

# 30 Heart-Stopping Quotes from the World's Most Inspiring People

By [Bill Murphy Jr. of Inc.](#)

The start of a [new week](#) or a [new month](#)—heck, a new *anything*—brings with it an opportunity. You can either keep doing what you've done in the past (whether it's worked well or not). Or you can take stock, take charge, and [try something new](#).

If you've ever found yourself in a rut, chances are [you could use a little bit of inspiration](#). So start your day by reading and reflecting on some great pieces of advice like the ones below. They're among the most inspiring things anyone has ever said.

1. "Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all."  
—Helen Keller
2. "Do what you can, where you are, with what you have."  
—Teddy Roosevelt
3. "You take your life in your own hands, and what happens? A terrible thing, no one to blame."  
—Erica Jong
4. "It's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."  
—Abraham Lincoln
5. "You can't [use up creativity](#). The more you use, the more you have."  
—Maya Angelou
6. "The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why."  
—Mark Twain
7. "Whether you think you can or you think you can't, you're right."  
—Henry Ford
8. "There are no traffic jams along the extra mile."  
—Roger Staubach
9. "No one can make you feel inferior without your consent."  
—Eleanor Roosevelt
10. "There is only one way to avoid criticism: do nothing, say nothing, and be nothing."  
—Aristotle
11. "Remember that not getting what you want is sometimes a wonderful stroke of luck."  
—The Dalai Lama
12. "Winning isn't everything, but [wanting to win](#) is."  
—Vince Lombardi
13. "The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now."  
—Chinese Proverb

14. "I hated every minute of training, but I said, 'Don't quit. Suffer now and live the rest of your life as a champion.'"  
—Muhammad Ali
15. "Life is 10% what happens to me and 90% of [how I react to it](#)."  
—Charles Swindoll
16. "It is never too late to be what you might have been."  
—George Eliot
17. "Every strike brings me closer to the next home run."  
—Babe Ruth
18. "Retirement planning is like life insurance. It should be viewed as nothing more than a hedge against the absolute worst-case scenario."  
—Tim Ferriss
19. "Instead of wondering when your next vacation is, maybe you should set up a life you don't need to escape from."  
—Seth Godin
20. "A person who never made a mistake never tried anything new."  
—Albert Einstein
21. "I am not a product of my circumstances. I am a product of my decisions."  
—Stephen Covey
22. "The secret to success is constancy of purpose."  
—Benjamin Disraeli
23. "If you want to lift yourself up, lift up someone else."  
—Booker T. Washington
24. "Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined."  
—Henry David Thoreau
25. "One man with courage makes a majority."  
—Andrew Jackson
26. "When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have [a single bit of talent](#) left and could say, I used everything you gave me."  
—Erma Bombeck
27. "The best way to predict the future is to create it."  
—Dr. Forrest C. Shaklee
28. "Look at a day when you are supremely satisfied at the end. It's not a day when you lounge around doing nothing; it's a day you've had everything to do and you've done it."  
—Margaret Thatcher
29. "Champions keep playing until they get it right."  
—Billie Jean King

30. "It is not what you do for your children, but what you have taught them to do for themselves, that will make them successful human beings."  
—Ann Landers