

SUNBEAMS

The individual has always had to struggle to keep from being overwhelmed by the tribe. If you try it, you will be lonely often, and sometimes frightened. But no price is too high to pay for the privilege of owning yourself.

Friedrich Nietzsche

You refuse to own yourself, you permit others to do it for you.

Margaret Atwood

Henry Thoreau was languishing in jail after he had refused to pay the Massachusetts poll tax in 1843 [to protest the Mexican-American War]. Ralph Waldo Emerson came to visit him and asked him why he was there. "Waldo, why are you *not* here?" said Thoreau.

Bartlett's Book of Anecdotes

The enthusiastic, to those who are not, are always something of a trial.

Alban Goodier

Not all forms of commitment . . . are equally healthy. The grand inquisitors of the medieval Catholic Church were utterly dedicated to their "holy" work, and Hitler and many of his associates were fanatically committed to their Nazi doctrines.

Albert Ellis

"Be yourself" is about the worst advice you can give some people.

Tom Masson

El Tornillo walks the streets of Melo. People in town think he's crazy. He carries a mirror in his hand and he looks at himself with furrowed brow. He doesn't take his eyes off the mirror. "What are you doing, Tornillo?" "I'm here," he says, "keeping watch on the enemy."

Eduardo Galeano

I am not eccentric. It's just that I am more alive than most people. I am an unpopular electric eel set in a pond of goldfish.

Dame Edith Sitwell

I should love to satisfy all, if I possibly can; but in trying to satisfy all, I may be able to satisfy none. I have, therefore, arrived at the conclusion that the best course is to satisfy one's own conscience and leave the world to form its own judgment, favorable or otherwise.

Mohandas K. Gandhi

The thing that makes you exceptional, if you are at all, is inevitably that which must also make you lonely.

Lorraine Hansberry

You said, "They're harmless dreamers and they're loved by the people." "What," I asked you, "is harmless about a dreamer, and what," I asked you, "is harmless about the love of the people? Revolution only needs good dreamers who remember their dreams."

Tennessee Williams

The only kinds of fights worth fighting are those you're going to lose, because somebody has to fight them and lose and lose and lose until someday, somebody who believes as you do wins.

I.F. Stone

I am more afraid of an army of one hundred sheep led by a lion than of an army of one hundred lions led by a sheep.

Charles Maurice de Talleyrand-Périgord

The world is like a ride in an amusement park. You think it's real because that's how powerful our minds are. The ride goes up and down, round and round; it has thrills and chills; it's brightly colored, loud, and fun, for a while. Some people have been on the ride for a long time, and they begin to question, "Is this real, or is this just a ride?" And other people remember. They come back to us and say, "Hey don't worry; don't be afraid, ever, because this is just a ride." We kill those people.

Bill Hicks

When a true genius appears in the world, you may know him by this sign: that all the dunces are in confederacy against him.

Jonathan Swift

I was part of that strange race of people aptly described as spending their lives doing things they detest to make money they don't want to buy things they don't need to impress people they dislike.

Emile Henry Gauvreau

Don't try to figure out what other people want to hear from you; figure out what you have to say. It's the one and only thing you have to offer.

Barbara Kingsolver

If it is not right, do not do it; if it is not true, do not say it.

Marcus Aurelius

Every single one of us can do things that no one else can do — can love things that no one else can love. We are like violins. We can be used for doorstops, or we can make music. You know what to do.

Barbara Sher

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.