

SUNBEAMS

The supreme happiness of life is the conviction that we are loved — loved for ourselves, or rather, loved in spite of ourselves.

Victor Hugo

Life in Lubbock, Texas, taught me two things: One is that God loves you and you're going to burn in hell. The other is that sex is the most awful, filthy thing on earth and you should save it for someone you love.

Butch Hancock

Love's a fire, but whether it's going to warm your heart or burn down your house, you never can tell.

Joan Crawford

We praise Him, we bless Him, we adore Him, we glorify Him, and we wonder who is that baritone across the aisle and that pretty woman on our right who smells of apple blossoms. . . . We amend our prayers for the spiritual life with the hope that it will not be too spiritual.

John Cheever

The Virgin Mary was an unwed teenage mother.

Source unknown

In my experience, there is only one motivation, and that is desire. No reasons or principles contain it or stand against it.

Jane Smiley

I want to do with you what the spring does with the cherry trees.

Pablo Neruda

Marriage is not a love affair. A love affair has to do with immediate personal satisfaction. Marriage is an ordeal; it means yielding, time and again. That's why it's a sacrament: you give up your personal simplicity to participate. And you are not giving to the other person; you are giving to the relationship. Because you are not giving to the other person, it is not impoverishing — it is life-building, life-fostering, enriching.

Joseph Campbell

That is happiness: to be dissolved into something complete and great.

Willa Cather

Seven years would be insufficient to make some people acquainted with each other, and seven days are more than enough for others.

Jane Austen

By all means marry: if you get a good wife, you'll become happy; if you get a bad one, you'll become a philosopher.

Socrates

Women like silent men. They think they're listening.

Marcel Archard

Those who marry God can become domesticated too — it's just as hum-drum a marriage as all the others. . . . It was God's taste to be worshiped and their taste to worship, but only at stated hours, like a suburban embrace on a Saturday night.

Graham Greene

My wife and I tried two to three times in the last forty years to have breakfast together, but it was so disagreeable that we had to stop.

Winston Churchill

My friends tell me I have an intimacy problem. But they don't really know me.

Garry Shandling

Wasn't marriage, like life, unstimulating and unprofitable and somewhat empty when too well-ordered and protected and guarded. Wasn't it finer, more splendid, more nourishing when it was, like life itself, a mixture of the sordid and the magnificent; of mud and stars; of earth and flowers; of love and hate and laughter and tears and ugliness and beauty and hurt.

Edna Ferber

If love be not in the house, there is nothing.

Ezra Pound

I'm recording our history now on the bedroom wall, / And when we leave the landlord will come and paint over it all.

Ani DiFranco

Despite his evident love of children, Hans Christian Andersen never married. Late in life his health declined rapidly; first he developed chronic bronchitis, then the more serious, and ultimately fatal, liver cancer. Unable to care for himself, he moved into the house of some friends near Copenhagen, where he could see the ocean from his room. One morning he quietly finished his tea, and was found a few minutes later in his bed, dead. In his hands was a farewell letter written forty-five years earlier by the only woman he had ever loved.

Bartlett's Book of Anecdotes

One regret, dear world, that I am determined not to have when I am lying on my deathbed is that I did not kiss you enough.

Hafiz

Sunbeams are welcome and may be sent to The Sun, 107 North Roberson Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27516. We're sorry, but we're unable to respond personally to your suggestions.