwald and Ewen MacAskill flew to Hong Kong for the first of many meetings with the man who turned out to be Edward Snowden. She brought her camera with her. The resulting film is history unfolding before our eyes... “This film is the third part of a trilogy about America post 9/11”... “I know how this will end for me, and I accept the risks”... “Linkability”... Edward Snowden: “I feel good in my human experience that I can contribute to others”... “This isn’t science fiction. This stuff is happening right now”... “They are going to be paranoid to the extreme”... “A whistleblower who leaked this information”... “*I’m not afraid*”... He’s shockingly intelligent... “What happens, happens. I knew what the risks were. If I get arrested, I get arrested”... Living out of a Hong Kong luxury hotel room... Having to inform his girlfriend that she probably won’t see him again because of what he’s done. He’s sacrificed his whole personal life to expose the U.S. government’s lives... “What is really going on behind the scenes of the intelligence communities around the world”... “I see this as the most major threat to our democracies all around the world”... Acts of heroic citizenship by Snowden.

Snowden: “I’ve been a solutions consultant”... “There are other ways to serve your country”... “Bombs won’t stop terrorists. Brains will”... “What is your sin of choice?” – “Computers”... “You know how to run an IP trace?”... “Too much independent spirit for you?”... “I don’t bash my country”... “It tasted like liberal”... “You only get a partial truth”... “They were drowning in data”... “I filed complaints with legal. *Now here I am, tucked away, teaching you*”... “The real threat is coming from China, Russia, and Iran. In malware”... “You don’t have to agree with your politicians to be a patriot”... “Take a moment - enjoy the view”... “When can you publish?”... “They will demonize me and my family”... “I left a digital footprint”... “There is no hidden agenda”... “You told me to find flaws”... “The culture of fear wins again”... “He agrees that your talents are being wasted”... “You have a lovely girlfriend”... The CIA can look through your webcam on your laptop without you knowing it *at any time*... “I’ve been watching your inner liberal grow”... “Everyone has something to hide”... “I actually thought things might be getting better under Obama. I was wrong”... “We were planting malware not just in Japan. We were planting it in Mexico, Germany, Brazil, Austria”... “This isn’t about terrorism. Terrorism is just the excuse. This is about economic and social control”... “I haven’t trusted anyone in years”... The truth is people don’t want to hear it... “And then it hits you. The NSA is tracking every cell phone in the world – no matter who you are”... “We don’t talk about anything these days. You work 12 hour days. You come home depressed”... “You don’t even fucking touch me anymore!”... “God, I was really lonely there”... “Lots of people cruise happily through life. Why can’t I?”... “Just when I thought I was letting go of the anxiety and the questions that were keeping me up at night, they came back. I couldn’t ignore it”... “Most Americans don’t want freedom. They want security”... “My new job was counter-spying on the Chinese”... “Epic Shelter. I built it”... “I need to be sharp for my work”... “There is never going to be a less stressful job for you, is there?”... “I wanted to know if I was the only one that thought this was crazy”... “I am very grateful of your looking after me”... “It’s tough to keep a relationship going”... “Your emails are being monitored”... “What’s keeping you safe is that you don’t know anything”... “I am not taking the fall for this”... “I might not see you again”... “You’re making a ton of money in Hawaii and living in paradise. What would it take to leave everything behind?”... “He’s a man without a country”... “When I left Hawaii, I had a stable life. A stable love. A stable future. I lost that life. But I gained a new one.”

-Abraham Lincoln

“America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves.” –Abraham Lincoln.

-Chris McCandless/ Into the Wild

Notes from *Into the Wild* by Jon Krakauer: “He changed his name, gave the entire balance of twenty-five thousand-dollar savings account to charity, abandoned his car and most of his possessions, burned all the cash in his wallet. And then he invented a new life for himself, taking up residence at the ragged margin of our society, wandering across North America in search of raw, transcendent experience”... “The grip wilderness has on the American imagination, the allure high=risk activities hold for young men of a certain mind, the complicated, highly charged bond that exists between fathers and sons”... “He was now Alexander Supertramp, master of his own destiny”... “It is true that many creative people fail to make mature personal relationships, and some are extremely isolated. It is also true that, in some instances, trauma, in the shape of early separation or bereavement, has steered the potentially creative person toward developing aspects of his personality which can find fulfillment in comparative isolation. But this does not mean that solitary, creative pursuits are themselves pathological”... “McCandless’s apparent sexual innocence, however, is a corollary of a personality type that our culture purports to admire, at least in the case of its more famous

adherents. His ambivalence toward sex echoes that of celebrated others who embraced wilderness with single-minded passion – Thoreau (who was a lifelong virgin) and the naturalist John Muir, most prominently – to say nothing of countless lesser-known pilgrims, seekers, misfits, and adventurers. Like not a few of those seduced by the wild, McCandless seems to have been driven by a variety of lust that supplanted sexual desire. His yearning, in a sense was too powerful to be quenched by human contact. McCandless may have been tempted by the succor offered by women, but it paled beside the prospect of rough congress with nature, with the cosmos itself. And thus was he drawn north, to Alaska”... “There was something fascinating about him”... “The cabin he was staying in caught fire and burned to rubble, incinerating both his equipment and the voluminous accumulation of notes, poetry, and personal journals that he regarded as his life’s work”... “Chris didn’t understand how people could possibly be allowed to go hungry, especially in this country”... “His parents were extremely alarmed when they heard about his brush with disaster but were unsure how to persuade Chris to exercise more caution in the future”... “Chris’s resentment of his parents hardened, his sense of outrage over injustice in the world at large grew”... “If this adventure proves fatal and you don’t ever hear from me again I want you to know you’re a great man. I now walk into the wild. When the adventure did indeed prove fatal, this melodramatic declaration fueled considerable speculation that the boy had been bent on suicide from the beginning”... “But I never had any doubt that climbing the Devils Thumb would transform my life... How could it not?”... “I was surprised, as always, by how easy the act of leaving was, and how good it felt. The world was suddenly rich with possibility”... “A phantasmagoria of shattered ice”... “When I lay down to sleep, I was overcome by a wrenching loneliness. I’d never felt so alone, ever”... “An unexpected melancholy took its place”... “The final and greatest adventure”... “No longer to be poisoned by civilization he flees, and walks alone upon the land to become lost in the wild”... “A fundamental insecurity that drove him to prove his manhood by means of extreme physical challenges”... “The idea of free personality and the idea of life as sacrifice”... “NATURE/ PURITY”... “To take refuge in nature”... “GREAT JEOPARDY”... “Chris McCandless was at peace, serene as a monk gone to God.”

-National Lampoon

Drunk Stoned Brilliant Dead: The Story of the National Lampoon: “I had this sense of humor that didn’t exist where I grew up”... “The Harvard Lampoon”... Give your girlfriend a celebratory balloon for “First Blowjob”... “You just don’t understand anything. You’re toast. You’re not going anywhere”... “How to Cook Your Daughter?”... “The Joys of Wife-Tasting”... “The issues were messy and confusing”... “He got turned on by the ideas”... “Welfare Monopoly”... “He was a workaholic. He would stimulate your ideas”... “It was incredibly dark, extremely political, and it was funny!”... “Their work was a little too raunchy. It was for us. It didn’t matter if it was too weird”... “We won’t pay much. But we won’t edit you. We won’t change you”... “We did have one problem: we couldn’t get advertisers”... “We needed someone to come in and make it legitimate”... “It was the first time I realized that with humor you could tell the truth”... “It’s attacking the establishment with something offensive”... National Lampoon Radio Dinner... “Doug was not a stable person”... “We all came here to off ourselves”... “Lemmings. It was this cool underground thing to go see”... “Nose candy”... “I was working 100 hours a week”... The National Lampoon Yearbook... “That was his natural costume”... A nude of an African-American woman with a giant afro bush!... “Laughter is a defense mechanism”... “Kentucky Fried Coons”... “It is the job of the satirist to make the people in power really uncomfortable”... “We were thinking about doing a Saturday night satire show”... “The more popular we got, the more people’s egos started to clash”... “People started leaving the Lampoon”... “Dino clit”... “You could feel the energy sucked out of the magazine and into that show (Saturday Night Live)”... “The Lampoon lost its exceptionalism”... “National Lampoon College Movie”... Enter John Hughes... “Take this, go away, and bring us back a movie”... “Animal House created a genre”... “Hollywood would swoop in and take all of our creative talent”... “Disco Beaver From Outer Space”... Caddyshack... “Everybody was smoking pot. Cocaine was just always there”... “He had achieved a level of depression as I’ve never seen before. And I’m good at being depressed”... “The mandate was ‘More Tits’”... “We were in a death spiral”... “Vacation ‘58”... “There would be Doug with his dick in some girl’s ear.”

-Ruth Bader Ginsberg

RBG: Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg... “This witch, this evildoer!”... “She is the most vile human beings”... “She is un-American!”... “She is such an icon”... “The Notorious RBG”... “Liberal hero”... “She’s a deep thinker”... “Be a lady and be independent”... “He wanted me to see that our country was straying from its most basic values”... “You could do something to make society a little bit better”... A Harvard dean asked the ladies: “What were you doing taking up a seat that could be occupied by a man?”... “This firm doesn’t hire women”... “Being a woman was an impediment”... “Employers in most states can legally fire a woman for being pregnant. Banks can require a woman applying for credit to have her husband co-sign. In 12 states, husbands cannot be prosecuted for raping their wives”... “Women woke up and complained”... “There was a mass of women who realized that they were not crazy. The system was crazy”... “You’re lucky that the Air Force allows you to serve (since you’re a woman)”... Women were “branded inferior”... “Real change occurs one step at a time”... Regarding opera: “I am transfixed by the sound of the human voice. It is like an electric current going through me”... “She wanted to build the idea of women’s equality step-by-step”... “They didn’t understand the issues that women were facing”... “How would you like the world to be for your daughters and granddaughters?”... “She was creating a legal landscape”... “When the Women’s

Movement came along and Marty realized the importance of it, I became the person whose career came first"... "You must remember how shy she was. I can't think of a person less likely to toot her own horn than Ruth"... "She did something no court judge has ever done: spoke at length about women's rights"... "She was confirmed 96-3"... "This powerful little woman was going onto the Supreme Court"... "I want to know why you wanted to ruin my school"... "I know there are people who did not react well to the change. My response to this is to wait and see. You will be proud of the women that become graduates of VMI"... "We have to respect each other"... Her wonderful friendship with Scalia... "I descent"... "With more conservatives joining the bench, she realized that she had to exercise more of her dissenting voice"... "The time has come for me to take leave of life"... "Race-based voting discrimination still exists"... "She called out the majority that this makes zero sense"... "You can't spell TRUTH without RUTH"... "She is the defender of minorities and women"... She's fought cancer twice, including pancreatic cancer... "She's not done fighting."

On the Basis of Sex: Ruth Bader Ginsburg... RBG sex scene?!?!?... "Words matter"... "The law is a work in progress"... "I have worked hard"... "I wasn't what they were looking for"... "I am Professor Ginsberg"... "They ruled that discrimination on the basis of sex is legal"... "This is sex-based discrimination against a man"... "It could be the precedent to build on. It could topple the whole damn system of discrimination"... "We need to take this case"... "Women's rights is civil rights"... "The law is wrong"... "So your wife can feel like a real lawyer"... "Hello, family unit!"... "She taught your mom to question everything"... "Gender equality is a civil right?!"... "Man and woman vying for the same job? What is a man without a paycheck to take care of his family?" -"And what woman would want him?! Wages would go down. Divorce rates would soar. The very fabric of our society would begin to unravel"... "The judges are deciding what kind of country, what kind of society our children and grandchildren to grow up in. What's at stake is the *American family!*"... Testing your oral argument to a group of three brutal critics... "These laws are the bars (that keep us in cages)!"... "You have such a light touch"... "He was goading you. He was trying to overwhelm you"... "Get your emotions in check"... "And here I was claiming that things have changed"... "Would you like help taking down your life's work?"... "Actually what I'm doing now I learned at Columbia"... "Thank you, gentlemen. It was a *pleasure*"... "You're ready for this. You've been ready for this your whole life"... "You're telling us that race and gender are the same?"... "You're concerned about men and women being pigeonholed into certain roles based on gender"... "The law assumes that the woman is the one who should be at home in the first place." -"That's the case in every family I know"... "So you believe that women belong on the front lines now, too?!"... "In most households, isn't the woman the primary caregiver? Aren't the men the breadwinners?"... "Doesn't that reality suggest that's the natural order of things?"... "Radical, social change"... "You are being asked to uphold the morality and traditions of an America that no longer exists"... "And a hundred years ago, I would not have had the right to stand before you"... "The government's laws are obstacles to our children's aspirations"... "You're asking us to overturn a century of precedent." -"No. I'm asking you to set a new precedent as the court has done before when the law is outdated"... "The word woman does not appear once in the U.S. Constitution." -"Nor does the word freedom"... "We're not asking you to change the country. That's already happened without the court's permission"... "Our sons and daughters are barred by law from opportunities based on assumptions on their abilities. How will they ever disprove these assumptions if laws like 214 are allowed to stand?"... "You can right this wrong"... "These distinctions keep women in their place, a place inferior to that of men."

-Jeff Bezos

"If you never want to be criticized, for goodness' sake don't do anything new." -Jeff Bezos, Founder of Amazon.com.

-EMTs (Emergency Medical Technicians) Suspenseful Scare at 20,000 Feet with the Midnight Sun

6-2-18: Then at just before midnight Icelandic time while about halfway through our flight, my brother-in-law Steve looked over at me with a nervous look in his eyes. I took out one of my earplugs and heard: "Tanya's just passed out!" Steve started trying to call out her name to get her to wake up, but she wouldn't. Steve first leaned over behind Tanya to try to get her to wake up. It was a surreal scene at first because half the plane was asleep and in a state of sub-consciousness not unlike my fainted sister. Then several people and the stewardesses started to come over to attend to her. A man in a ball cap came over who was two aisles in front of where Tanya was sitting rushed over to check her signs. He turned out to be an Emergency Medical Technician. Slowly, the passengers on the flight were all turning around to see what was going on. I was in a window seat and couldn't get over. All I could do was watch what was happening while trying to see what else I could do. The head stewardess made an announcement if a doctor was on board, which one happened to be. They asked her what her name was. The guy in the ball cap asked her if she could smile for him. Show them a sign. One of them asked if Tanya could respond by squeezing her hand. She did. But she could barely move. All this was happening in front of her boys and husband. My God. What would happen if Tanya died on our plane flight back home? Were we all watching my sister/ his wife/ their mother die? It didn't really feel real at all.

It took several scary minutes for her to fully regain consciousness. When the doctor advised that they take her to the back of the airplane to lie down, I got out of my seat to help out. Tanya was finally able to walk on her free will back and they laid her down. I couldn't see her head, but I could tell that she was able to talk. Yet she looked like she

was a dead body laying down like that. It was a bit unnerving to watch. Steve was right there with her, along with the doctor, the EMT, and several stewardesses. The lead one brought some juices for Tanya to drink. I informed the EMT that Tanya was my sister and that a similar illness had happened to me just hours ago. While they were helping her out and waiting to see if she was okay, I did the “uncle thing” to do and went over to comfort my nephews to let them know that their mother was fine. I sat down with Ryan and Isaac first and then with Jonathan. Ryan informed me that Tanya had also puked on herself. Her symptoms seemed very similar to my own now. I didn’t pass out perhaps mainly because I had cold air blowing on me. But I also couldn’t talk much at first when I got very sick and ill. Tanya was in the back of the airplane for a good 25 minutes before she was well enough to be moved up to first class where they had more seating. Steve went up there to sit with her for the flight as well. I checked in with the boys so that they were okay. And then I went back to my seat.

It wasn’t until afterwards that I started to feel very deeply about the whole situation. I started to tear up and cry a bit about witnessing complete strangers help out my sister Tanya when she was weak and in need. It was a staggeringly humbling feeling. When the doctor walked back from talking to the stewardesses after using a first aid kit to help Tanya, I got out of my chair to stop him, introduce who I was, and personally thank him by shaking his hand. “I deeply appreciate all the help you just gave,” I informed him. I felt deeply about giving that gesture. Then I got out of my seat and went over to thank the EMT as well by shaking his hand and personally wishing him a “Thank You!” He explained to me that the doctor had recommended that they might want to call an ambulance when we land just to check her over. But the doctor and the EMT also felt that the altitude probably had the most to do with Tanya fainting. I went up to first class and chatted with Tanya briefly to make sure she was still doing okay. She was more concerned about her bag that has her wallet in it on her seat.

-The 501st Legion

Star Warriors: The 501st Star Wars charity fan club... Must have a movie canon costume... “Any way we can be of use”... “My son that died of leukemia used Star Wars as a way of dealing with his sickness. That he was going through the Jedi trials”... “This was something I admired. They were able to take their hobby and passion for Star Wars and turn it into something good for the betterment of other people”... “We do this for fun”... “Being the character is taking it to the next level”... “We really do thrive on being goodwill ambassadors”... “I want to look cool”... “He doesn’t stop for anything”... “We will meet members of the 501st from all over the world at the Rose Bowl Parade”... “It’s hard work. But it’s fun work”... Add in drama: marchers have their luggage lost, some are pessimistic about being able to march as one”... “Aren’t you too old to be dressing up?”... “AS long as it’s fun”... “I want to march”... “The Force is with us”... One Stormtrooper passed out at the end of the parade route... Stormtroopers swimming in a pool with their helmets still on.

-Chuck Rozanski/ Mile High Comics

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nRbHGKT9m1g> **2019 Tour of Mile High Comics with Chuck Rozanski:**

This guy, Chuck Rozanski, might just be the most unique comic book store owner on the planet. He also happens to own 10 million comics and has the largest comic book store in the world with Mile High Comics in Denver, Colorado. He’s got a wife, is also a drag queen, and spends his extra time doing charity work. What a guy! He gets very reflective towards the end and articulates very beautifully about why he does what he does.

-P.T. Barnum

The Greatest Showman: “I don’t know what my future will be”... Barnum... “Bankrupt”... “This isn’t the life I promised you”... “This is a wishing machine”... “People are fascinated by the exotic and the macabre”... Barnum’s American Museum of Curiosities... “You need something alive in your museum. Something sensational”... “I’m putting together a show and I need a star”... “Wanted: Unique Persons”... “Are you looking for freaks?”... “They don’t know it yet, but they are going to love you”... “When was the last time you smiled and had a real laugh?”... “I want to expand our appeal”... “Not a scoundrel. A showman”... “I’m just an insignificant man in an insignificant life”... Falling in love with the trapeze artist with the pink cotton candy hair... “This is me!”... “You forget your place”... “They are small-minded people”... “My father was treated like dirt. I was treated like dirt”... “You don’t need everyone to love you. Just a few good people”... “A celebration of humanity”... “I just wanted to be more than I was”... Riding an elephant through Manhattan at night.

-Neil Armstrong

First Man: “You’re bouncing off the atmosphere”... The death of his young daughter to a tumor... A husband and father risking his life. And his wife knows it... “Why do you think space flight is important?” – “I think it will allow us to see things that maybe we should have seen a long time ago”... “I got it.” = “It’s a fresh start”... “Man has always imagined traveling to the moon”... “We have got to compete with the Russians”... “First victim: Armstrong”... Pass out... “So this is another major victory for the Soviet Union in the space race”... “There was a year at Edwards where four pilots died. We got good at funerals”... A first-person account of thrusting into space in a rattling tin can... “That is unbelievable!”... “He said that he is in a roll and he cannot stop it”... Prepare to vomit or die... Cutting the live feed to Neil’s wife so she won’t have to listen to the possibility of her husband dying in space... This is a visceral horror movie(!) Massively uncontrolled spinning above earth forever?!?!... Regaining control of the spacecraft... “Did you

feel the closeness of God than at any other time?”... “He knew what he wanted to do. He just seemed so stable. I guess all I wanted was stability”... He wasn’t even supposed to be the first one of the moon. “Deke wants Gus to be the first one on the moon”... “If you hadn’t kept cool, you wouldn’t be here with us now”... “I’m not laughing, I’m crying”... “Hey! We’ve got a fire in the cockpit!”... “We’re burning up in here!!!!”... “There was a fire. There’s no easy way of saying this. Ed, Gus, and Roger. They’re gone”... “We think it was a wiring issue. There was a spark and all that oxygen. It happened very quick”... “We need you guys to head back to the hotel. The press is going to be all over this”... “We need to expand our horizons”... “The dead astronauts were left in the ship to aid with the investigation for the cause of the tragedy”... “We need to fail. We need to fail down here so we don’t fail up there!” –“At what cost?!”... “HOW MANY MUST WE SACRIFICE?”... “I just think it’s so ridiculous that we’re spending so much money to go somewhere that we don’t know anything about. I think that money could be used for other things”... “These are sailors of the sky”... “Mom, what’s wrong?”... “Your dad’s going to the moon”... “Neil, if it does turn out, you’ll go down in history”... “We’re planning on that flight being successful”... “What are the chances of you’re not coming back? What are the chances that the boys are going to see you?”... “You are going to prepare your boys for the fact that you may not come back. You. You are doing that”... “We’ll be put in isolation in case of any diseases we pick up on the lunar surface”... “If they dare send two of her sons into the unknown”... “Prior to the statement, the president will phone the widows to be”... They had their obituary letters already planned in the very possible case of their deaths... He doesn’t hear their applause... You watch the Apollo 11 mission at take-off and you can’t help but think about the Challenger disaster. With every triumph, there is a counterpart of a tragedy... “You are now leaving earth orbit”... “Did you bring any music?”... Into the unknown... MISSION DAY FOUR... Witnessing the surface of the moon for the first time ever. “Will you look at that”... “Come back, will you?”... Going to the moon was considered a suicide mission. They knew the risks... “The eagle is undocked”... They make the moon landing into one of the most epic achievements in existence!!! And death-defying and nerve-wracking... “Those boulders are as big as cars. We can’t land on there”... ABORT... “3% fuel remaining!”... “Shutdown”... “The eagle has landed.” –“You’ve got a lot of guys about to turn blue. We’re breathing again”... Experiencing things you’ve never experienced before! A first-person view of walking out on the grayscale landscape of the moon!!!!!! And no sound to it... “Okay, Neil. We can see you coming down the ladder now”... “The surface is almost like a very fine powder down there”... “I am going to step off the ladder now”... “That’s one small step for man. One giant leap for mankind”... Seeing our planet Earth from so far away. It changes you... The filmmakers made going to the moon feel like truly going into the unknown. They had history feel astonishingly new, mysterious, exciting, terrifying, and raw... Hopping around like a bunny rabbit on the surface of the moon... Letting go of his deceased daughter on the surface of the moon... Theremin music playing on the moon... “We peered into another life”... “Never before had so many people been in tune to one event as ever before”... “Why choose the moon as our goal? Why choose the highest mountain?”... “We choose to go to the moon not because they are easy, but because they are hard”... “There is no sign of any infectious diseases”... A delicate touching of the hands between a strained husband and wife who have gone through so much... Executive Produced by Steven Spielberg... The aching, haunting lonesomeness of the Theremin.

-Neil DeGrasse Tyson

“The good thing about science is that it’s true whether or not you believe in it.” -Neil DeGrasse Tyson.

-John McCain

John McCain: For Whom the Bells Tolls: “The world is a fine place and worth fighting for and I hate very much to leave it.” –Ernest Hemingway from “For Whom the Bell Tolls”... “I think we all think about death”... “Your father has brain cancer”... “Work feeds him”... “He’s authentic. He can’t help himself”... “Nothing is better than a story about someone that sacrifices for a cause greater than oneself”... “I spent two and a half years in solitary confinement”... “They very nearly re-broke my arm”... “I was near death, so I wrote up a war crimes confession”... “I thought about the honor of my family”... “He was looking for a way to feel young again”... “I think the divorce rates among the POWs were extraordinarily high”... “He was going to serve his country in some way”... “You’ve just got to tough it out”... “I was found guilty of bad judgment”... “I’m going to be running for president”... “He wanted to do politics a different way”... “Everything was transparent”... “He can be an asshole one minute and your dearest friend the next”... The negative campaigns took effect: “Did you know the McCains have a black baby?”... “Your heritage (the Confederate flag) is my slavery”... “And that, my friends, is how I *personally* feel about the Confederate battle flag”... “He grew up with a moral code”... “The best cure of losing is get busy”... “We are a product of our values”... “I may not be the youngest candidate, but I am the most experienced”... “We weren’t running against John McCain. We are running for a new direction for the country”... “The environment was much more toxic in 2008 than it was in 2000”... “It was a change election, the country was deeply unhappy, and Barack Obama was the biggest change on offer”... “And we were the third term of the Bush presidency”... “This is going to be a bipartisan ticket (with Lieberman)”... “My dad is a gambler. He knew that he had to fight change with change.” Hence, picking Sarah Palin as his VP... “In two weeks, we had a campaign that was winning the presidential election”... “I had to do the Hail Mary pass. I had to try something”... “A disease within the Republican party: anti-intellectualism, a disrespect for facts. And he put it right in the center of the party”... “It’s a rise of a cheap kind of red-meat, angry Populism”... He refused to demonize Obama. He called him “a decent family man and citizen that I just happen to have differences with on fundamental issues”... “He could not have been more gracious”... “My dad snapped at me and said, ‘It’s my life and my

choice!”... “We are getting nothing done”... “He came back to do the right thing and send a message to his colleagues and his country”... “He tells people what they need to hear, not what they want to hear”... “He does it all for his insatiable desire to have an impact”... “I saw things I didn’t agree with. That I thought were wrong”... “I greet every day with gratitude”... “I am also very aware that we do not live forever”... “He’s showing us how to live. He’s also showing us how to die.”

-Marie Colvin

A Private War: One of the most celebrated war correspondents of our time, Marie Colvin... “I cared enough to go to these places and write in a way to make someone else care about it”... “Let’s get married again”... Losing an eye in an RPG blast... “You’re like a moth to a bloody flame. Look at you!”... “Are you scared?”... “It’s too dangerous!”... “I can’t stop thinking about it”... “You’re writing the rough draft of history”... “Once you’ve seen... once you’ve seen”... “I want to be alone”... “Do you think you might have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder?” –“No. That’s what soldiers get”... “I’ve had two miscarriages”... “I fear growing old. But then again, I fear dying young”... “I am compelled into war zones.” –“Because you’re addicted to it”... “In war, can we really make a difference?”... “To being alive!”... “When did you become an alcoholic?”... “And you background check all your one night stands?”... “REPORTERS TARGETED! DO NOT GO TO THE FRONT”... “How are you going to follow up Libya?”... “I have nightmares every night”... “All that’s left are mutilated bodies”... “I had to cover myself in Libya because you are totally unpredictable”... “I see it (the horrors of war) so you don’t have to”... “Maybe I would like to have a normal life. Maybe I just don’t know how”... “We are living between life and death”... “I want people to know your story”... “Children are dying”... “Why, God? Why?!”... “She needs to get the hell out of there”... “Every day is a horror”... “Why have we been abandoned? Why?”... 500,000 Syrian civilians have died since Colvin’s death.

-Katia & Maurice Krafft

Fire of Love: Starring Mount St. Helens... “In this fire, two lovers found a home”... “From the deep archives of Katia & Maurice Krafft”... “Tomorrow will be their last day”... In 1991, a pyroclastic flow on Japan’s Mt. Unzen killed them along with a group of 41 scientists, firefighters, and journalists”... “It’s very beautiful how the lava flows in the evening”... “They take refuge in the mysteries of the natural world”... “They long to get closer”... “140 degrees, hot enough for me! It’s a volcanologist baptism”... “What does it take to make the earth’s heart pump and its blood flow?”... “Once you see an eruption, you can’t live without it, because it’s so grandiose, it’s so strong. That feeling of being nothing at all. Being in these untamed elements”... “No, this is not a science fiction movie”... “Photography is a means of remembering, revisiting, stretching their time with volcanos”... “The closer they get, the more they see”... “Certain colleagues see us as weirdos”... “We contemplate lying at the edge of the abyss”... “Maurice says we are crazy to stay here. And yet we stay”... “Curiosity is stronger than fear”... “Red and gray volcanos”... “When people imagine lava flows, those are the reds, the nice ones. Then you have the grey volcanoes, the killers, the explosive ones”... Gorgeous volcanic red lava rivers... “They both observe the world, but in their own distinct ways”... “This causes him to wander and wander and wander”... “The portal to hell”... “Virtually everything is unknown. We know almost nothing”... “For Katia & Maurice, the unknown is not something to be feared. It is something to go toward”... “I want to get closer, right into the belly of the volcano. It will kill me one day, but that doesn’t bother me at all”... “A fascination with danger? Perhaps”... “Ash traveled the globe, intensifying sunsets that transfixed the gaze of scientists and artists, especially one Norwegian painter who described the sunsets as a scream”... “Volcanic bombs”... An erupting volcano’s gorgeous violent beauty... “Clouds Up” by Air... “We have but this one short life. Then we return to the ground”... They were actually incredible documentarians of the world that fascinated them... “Maurice years to get closer to the fire, no matter what”... “I prefer an intense and short life to a monotonous, long one. A kamikaze existence in the beauty of volcanic things”... Explorers into the otherworldly unknown... Boating on an acidic lake... “What or who was it for?”... “Vancouver! Vancouver! This is it! This is it!”... “He was completely swept away by the blast”... “Does the volcanologist who goes to an eruption site play a kind of Russian Roulette?”... “The Creative Powers of Volcanos”... “For the first time, she questions her life’s purpose”... “We knew it was dangerous due to the type of pyroclastic surge”... “When you could die at any moment, what do you leave behind?”... “The journalist who abandoned their camera captured this shot”... “Me, Katia and the volcanoes, it is a love story”... Easily one of the best films I’ve seen this year.

-Madelyn Murray O’Hair/ “The Most Hated Woman in America”

The Most Hated Woman in America: Madelyn Murray O’Hair, the outspoken activist and founder of American Atheists... “Don’t you know who I am?!”... “I can’t help it that nothing ever happens in San Antonio”... “Crusader for Atheism”... “If I were you, I’d start praying”... “I see these housewives with their identical homes and their identical lives”... “They disgust me. But sometimes I wish I could live like that”... “Just lie to me. Tell me that everything is going to be all right”... “The owners of that place are racists. And I bet they call themselves Christians”... “And I want to be a nonconformist like my mother!”... “I was trying to teach my son a lesson. ‘Judge not unless ye be judged’”... “I believe we need a spiritual revolution in America!”... “My teacher told me that we all needed to bow our heads and pray”... “The Law? Have you heard about the Constitution?”... “Apparently, she flunked that class (History)”... “I’m just trying to make a point”... “So... *sue them*”... “Do you know how many death threats this woman receives in a day?”... “Why not me (that fights this)?”... “Supreme Court Bans School Prayer”... “This is about freedom. You can

still keep the faith. Just keep it to yourselves!”... “Here comes the hate mail”... “Here’s shit in your eye”... “We’re not going to win this one. *But it’s a fight worth having*”... “Do you know what it’s like to grow up black and gay in Texas? When my parents kicked me out, Madelyn took me in”... “It’s because of you that this country is going to hell in a hand basket!”... “Virgin birth, my ass!”... “Jesus loves you, Madelyn!” A dude dressed as *Jesus* tried to shoot her dead!!!!... “All he (my husband) is good for is fucking”... “If something makes you mad, you’ve got to go out there and do something about it”... “Susan filed for divorce”... “If we suddenly have the Muslims take over and everyone would be required to say a prayer to Allah, they would be just as much up in arms”... “May I have carnage knowledge of you?”... “Windows broken and tires slashed. I’ve been shot at several times”... “As long as there is a fight to be had”... “What do you have against God?” –“For one thing, there isn’t any”... “Where you’re going, there is going to be a lake of fire!”... “You know, you and I could make money doing this (religion vs. atheism debates)”... “Jesus couldn’t even save himself!”... “Jesus was a queer as a three-dollar bill!”... I admire her *audacity*... “You were on fire tonight! Every time you tear out that Bible, I save another 50 souls!”... They made a business out of their religion debates! “I’ll keep praying for your soul.” –“And I’ll keep cursing yours”... “Madelyn was stashing loads of cash”... “You’ve got the gun. Must be compensating for the very small cock!”... “I have devoted my life to protecting the First Amendment”... “The things I’ve had to endure. Made a little money along the way. I deserve it”... “I’ve lived a life wasted without faith in the Lord”... “Now she gets wealthy off of hating God”... “I’ve been called every name in the book. Not a day goes by without a death threat”... “I did some digging into your records”... “And I swore that I’d never lose control again”... “Nobody can really hurt me”... “This is the unofficial leger”... “Let me guess. Another hiccup”... “It’s complicated. My own mother turned my own daughter against me”... “My mother pissed off a lot of people, especially those she was closest to”... “You’re only hard on us because you believe that we can be great”... “No one person was considered a bigger threat to religion”... They killed her two kids... and then her... “Please, no prayers. She wouldn’t have wanted that.”

-Marie Curie

Radioactive: Pioneer - Rebel - Genius. Radioactive is incredible, true-story of Marie Curie and her Nobel Prize-winning work that changed the world... “Leave? But I have nowhere else to go”... “I lack the funds”... “I’m going to have to become a teacher!”... The dancer’s gown changes color as she dances. She’s a moving prism!... “She calls this dance her “Fire Dance”... “Because I believe she is interested in the way that flames move”... “I’ve been passed over for almost every major advancement: professorship, funding”... “You think you’ve discovered an undiscovered element”... “I see the way you look at me”... “I simply couldn’t comprehend why something so important had been taken from me”... “You’re just self-absorbed”... “I would like to share my life with you”... “We should experience all that the world has to offer”... Radium... “We also thought that atoms were finite and stable. Well, some of them were not. And in their instability, they emit rays. I have called this radioactivity. We are here to tell you that you have fundamentally misunderstood the atom”... “Finally, they realized I have something to offer”... “All scientists build on other people’s work”... “People can see the possibilities, believe me”... “Radioactive beauty powder”... “He thinks our Radium could cure cancer?”... “Allow him to be strange”... “Whether mankind benefits from knowing the secrets of nature”... “Did you get all the acclimation that you feel you deserved?”... “You stole my brilliance!”... “There is too much to do”... “A promotion well overdue”... “And now, I am lost”... “You invented a poison”... “Get out of France, you filthy immigrant!”... “I think the damage to me is probably permanent”... Violet flames at Chernobyl... “You would be venerated, celebrated”... “Dirty Jew!”... “They’re just having a difficult time separating my scientific life from my personal life”... “This is my last fight”... “I’m afraid that your request for funds cannot be granted”... “You did something extraordinary. You changed the world.”

-Greta Thunberg

I Am Greta: “It’s very fashionable these days to blame everything on global warming”... “It’s all a money-making scheme”... “It’s not only fake news. It’s fake science”... “*There is nothing to be afraid of*”... “Carbon Dioxide is actually a benefit to the environment, to the agriculture”... “It is so arrogant to think that man can change climate. Man cannot change climate”... “School Strike for the Climate”... “Adults say one thing, then say something completely different. They say we have only one planet and we should take care of it. Yet no one gives a damn about the climate crisis”... “Why are you on strike? You have to go to school.” –“Why would I need an education if there is no future?”... To so many, she’s just a delusional child!... “But no one really seems to understand the consequences (of climate change). We are living right now as if we have several earths”... “*It seems like those of us who have Asperger’s or autism are the only one’s able to see through the noise*”... “Hey! May I sit with you?”... “I have written the fact sheet. And these are the sources”... “The climate is the defining issue of our time”... “No one is doing anything. So I must do what I can”... “She knows the climate issue better than probably 97% of the politicians in the world”... “*She has an almost photographic memory of things that she is interested in*”... “I just wanted to be happy”... “She just felt that she had to do something and that she had to do it completely on her own”... “Is it difficult to be here?”... “I can tell you’re not feeling very good”... “I don’t like making small talk with people or socializing.” This nicely highlights her autism... “I like routines and I noticed details. And once I get really interested in something, I get, like, laser-focused on it for hours and keep doing it without getting bored”... “And the scientists said that we didn’t have much time left to change our behavior”... “That was when I started getting depressed and got anxiety”... “I was sick. I almost starved to death”... “But the environment clearly wasn’t high on the list of important election

issues"... "Everyone is needed"... "FridaysforFuture"... "Politicians and journalists don't have a clue about this defining issue"... "We need a person who can speak for today's younger generations"... "Once the climate crisis has got your attention, you can't look away. Once you understand the magnitude of the problem, then you can't erase it"... Greta is a loner and people think she's weird at her school. She sits basically alone in the cafeteria... "My family led a high consumer life"... "Mom and dad didn't understand how bad things were"... Her autism's obsessiveness makes her seem like she has a mental disorder... "They said that everything would be 'fine'. Things are being done. You don't need to worry. That was exactly the problem. That people seemed to think that we were making progress"... "For many years, other children were very unkind or mean to me. I didn't get invited to parties. I was always left out"... "Time is very, very short to make major changes"... "Or the impacts could be very catastrophic for the entire world"... "Since all of our leaders are behaving like children"... "Harsh;" –"But it's true!"... "Because we are facing an existential threat"... "But I don't care about being unpopular"... "Climate change affects mainly children"... "I have stopped flying, eating meat and dairy, and buying new things"... "She became very ill and depressed"... "15-year-old Activist Scolds World Leaders"... "She speaks and her words are devastating"... "Thousands of young people have taken to the streets. They're saying that the climate crisis is real"... "MAKE THE WORLD GRETA AGAIN"... "These students are going to continue striking"... "The mentally-ill Swedish child who is being exploited by her parents and the international left"... "You're the girl that started it all"... "GREEN DREAMS"... "If the young people could sustain this, they could change the world"... "I read a lot on climate. I am a nerd"... "There is simply not enough time for us to grow up and become the ones in charge"... "I honestly don't understand why I even get invited"... "They just want to make it look like they care"... "They know what to say, they know what sells. But in fact, they are basically doing nothing"... It's not easy to change. That's why it's a crisis... "You laid out science facts. And he didn't even respond to them"... "They don't come with any concrete promises"... "Saying that you're trying is not enough"... "Japan is experiencing a record-breaking heatwave"... "We don't have another decade to wait"... "Please be respectful"... "But you have to eat something"... "We will be able to look back and say that we did everything we could"... "Start treating the crisis like a crisis"... "Continue doing what you believe to be right"... "They promise to improve. Yet they never do"... "When I'm in these fancy environments and castles, I feel very uncomfortable. All these people are in these role-playing games. It all feels kind of fake"... "Sometimes it feels like it doesn't matter how many of us go on strike"... "The pope said, 'The entire Catholic world stands behind Greta'"... "She's a bamboozled 16-year-old with Asperger's. A person with Asperger's will usually focus on one subject"... "But the media's Asperger's darling can't give one example of what should be done"... "Nobody has explained to Greta that the modern world is complex, different, and is developing quickly. People in Africa or Asian countries want to live at the same level of wealth as Sweden"... "People find her very annoying, very hyperbolic, and very over-emotional"... "This brat!"... "She is not the messiah. She is just a depressed and extremely anxious girl. And a very unhappy one"... "I can tell that my parents are very worried and scared. We received several letters at home that contained death threats"... "I am more worried if I didn't do this." In other words, she's under a death threat from climate change... "Humanity sees nature as this giant bag of candy that we can just take as much as we want"... "The Amazon basin is burning"... "I want you to panic. I want you to act as if the house is on fire"... "But you cannot ignore the science"... "I talked about animals going extinct"... "I wouldn't say that I 'suffer' from Asperger's Syndrome, but I have it"... "Some people describe you as a radical baby"... "Yet if I just stood up and screamed here?"... "Is the microphone on? Is my English okay? Because I'm not so sure. You lied to us. You gave us false hope. You told us that the future was something to look forward to"... "The emissions are still rising"... "We children are doing this because we want our hopes and dreams back. I hope my microphone was on. I hope you could all hear me. Thank you"... "THIS IS AN EMERGENCY"... "Because time is running out"... "The important thing is that she's feeling good"... "I don't want to be a person that says one thing but does something else"... A banshee wind on the Atlantic Ocean... "I miss home. I miss having a regular life, with routines"... "It's too much for me"... "If you see a threat, it's your responsibility to sound the alarm. And I feel like this is my responsibility in a way"... "What is your message for world leaders today?" –Greta: "This is all wrong. I shouldn't be up here. I should be back in school on the other side of the ocean. Yet you come to us young people for hope! How dare you! You have stolen my dreams and my childhood with your empty words! And yet, I am one of the lucky ones. People are suffering. People are dying! Entire ecosystems are collapsing! And all you can talk about is money and fairy tales of eternal economic growth! How dare you! For more than 30 years, the science has been more than crystal clear. How dare you to continue to look away and come here to say that you're doing enough when the politics that are needed are nowhere in sight?! You are failing us! But the young people are beginning to understand your betrayal. The eyes of all future generations are upon you. And if you chose to fail us, I say we will never forgive you! The world is waking up. And change is coming whether you like it or not"... "IT IS TIME TO REBEL"... "It's just that I see the climate in black and white. Sometimes I wonder if it would be good if more of the world had a bit of Asperger's. At least when it comes to the climate"... "She still goes on strike every Friday"... "We the children have to stand up for ourselves. Where are the parents?! Where are the grandparents?"

"I was diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome, OCD and selective mutism. That basically means I only speak when I think it's necessary. Now is one of those moments." –Greta Thunberg, Stockholm, November 2018, in her TEDx Talk.

-Princess Diana

Diana: In Her Own Words: Diana: The *real* wonder woman... "Why would anybody be interested in me?"... "Prince

Charles of Britain is probably the world's most eligible bachelor"... "Sweet, kind, nice, and shy"... "It was a very unhappy childhood. Always seeing my mother crying"... "As a child, any idea of futures or ambitions?"... "Thinking I'd be an ambassador's wife, not the top one"... "All my friends had boyfriends, but not me"... "They can vouch for her virginity. I can state categorically that she has never had a lover"... "Lots of chases with the media while I was in the car"... "They chase me everywhere"... "It's useful that she's so young because of child-bearing"... "By that time, I realized that there was somebody else around (Camilla)"... "Do you realize that one day you will be queen?"... "In my immaturity, I thought that he was very much in love with me"... "Who is this girl who is so different?"... "The press were being unbearable. They were following my every move"... "I was able to find an inner-determination to survive"... "*I just want you to know that this is the last night of freedom you'll have for the rest of your life*"... "Yesterday, you were a nanny... It's a tremendous chance for someone of 19 to make all of a sudden"... "To show Lady Diana off for her first public appearance"... "And then someone in his office told me that my husband has had a bracelet made for her"... "He's found a virgin, a sacrificial lamb. And in a way, he was obsessed with me, but it was hot and cold, hot and cold"... "I can't marry him. I can't do this. This is absolutely unbelievable"... "A man who grows four-leaf clovers is sending them one a piece"... "The bulimia started the week after we got engaged"... "Oh, a bit chubby here aren't we? And that triggered off something in me"... "I'd shrunk into nothing"... "The public side they wanted a fairy princess"... "She got claustrophobic and felt the need to move"... "I felt like I was a lamb to the slaughter. And I knew it"... "Here is the stuff that fairy tales are made"... "I'd give anything to swap with Lady Di"... "Everyone happy because they thought we were happy"... "I had no idea of what I was going into"... "We were never alone"... "I remember crying my heart out on my honeymoon. I was so tired"... "Jealousy, total jealousy"... "I didn't trust him"... "I had to be thinner, thinner, thinner"... "They put me on high doses of Valium"... "Once I was out, I could do my bit (for the crowds)"... "I felt so sick"... "I threw myself down the stairs"... "Everything was out of control"... "I was a media toy"... "The Princess' rapidly growing popularity"... "When I came back from our six-week tour, I was a different person. I was more grown up, more mature"... "They were saying that I was acting like a spoiled child. What I needed was rest and patience and time"... "Once Harry was born, bang, our whole marriage went down the drain"... "They're annoyed by the lack of support from him"... "Darling, I think I'm about to disappear"... "Right, Diana, it's not good"... "Contemplating into the water"... "You must adapt to it and stop fighting it"... "I knew I could do it if I chose a different angle"... "So I gave him an enormous hug and it was just so touching"... "They may be on the verge of ending their marriage"... "He said, 'Oh, God, what's the matter?!'"... "Because the press literally haunted me or hunted me"... "I said, 'I choose to work, because that's my role in life'"... "How many times have you tried to do yourself in?"... "There is nothing wrong with you"... "Well, maybe it's not me"... "And he helped me get back my self-esteem"... "Camilla, I want you to know I that I know what's going on between you and Charles"... "She said to me, 'You've got everything you've ever wanted'"... "It was anger, it was seven years of pent-up anger coming out. I cried and cried and cried. I didn't sleep that night"... "I'd done something. Said what I'd felt"... "The telling moments that turned you from victim to victor"... "That I was the Marilyn Monroe of the 1980s"... "I always knew I wouldn't be the next queen"... "A very healing experience"... "The book claims that she made several attempts on her life"... "The motivation behind the book was to tell the truth"... *Diana: Her True Story*... "Uncaring Charles"... "Her chronic depression"... "He's even sadder that the princess has had to air the problems in the marriage so publically"... "Separate lives"... "End of the Fairy Tale"... "She described it as a loveless misalliance"... "The union is over"... "I will be reducing my public life that I've led so far"... Paparazzi predators... "Diana, the Princess of Wales, has died"... "Diana of Love"... "She was the most hunted person in the modern age"... "She was looking for a new direction in her life"... "She'll never know how much she meant to everybody"... "She was just so human"... "You were joy"... The death of a fairy tale princess... "Following Diana's death, author Andrew Morton re-publishes his book, revealing for the first time that Diana's secret interviews were his source material"... "But nobody else around me understood me." The Princess: The incredibly shy Lady Di... "What do you think that you both have in common?"... "It's a tremendous change for someone to make at the age of 19"... "And her uncles have vouched for her virginity"... "This is the stuff that fairy tales are made. The Prince and Princess on their wedding day"... "People are encouraged to go up and say hello to her"... "Diana has the common touch"... "A cool indifference has begun to settle over this marriage. The 12-year age gap is beginning to tell"... "They just don't meet mentally, physically, or emotionally"... "When you take a modern person and put them with an ancient institution, they will be destroyed"... "Princess Diana's suicide attempts"... "They've essentially been living separate lives as they have for some time now"... "Has another woman that he is really in love with"... "My Life Is Torture"... "I think we have an unhealthy obsession with the monarchy"... Windsor Castle fire... "They have decided to separate"... Parasitic paparazzi... "I think she's very close to being a monster"... "She has been humiliated"... "My agony of being pushed into a loveless marriage"... "They think I'm a non-starter. Because I do things differently"... "She's stripped away the mystique (of the royal family)"... "If the monarchy wants to survive, it has to change"... "Princess Diana has been allegedly been seriously injured in a car accident"... "Princess Diana Dead.' Oh, she died. Oh my God"... The media taking pictures of British citizens mourning the death of Princess Diana while the media were the ones that caused her death... "It's you, the press that killed her. You're the scum! You're here to pick the bones"... Mourners throwing thousands of flowers upon her funeral procession.

-Ron Kovic/ Born on the Fourth of July

Born on the Fourth of July: The biography of Ron Kovic. Paralyzed in the Vietnam war, he becomes an anti-war and

pro-human rights political activist after feeling betrayed by the country he fought for... Oliver Stone's film deeply moved my emotions. John Williams' music score was immensely poignant. The brilliant use of sound affected the images with a cacophony of audible memories and haunting emotions. The film's dark irony was accented by a naive crowd's loud applause.

Born on the Fourth of July: "Joining the Marines is better than working at the grocery store"... "Could I talk to you in private?"... Staying home for the prom... "I'm here to give you your Last Rites"... Good Catholic families ignoring and repressing the fact that Vietnam has devastated their beliefs in a good government. They don't want any reminders of that hurt around them. Even if it is in the form of their son... The idealistic, innocent America turned cynical after believing in our government's lies... "I'll never be home again"... The outrage of the girl he likes influences how he thinks and provokes him to take action for her... "No! I haven't made my point!"... "My dead penis"... "Who's gonna love me? Who's gonna love me"... Move out to Outcast City... "Fuck the States! The women never looked at me anyway"... A worm in the liquor... Deep in the red lights... Oliver Stone commentary: "It was the Texas skies that I fell in love with"... "An idealist who acted out... He felt the agony of defeat early in his life... Stone also never went to the prom and was deeply shy around girls... Cynics laughed at the stupidity of the world - I'm a cynic... He was a virgin in high school. He came from a strict Catholic upbringing and blue-collar roots... Destabilization... She's just an object of affection. He doesn't know her... The boredom of everyday life, the struggle of finding out what to do with one's life... A mental orgasm.

-Dr. Anthony Fauci

Fauci: "If we want to do what is best for the American public"... They were yelling "Fire Fauci" back during the 1980s during the AIDS epidemic... "It's time we have a revolution in this country"... "God help us"... "A lot of people think I'm the bad guy"... "I represent something very dangerous to some people, which is the truth"... "You didn't take any shit from anybody"... "This swamp creature!"... "My job is to do whatever I can to get us out of this outbreak"... "The Mecca of biomedical research"... "It was like entering a magical world"... "The idea of discovery"... "I was completely buried in my work"... "5 homosexual men had a strange pneumonia"... "This is a brand-new disease"... "They thought he was going to ruin his career"... "They rejected my article because they said it was too alarmist"... "No cause, no cure"... "AIDS, destroys the immune system"... "We strongly suspected that it was a virus"... "When you're used to being able to fix things and now you can't"... "It was horrible deaths"... "Post Trauma Stress Syndrome. That's what it is"... "That working hard"... "Someone who is funny and weird and very playful"... "I didn't sacrifice every professional opportunity for my family time"... "I was not going to every soccer match"... "They have isolated the virus that causes AIDS"... "Seeing Manhattan empty was shocking"... "A vaccine is in the works. But it's in a few years"... "What was your initial impression of President Trump?" -"Yikes"... "That's when things got complicated"... "You might have to tell someone something they might not want to hear"... "He was so much into your own world"... "I've been right a lot!"... "Scientists having to fact-check the president on the fly"... "I think we have to let the science guide us"... Ebola... "We've got an epidemic of fear in the United States"... "Speaking to a terrified American population"... "Fatal, rare 'gay disease'"... "Make us feel better about our fear"... "The fears are understandable, but they are not scientifically sound"... "These are people who are people"... "There is fair discrimination"... "Religious groups are saying that this is God's revenge"... "No one is safe from AIDS"... "AIDS remains the gay plague"... "People naturally want someone to blame"... "It's the China plague"... "If they can blame another group of people, they can absolve themselves of responsibility"... "I give advice according to the best scientific evidence"... "I just found him very honest, very trustworthy"... "2020 Sexiest Man Alive"... "With all this attention came a lot of criticism"... "You've got millions of people listening to you"... "We're going in the wrong direction. Clearly, we are not in control right now." -"Well, you heard it there first. Doctor Doom himself spreading more COVID panic and undermining Trump's agenda"... "Fire Fauci!"... "It's nothing personal. It's strictly business"... The personal attacks on Fauci: "What a complete disaster I was. That I didn't know what I was doing"... "That the country would just let us die"... "Tony Fauci was the enemy"... "I was in grief"... Using drugs to fight AIDS that haven't been approved by the government"... "We accused him of causing those deaths"... "I was the object of the anger"... "These something going on that I'm missing here"... "I knew that I was entering a hostile environment"... "The hostility didn't seem to phase him"... "I think you may be naïve in your understanding how you can get things done in Washington"... "That started a series of dialogues"... "Something wasn't happening quickly enough"... "The government's AIDS research program is a flop"... "They won't test any of these drugs that will keep people alive"... "Anthony Fauci, I piss on you!"... "I finally figured out what they wanted was to be part of the process"... "I was even having pushback from my own colleagues for allowing activists being involved in the clinical trials"... "You can beat them down with this constant harassment"... "Mistakes have been made on both sides"... "Because together we (scientists and activists) are a formidable force with a common goal"... "We were able to redesign clinical trials on people who are HIV"... "You have to put yourself in the position of the patient"... "These fucking dark web people are getting really, really bad. They're harassing Kris. Violent threats. They're harassing my daughters, which bothers me more than anything else"... "Most of them are just freaking cowards"... "They want to scare you off. They want you to back down"... "Give him space. Don't overwhelm him"... "Then he became a target"... "This is so beyond the beyond"... "You open up a letter and a puff of white smoke comes out. It's all over me"... "It's either a hoax, anthrax, or ricin and I'm freaking dead"... "It reduces my trust in humanity"... "Thank you, Dr. Fauci"... "I never thought for a

moment that I should resign"... "I haven't had a good night's sleep in quite a while"... "Another outbreak will occur"... "We're going to get through it"... "No one's giving up"... "It's called the AIDS cocktail"... "You have to take a break. You have to slow down"... "Dr. A. Fauci. Student. Researcher. Health Patriot"... "Unleash Fauci"... "This great humanitarian initiative"... He got a Presidential Medal of Freedom from President George W. Bush... The AIDS quilt... "Viruses have transformed our civilization."

-Pattie Boyd

Notes from *Wonderful Tonight: George Harrison, Eric Clapton, and Me* by Pattie Boyd with Penny Junor: "And as I discovered at Al-Anon, realizing that other people are going through exactly what you are is incredibly comforting and therapeutic. Secrets are not healthy"... "This is my truth, which may not necessarily be as others remember it"... "Also, he danced like a dream"... "Emotionally, I don't think he ever recovered"... "And with the terrible thing that had happened to him, she didn't have the heart or the courage to call it (the marriage) off"... "New Father"... "Crying all the way, and for the first few nights I was so disturbed I wet the bed. I felt so humiliated and ashamed. At ten or eleven I knew I was much too old to do such a thing"... "When I had my first period I thought I was going to die"... "My only ambition was to get out of Hurlingham Court and away from the dysfunctional family we had become"... "I am shattered. I prayed to God to help me. I feel numb. Conversation at dinner impossible"... "People wanted to experiment and have fun. And, to use the old cliché, make love not war. As long as you were young, beautiful, and creative, the world was your oyster. It was a golden age, an exciting time to be alive"... "I was still preoccupied with keeping my weight down and I had found a doctor in Harley Street who gave me some pills that speeded up my metabolism so I was thirsty but not hungry"... "I told her that George Harrison had asked me out and I'd turned him down"... "It would be such an adventure. You've got to go"... "Which made me realize I had to do something about Eric. We'd been going out together for about nine months and I didn't love him. He was very kind and sweet and gave me a lot of work, but that wasn't enough"... "I felt cruel, and I was worried about him"... "I kept finding clothes missing (stolen by fans)"... "Where I was lonely on my own"... "He was also happiest when he was being creative"... "As a child I thought I'd do anything to avoid divorce"... "But I was so happy and so much in love, I didn't care. Divorce didn't enter my head: we would be together and happy forever"... "Repeating your mantra, to make yourself feel calmer, more creative, focused, and more successful"... "I loved meditating and I found the effects remarkable: I really did feel more alert and energetic"... "Through meditation you could attain a natural high"... "I wondered if the dentist, who hadn't had any coffee, had given it to us hoping the evening might end in an orgy"... "We clung to each other, feeling surreal"... "It was as if I had never tasted, talked, seen, thought, or heard properly before. For the first time in my whole life I wasn't conscious of ego"... "We rented a house on Blue Jay Way"... "Haight-Ashbury was horrible – full of ghastly dropouts, bums, and spotty youths, all out of their brains"... "There was nothing remotely artistic or creative about those people: they were like alcoholics or any other kind of addict, and it turned George right off the whole drug culture"... "The unthinkable had happened. Brian had found them, believed in them, molded them, turned them into millionaires, and made them famous the world over"... "Much of the time he was lonely and depressed"... "There is no such thing as death, only in the physical sense"... "The real sadness for Brian, I think, was that when the Beatles stopped touring, they no longer needed him so much"... "Someone cut off a chunk of Ringo's hair"... "The stress brought him out in hives"... "He had plenty of other people to look after, but the Beatles were becoming independent"... "But when I gave up modeling I lost an important part of my identity, my feeling of self-worth, my independence, and my self-confidence"... "She (Prudence Farrow) was trying to reach God faster than anyone else"... "And there were other women. That really hurt"... "Krishna figure, a spiritual being with lots of concubines"... "It was as though he (John) no longer needed the Beatles or any of his friends"... "George's moods, I think, had much to do with what was going on between the Beatles. After Brian Epstein's death they were like orphans, so underlying tensions and resentments began to surface. George felt excluded: John and Paul had always been the songwriters and he had had to fight to get any of his songs onto an album. As he became older and more confident about his talent, he recognized how unfair this was, but they were powerful characters"... "He kept his hurt, frustration, anger, or whatever it was, to himself"... "85 percent at that time – and because of an issue over renegotiating their contract with EMI, they suddenly had a mountain of money. If they didn't invest it, it would go to the tax man. Apple was launched in New York a couple of months after we came back from India"... "Paul hadn't invited any of the Beatles (to his wedding), perhaps because feeling among them was so bad at that point"... "John was wrapped up in her. But Yoko aside, they were angry with each other and beginning to go in different directions creatively"... "George was working very hard, things were not going well with the Beatles, and he was bringing home bad vibes"... "When he wasn't recording he would be at the Apple offices, which I knew were full of pretty girls – and George was sexy, good-looking, witty, and famous, an irresistible combination"... "This one took my photography to a new level"... "But I was aware that he found me attractive – and I enjoyed the attention he paid me. It was hard not to be flattered when I caught him staring at me"... "I had no idea you felt that way. It was the most passionate letter anyone had ever written to me and it put our relationship on a different footing. It made the flirtation all the more exciting and dangerous. But as far as I was concerned it was just flirtation"... "He had just come back from Miami and had a pair of bellbottom trousers for me – hence the track 'Bell Bottom Blues'"... "Eric took me there because he wanted me to listen to a song he had written. He switched on the tape machine, turned up the volume, and played me the most powerful, moving song I had ever heard. It was 'Layla' – about a man who falls hopelessly in love with a woman who loves him but is unavailable"... "But the song got the better of me, with the realization that I had inspired such passion and such

creativity. I could resist no longer”... “He came over to us and said, ‘What’s going on?’ To my complete horror, Eric said, ‘I have to tell you, man, that I’m in love with your wife’”... “I have to have you in my life”... “He did as he had threatened. He took the heroin and quickly became addicted”... “He destroyed her pride, her self-esteem, and her confidence – which were already fragile”... “They had turned up at the offices with all the other lost souls and wannabes, and George had invited them to Friar Park”... “George developed an interesting and extreme relationship with it (cocaine)”... “He had embraced spirituality with an obsessive intensity, yet he wanted to experience everything he had missed by becoming famous so young”... “Come on, he’s got to be able to go to the publ. How else does he enjoy himself?”... “So we stayed in that great house and became gradually detached from reality”... “I felt crushed. He had taken away my one pleasure, the one thing that made me feel I had done something worthwhile with my day, something creative – which, since I was surrounded by musicians all the time, was an important part of my self-esteem”... “There is no doubt that he was going through a difficult time. Having had such a structured lie as a Beatle, he was on his own and uncertain of what the future might hold”... “Dear Layla”... “Am I ugly, am I too weak, too strong, do you know why? If you want me, take me, I am yours. If you don’t want me, please break the spell that binds me. To cage a wild animals is a sin, to tame him is divine. My love is yours”... “From a gold spoon he wore around his neck”... “All the emotion I had felt for him when he disappeared from my life welled up inside me”... “But after that night I think he felt he could be as blatant as he liked in his pursuit of other women”... “I was desperately hurt: another one of my friends was sleeping with George”... “I have lived in fear of being abandoned”... “The final straw was his affair with Maureen Starr, Ringo’s wife”... “Cocaine was a seductive drug because it made you feel euphoric and good about yourself. It took away your inhibitions and made even the shyest, most insecure person feel confident – usually over-confident. And we had so much energy – everyone would talk nonsense for twice as long, and drink twice as much because the cocaine made you feel sober. Every pleasure was intensely heightened and prolonged. Like everything, done in moderation it was fine. Done to excess, it was not. George used coke excessively and I think it changed him”... “Cocaine was different and I think it froze George’s emotions and hardened his heart”... “Have you ever thought about why your wife doesn’t come home at night? It’s because she’s here!” And Ringo flew into a rage”... “When I finally arrived George said, ‘Let’s have a divorce this year’”... “On our wedding anniversary, I wrote in my diary: ‘Wedding anniversary. Joke!’”... “Or would I choose George, my husband, whom I had loved but who had been cold and indifferent toward me for so long that I could barely remember the last time he’d shown me any affection or told me he loved me?”... “Peter knew about George’s infidelity, the chanting and everything else”... “He had come over to see what we were up to. And the sad thing was, I realized later, he (George) wasn’t doing anything on Christmas Day and must have been lonely”... “His job was to keep Eric happy, but that didn’t extend to me”... “We talked about how beautifully simple his lyrics were, each song telling a story about everyday happenings. Eric had been thinking of writing something similar and had already worked on some music for it. Suddenly, as I was flinging dressed on and off, inspiration struck”... “Do I look all right?”... “And I think the depressions they suffered were to do with the creative process – the need that all creative people have to delve deep inside themselves to bring to the surface whatever they are creating”... “It was like hitching a ride on a shooting star: a fantastic experience that caused immense pain, but I’m glad I had it”... “Both men were so creative that I think there were times when they had to retreat from the world and listen to what was going on in their heads. The creative process never stopped”... “And I had built him up so much in my imagination that in the flesh he could never have lived up to my idealized image”... “I began to feel miserable and to miss George”... “We behaved like mischievous children; Roger was the headmaster, trying to keep everything under control”... “Often I would fly home and leave him to get on with it, but I knew what was happening my absence”... “It was as though the excitement had been in the chase, and once the quarry had fallen, he no longer valued it”... “I had given up George for this”... “I was so wounded”... “We really need a bit of a break”... “He was wonderful: the most exciting, creative, talented, interesting person – and I was in love with him. But in the bottom of my heart I knew this wasn’t right. On reflection I see that being in love with him was like a kind of addiction. If he was happy and pleased with me, I was happy too, but I was deeply affected every time he went into one of his dark moods. My mood reflected his, which wasn’t healthy”... “And then one of the roadies told me that Jenny McLean had checked into the hotel in New Orleans. Eric and I hadn’t even been married a week”... “how could I expect him to resist all those girls fawning over him, telling him how great he was, and taking their clothes off for him?”... “When they were one-night stands, they didn’t threaten our marriage and I could cope”... “One ulcer of which was at the point of exploding into his pancreas. They doctors reckoned he was forty-five minutes from death”... “You’re not drunk, Eric, you’re an alcoholic”... “*I could talk about all the things I had been keeping so painfully to myself. Their experiences, feelings, dreads, and fears were exactly like me – they might have been describing my life. We had all been keeping the same secret, living the same life, and we had thought we were the only ones*”... “I felt he was angry – angry that he couldn’t do the one thing he enjoyed in life, which was have a drink”... “So I put on a pretty dress”... “He had never been good at expressing himself verbally, but now he didn’t want to talk at all. He’d lost his sense of fun. The practical jokes, mad antics, and laughter had gone. It was as though he had lost his personality”... “I had lost more than my looks: I had lost the ‘me’ in me, my sense of identity. I didn’t know who I was anymore”... “I had watched my sisters and my friends have their babies; it seemed so unfair that I couldn’t”... “Will was so easy to be with – there was no unpleasantness, no pressure, no black moods, just fun, and I felt safe with him”... “I saw myself in that Edvard Munch painting *The Scream*”... “They were called Ecstasy and had been created for therapists to give to couples who needed help in resurrecting their lost intimacy”... “A feeling of deliciousness came over me. I could do anything!”... “The honeymoon period was soon over”... “The loneliness always set in several days before he left the

house"... "It always took him at least ten days to readjust to the normal routine. On tour he was used to having everything done for him"... "Which chipped another notch in my self-esteem"... "But I didn't want to trail around, watching women throw themselves at Eric"... "I could put up with infidelity if it was purely physical... Emotion was a different matter"... "She was pregnant. I felt panic, fear, uncertainty, terror of what might happen next. What would I do? How would I cope?"... "But my brain was shutting down. I was in shock. I needed space to digest what I had heard. I had been trying to have a baby for twenty-one years, and this woman had slept with my husband once or twice and was carrying his child. I thought my heart was about to disintegrate"... "It was the final nail in the coffin of my marriage"... "I told Eric I didn't want to share a bed with him anymore – I couldn't sleep with him again"... "He had his creativity – his work, his recording, his traveling – and I had nothing. I was taking photographs but I had little else. My identity, my sense of self, was dependent on him"... "Everyone seemed to be pregnant except me"... "It was Eric, wanting me to know that he was the proud father of a son, Conor. He was so excited. He had watched the baby being born, and went on and on about how moving, how marvelous, how miraculous it had been. His enthusiasm was unbridled."... "I was overwhelmed with grief and pain. For the first time I let go and cried uncontrollably"... "Bill Wyman had started going out when he was forty-seven and she fourteen"... "I went back to England feeling much stronger but still uncertain of the future"... "Knowing that they were seeing with monsters waiting to devour me. It was the only way I could survive"... "He was caught between ecstasy that Conor's birth had brought him and the agony of losing me"... "Eventually I knew I had to get out for his sake as well as mine. I told him I couldn't do it any longer. We had to divorce. He still thought we could work it out, but I was too sad, too defeated"... "He accused me of not being a proper wife because I wouldn't sleep with him"... "And I didn't have the strength to cope with that"... "Inside I was a wreck"... "I can't cope with life"... "It was a wake-up call"... "Now I was afraid of everything"... "My confidence was shot"... "I had nothing in common with their world of husbands and children"... "I thought alcohol might dull the pain, and cocaine ease the depression, but all they did was make matters worse"... "I was having a breakdown. I was grieving – not just over the loss of my marriage to Eric, but finally, after all these years, the loss of my marriage to George"... "That made me realize nothing had fundamentally changed, that we still loved each other. It was warming and lovely to know that the feeling was still there. Eric and I were playmates, but George and I were soul mates, and I had let something special go without analyzing what was happening between us. Now, though, I had all the time in the world to think about what I had lost"... "I amounted to nothing. I felt empty, useless. I felt as though I had been in a dream all these years and had achieved nothing. I was looking at my life from their perspective and all I could see was someone who was sad, crushed, and low. Every thought was negative"... "The antidote was to keep busy and trying to find a way to earn a living"... "He helped me rediscover my self-esteem"... "I dreamed about going back to Eric"... "I felt flattered, but every week the newspapers had published photographs of him with some beautiful young girl on his arm"... "Daughter? What daughter? Christ, Eric, how many more children do you have?" It was another twist of the knife and I didn't know whether to laugh or cry"... "While he had been declaring undying love for me and pleading with me to go back to him, he had been paying Yvonne maintenance for the last six years"... "About the nature of creativity"... "I hadn't seen much of Dhani while he was growing up but he was uncannily like George when I'd first known him"... "He was a schizophrenic in his thirties with a thing about the Beatles. It was horribly reminiscent of what had happened to John Lennon"... "I had heard about John's death from Eric. He and I had been arguing and had spent the night in separate rooms"... "I shut my eyes and waited for 'the great medicine, the visionary vine' to take effect"... "However, my relationship with Rod had run its course"... "One of the friends to whom Rod introduced me was a photographic agent who saw my work and wanted to take me on. I hadn't known, until his interest prompted me to look through my old boxes, quite how many photographs I had going back to the sixties"... "but it was also nerve-racking to put myself on the line like that, offering my work for public scrutiny and judgment"... "It was a fantastic boost to my confidence, both as a photography and as a person"... "Drink, drugs, and depression claimed many others, who died too young"... "I wish I'd known I didn't have to be a doormat and allow both husbands to be so flagrantly faithless"... "Through self-knowledge I have learned self-acceptance"... "Now I feel I can be myself"... "They see the fantasy, and it's the fantasy they admire and fall in love with: the photograph."

-Frederick Douglass

"If there is no struggle, there is no progress." -Frederick Douglass.

-Harriett Tubman

Harriet: "You belong to me. And your babies belong to me"... "You the devil!"... "Negro for Sale: a 'fine-looking' negro girl for sale"... "The North Star will guide you"... "You think about jumping? Suicide's a sin against God, and against those that own you, too"... "I'm gonna be free or die"... "Or would you prefer to walk alone into freedom?" "I walk with the Lord"... "You have made it 100 miles to freedom"... "Would you like to pick a new name to mark your freedom?"... "Harriet Tubman"... "He cracked my head open when I was 13"... "Possible brain damage"... Her body covered in scars... "You got lucky, Harriet"... "Runaways don't go south"... "Our stature in this community is measured in slaves"... "I took another wife"... "She's carrying our child"... "Nigger tales!"... Black runaway slave trackers... "She's talkin' to God"... "Freedom-seeking slaves"... "God showed me the way"... "You say God's voice guides you"... "If only I could understand what it means"... "\$125 reward for 'Moses'"... The Underground Railroad... "We do what we gotta to stay sane"... "They say he's as black as the night!"... "Moses is an abolitionist in blackface"... The Fugitive Slave Act... Slave hunters... She had to escape to Canada... "You may be right. A civil war

may be our only hope"... "Girls raped before their first blood"... "Until this monster called slavery is dead"... "Mama, I ain't no angel takin' you to heaven. It's Minty"... "I'm Moses, the slave stealer"... "We're going through hard times like the rest of you"... "This diabolical nigger"... "We need to burn her at the stake like Joan of Arc!"... "Dying for a lost cause and a vile and wicked ideal. For the sin of slavery!"... "God don't mean for people to own people. Our time is near."

-Bayard Rustin

Rustin: Civil Rights Activist Bayard Rustin... "1954. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled segregation unconstitutional"... "Things need to change"... "Do this, Martin. Own your power"... "We thank you for your many years of service"... "You're irrelevant. I've been called worse"... "Last time I checked, we were illegal"... "I had an idea"... "We're going to put together the largest peaceful protest in the history of this nation"... "He gets it!"... "Teach me how to not be afraid"... "I am railing at Jim for being arrogant and ill-informed"... "We face a moral crisis in the United States"... "He needs you to figure out what's next"... "This new generation is restless and angry"... "If I move, this child will never know there is an injustice taking place"... "He'll do what he's always done: champion legislation that is destined to fail"... "You once said that the time is always right to do right"... "We intend to go there by the hundreds of thousands"... "We've got to seize the moment"... "It makes you want to believe"... "It's called being strategic"... "You have to understand our disappoint"... "This march is being built by the Communist Party"... "I cared about him"... "40 freedom trains"... "And that is why I would never send me on my way"... "We have moved on"... "And congressmen are telling their female staff to stay home"... "Because sound is how you turn a crowd into an audience"... "To the achievement of social peace through social justice"... "I will march and write letters. I will demonstrate and I will vote"... "You are a sick man and you need to stop following me"... "He's a convicted homosexual"... "We do the work of our oppressors by oppressing ourselves"... "What they really want to destroy is all of us coming together and demanding this country change"... "Then they are going to have to fire me because I will not resign"... At first, only 75 people have shown up for the march... "My father used to ask me, 'Have you made yourself useful today?'"

-Emmett and Mamie Till

Till: "They have a different set of rules for colored people down there"... "You look like a movie star!"... He innocently and humorously whistled at a white woman for looking like a "movie star"... "You don't have to do this. He's just a young boy"... "We're just going to teach him a lesson"... "Is this the right nigger?"... "Bo's body was found in a river"... "I'm so sorry, Mamie. He's dead"... "I just need Bo's body brought back here"... Too slow... "I need to prepare you."—"Remove the sheet"... "The whole world has to see what has happened to my son"... "They have to see it for themselves"... "His teeth are gone"... "And now I want America to bear witness!"... "Will Mississippi ignore Emmett Till's murder?"... Many people couldn't believe that something like this could happen to a child"... "It could be anyone of us"... "Open casket funeral for slain Chicago boy"... "That photo changed our lives"... "Your story speaks to the urgency of negro rights more than anything this country has ever heard"... "Mamie, don't let them get to you"... "He was my only child!"... "No one has spoken against a white man and lived"... "I believe that that Mamie and the NAACP plotted this whole thing. That boy's alive out there somewhere"... "He was spoiled and puffed"... "This nigger man came into the store"... The white woman lied on the stand about what Emmitt did to her... "I'm ready to leave Mississippi right now. I already know what the verdict will be"... "Not guilty." No justice in Mississippi.

-Stormy Daniels

Stormy: "People will believe what they want to believe no matter what"... "I was finally getting recognition"... "I was basically white trash"... "I bought my house. I bought my boobs"... "She wanted to be a director"... "He's used to getting his way"... "He told me that I reminded him of his daughter"... "It was important to him to be surrounded by beautiful younger women"... "I don't mean to scare you, but you are now the whole Republican Party's problem. And they like to make their problems go away"... "Some of Donald Trump's followers are really sick"... "You don't change someone you love"... "I made \$2,200 in one night in \$1 bills"... "You're entitled to be feeling everything that you're feeling. You're hurt. You're jealous. You're sad"... "A woman not afraid to fight back against the president of the United States. She was liberated. And she didn't seem scared of him"... "I'm a liberal hero"... "The twisted morality of the left never ceases to amaze me"... "I'm a registered Republican"... "I go both ways"... "Fox News tries to spin Trump's affair with Stormy Daniels as good news"... "She has become this symbol of the resistance"... "I'm not that special"... "I just wanted to stand up for myself"... "You're standing up to a bully. That's exactly what's happening"... "Why don't you call Donald Trump the creepy porn president?"... "I do love you, but I can't do this with you. You need a stronger person than I"... "You're on this fucking crusade"... "Glen would just kind of unravel"... "I was heading down a path where I should still be in a trailer park and should never have seen or done anything"... "Stormy Daniels will be performing in Columbus, Ohio"... "I know that it ripped my family apart"... "I don't know what else to say"... "Everything was for nothing"... "But mostly I broke his heart"... "I didn't say no because I was nine years old again (when she was sexually abused by a neighbor)"... President Donald Trump: "Great, now I can go after Horseface and her 3rd rate lawyer"... "Trump supporters took great pleasure in her defeat"... "Stormy's directing jobs dried up"... "I didn't believe it was going to be normal again, and I hit rock bottom"... "I

have some anger issues"... "I hope you die bitch"... "Ok whore... you will die and be forgotten"... "Someone leaked our address again"... "She deserves to be compensated"... "Nobody cares what the truth is anymore"... "You're just a modern day whore saint"... *"Even if you were raped, you should have kept your mouth shut for the greater good"*... "Kill yourself"... "You just signed your death warrant"... "YOU'RE GOING TO DIE BITCH!"... "I compare them to suicide bombers. They legitimately believe that what they are doing is *right*"... "The lawsuits are just trying to bleed her dry"... "She told the truth and she paid the price for that"... "She made an enemy of the most powerful man on the planet. And she didn't cower"... "My soul is so tired"... "I am out of fucks. And I won't give up because I'm telling the truth. And I kinda don't even know if it matters anymore."

-Reality Winner

Winner: Reality Winner... (Based on Reality)... "Either someone told you I was a traitor, or I was trying to be a hero"... "I just wanted to let you know that your government was lying to you. So I tried to tell you"... Emilia Jones is so freaking amazing. She shows wisdom beyond her years... "So, if you were married, then you could finally bone"... "We just watched a bunch of people die"... "Everyone should have access to the truth"... "I think you should go out with me"... "I'm not a normal girl"... "Your mom and I are separating"... "She thinks of me as another child that she has to take care of"... "You promised." -"And you also promised that you'd stand by him forever"... "Our starting salary is \$150,000"... "Did you even love me?!"... "I understand that you're disappointed"... "There's a lot of premature conclusions being drawn around all of this Russia stuff, and there's not a lot of hard evidence to back it up." -"The problem is that Democrats are so insane with the conspiracy theories that they embrace with no evidence"... Being forced to listen/ watch Fox News all through your work day at the NSA!... "So, the government 100% knew the Russians hacked our voting systems days before the election. Yet, they're telling everyone they have no proof"... "The proof is on my computer. It's on everyone's computers. And everyone is just going along with that. What the fuck?"... "I took an oath that said I have to protect the Constitution and obey the orders of the President of the United States of America. But what if the information is about the President and how he got elected?"... "I'm scared"... And she sneaks the Top Secret Russia documents out in her pantyhose... She's punk rock... "We think you may have made a mistake"... "It made its way to a publication, including one that you've read at work according to your computer history"... "Maybe finding out that we're being lied to just isn't a scandal anymore"... "In America, don't discount the effect of being white and blonde"... *"You know when you walk into a room and you just feel like there's already a whole narrative about who you are? And nothing you do or say could possibly change that because there's some agenda that's much, much bigger than you?"*... *"Ever written anything you wouldn't want people taking out of context?"*... "And how could I, of all people, not have known that they'd be listening?"... "Sometimes, they put prisoners on planes and shuttle them around the country for weeks, just to break them down. It's like waterboarding with altitude"... "They're not going to let me explain why I did it. The document's still classified"... "I've never seen you not wanting to fight something"... "If you come from powerful connections in this country, you're off the hook"... "Why is the government so terrified about us finding out the truth and what must they be hiding?"... "What can I say? I like to win"... "We realized that maybe our values were more different than we thought"... "Maybe I was just wired differently"... Seeing your ex-boyfriend's hand with a wedding band on his ring finger.

Reality: She tucked the report into the pantyhose underneath her dress and walked out of her office at the Fort Gordon army base in Georgia before the document became the basis of an article published on the Intercept news site... Five years for disclosing the actions of America's enemies. Trump has received zero years for giving those same enemies our biggest secrets... FBI agents who play "good cop" who "just want to talk"... "She doesn't know what's going on"... Nervous banter... "Sorry, I have a sense of humor"... All slow-burn... "I think of it as an *opportunity* to tell the truth"... "It looked like a piece of history"... "You can't turn on the TV without getting pissed off"... "Is this a room?"... "I folded it in half in my pantyhose"... "I've filed formal complaints about them having FOX News on, like, all the time"... A slow burn... What it feels like to have your world collapse on you... "We are more concerned about the leak rather than that the Russians attacked our democracy!"... "I knew it was secret. But I also knew I had pledged my service to the American people." -Reality Winner.

-Sally Ride

Sally: "America's first woman astronaut will be launched into space"... "I think it's time for women in this country that they can do any job that they want to do"... "I think all the kids dreamed of being astronauts at one point"... "I loved science"... "The space program was all male"... "Most Americans are repelled by the mere notion of homosexuality. 2 out of 3 Americans look upon homosexuals with disgust, discomfort, or fear"... "And it says in the Old Testament that it's an abomination against God"... "It's not American. I think they should be shot if you ask me!"... "They didn't learn to express their emotions"... "The baked-in sexism of the time"... "The Soviets had the first woman in space in 1963"... Billy Jean King: "When I came out, I lost every endorsement overnight"... "Look what happened to Billy Jean"... "I'm aware that this (space launch) isn't without risks. I could die"... "She was aware that anything could happen"... She rode The Challenger... "See your planet as a planet is an amazing feeling"... "It really changed her to see there were no borders around countries"... "It took a lot out of her"... "We weren't like life partners. We were more like roommates"... "There had been an accident"... Judy (Sally's rival) was on the Challenger when it exploded... "Sally was heartbroken"... "Sally asked the tough questions to NASA leadership"... "It broke Sally's heart because NASA wasn't quite what she thought it was. That was the beginning of the end for her"... "Did

you know that Sally was gay?”... “We wanted to shift the culture about women and STEM”... “The fear-factor of being gay”... “We needed to find a better balance between what I needed and what she needed”... “He thinks I have cancer. Pancreatic cancer”... “She died seventeen months after the diagnosis.”