**Each excerpt below is color-coded for your convenience:**

**inspiring excerpts, interesting excerpts, and funny excerpts!**

**Beauty**

**Let your adornment be the inner self**

**with the lasting beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit,**

**which is very precious in God’s sight.**

***(1 Peter 3:4)***

**The beauty of the American founding was not that it provided a detailed road map that could predict the minutiae of the future in glorious perpetuity, but that it laid out for all people a set of timeless and universal ideals. Among those ideals are that “all men are created equal,” and that they “are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights”; that legitimate power derives “from the consent of the governed”; and that if any such government is seized or corrupted by tyrants, “it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it.” At times, the United States has failed disastrously to live up to these principles. But that an ideal has been violated in no way undermines its value. *(Clarles Cooke, in NationalReview.com)***

**We delight in the beauty of the butterfly, but rarely admit the changes it has gone through to achieve that beauty. *(Maya Angelou)***

**Thank goodness no one threw away this beautiful antique ball of dust! The beauty of “beauty” is that anything can be beautiful. *(Todd Siler, in Truizms)***

**That is the ugliest thing I’ve ever seen! Not to me! The beauty of “beauty” is that anything can be beautiful. *(Todd Siler, in Truizms)***

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**The best part of beauty is that which no picture can express. *(Francis Bacon)***

**There is no excellent beauty that hath not some strangeness in the proportion. *(Francis Bacon, philosopher)***

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**What could be more beautiful than a dear old lady growing wise with age? Every age can be enchanting, provided you live within it. *(Brigitte Bardot)***

**Halle Berry says that it’s not easy being gorgeous. “Being thought of as a beautiful woman has spared me nothing in life,” the actress said in London on Monday. “No heartache, no trouble. Love has been difficult. Beauty is essentially meaningless, and it is always transitory,” she said. *(Rocky Mountain News, August 3, 2004)***

**The beauty of a blanket of snow is best appreciated by people with short driveways. *(Safe Driver)***

**Blessed are the Beauticians -- they bring out the beauty in others! *(Dr. Delia Sellers, in Abundant Living magazine)***

**We are cups, constantly and quietly being filled. The trick is knowing how to tip ourselves over and let the beautiful stuff out. *(Ray Bradbury)***

**Men and women respond to art and natural beauty differently, using different parts of their brains, a new study says. When standing at the edge of the Grand Canyon, or in front of Michelangelo’s Pieta, men use the parietal region of only the right side of their brain to judge and appreciate what they’re seeing, researchers at Spain’s University of Beleares found. Brain studies showed that men make a mental map of beautiful scenes, calculating proportions and spatial relations. Women, on the other hand, use the parietal lobes on both sides of their brain, indicating that they’re using words to categorize and identify specific aspects of the image. These differences probably reflect evolutionary adaptations to the roles that men and women played in early hunter-gatherer societies, study author Camilo Cela-Conde tells Wired.com. “In current hunger-gatherer groups, men are in charge of hunting; meanwhile women collect,” he says. These functions, he says, probably explain why men are generally better at orienting themselves in space, while women focus more on particular objects. *(The Week magazine, March 13, 2009)***

**Those who dwell among the beauties and mysteries of the earth are never alone or weary of life. *(Rachel Carson)***

**In an American-history discussion group, our professor was trying to explain how society’s ideal of beauty changes with time. “For example,” he said, “take the 1921 Miss America. She stood five feet, one inch tall, weighed 108 pounds and had measurements of 30-25-32. How do you think she’d do in today’s version of the contest?” The class fell silent for a moment. Then one student piped up, “Not very well.” “Why is that?” asked the professor. “For one thing,” the student pointed out, “she’d be way too old.” *(Kevin Eiene, in Reader’s Digest)***

**I have not much patience with a thing of beauty that must be explained to be understood. If it does need added interpretation by someone other than the creator, then I question whether it has fulfilled its purpose. *(Charlie Chaplin, in Ladies' Home Journal)***

**Beauty is quite different from charm. Beauty is what you notice in a woman, charm is when a woman notices you. *(Tidbits)***

**Nothing is more beautiful than cheerfulness in an old face. *(J. P. Richter)***

**Bad week for: Classical beauty, after Italian artist Anna Utopia Giordano, photoshopped famous Renaissance paintings such as The Birth of Venus to give the women thinner thighs and tummies, and larger, perkier breasts. Giordano’s point: Standards of beauty change. *(The Week magazine, February 24, 2012)***

**A girl watched, fascinated, as her mother smoothed cold cream on her face. “Why do you do that?” she asked. “To make myself beautiful,” said the mother, who began removing the cream with a tissue. “What’s the matter?” asked the girl. “Giving up?” *(Nancy C. Bell, in Reader’s Digest)***

**The problem with beauty is that it’s like being born rich and getting poorer. *(Joan Collins)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Always remember that true beauty comes from within – from within bottles, jars, compacts, and tubes. (Peter’s Almanac)**

**The kind of beauty I want most is the hard-to-get kind that comes from within – strength, courage, dignity. *(Ruby Dee)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*The most beautiful sight in the world is a little child going confidently down the road after you have shown him the way. *(Confucius)***

**Everything has its beauty, but not everyone sees it. *(Confucius)***

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**It’s no secret we are a culture consumed by image. Handsome men earn, on average, 5 percent more than their less-attractive counterparts (good-looking women earn 4 percent more); pretty people get more attention from teachers, bosses, and mentors; even babies stare longer at good-looking faces. And when it comes to the workplace, it’s looks, not merit, that all too often rule. Fifty-seven percent of hiring managers said that qualified but unattractive candidates are likely to have a harder time landing a job, while more than half advised spending as much time and money on “making sure they look attractive” as on perfecting a resume. The quest for beauty may be a centuries-old obsession, but in the present day the reality is ugly. Beauty has more influence than ever – not just over who we work with, but whether we work at all. *(Jessica Bennett, in Newsweek, as it appeared in The Week magazine, July 30, 2010)***

**The truth is, I still believe that above all things physical, it is more important to be beautiful on the inside – to have a big heart and an open mind and a spectacular spleen. *(Ellen DeGeneres)***

**What makes the desert beautiful is that somewhere it hides a well. *(Antoine de Saint-Exupery)***

**Danny Devito was a beauty therapist in his sister’s hair salon. (Don Voorhees, in *The Perfectly Useless Book of Useless Information, p. 86)***

**The world will be saved by beauty. *(Fyodor Dostoyevsky)***

**The phrase “drop-dead gorgeous” dates back to when a ghostly pallor was thought to be the acme of feminine beauty. To achieve this pale look, women would paint their faces with makeup containing arsenic – a toxic substance that literally caused many beauties to drop dead. *(Harry Bright & Jakob Anser, in Are You Kidding Me?, p. 23)***

**The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and science. *(Albert Einstein)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*Though we travel the world over to find the beautiful*,* we must carry it with us or we find it not. *(Ralph Waldo Emerson)***

**As we grow old, the beauty steals inward. *(Ralph Waldo Emerson)***

**Love of beauty is taste. The creation of beauty is art. *(Ralph Waldo Emerson)***

**Never lose an opportunity of seeing anything that is beautiful; beauty is God’s handwriting – a wayside sacrament. *(Ralph Waldo Emerson)***

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**In Ethiopia, both males and females of the Surma tribes shave their heads as a mark of beauty. *(Noel Botham, in The Book of Useless Information, p. 145)***

**Beauty may fade; good nature never does. *(The Furrow)***

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**What you and I might call fat was considered beautiful to the early Hawaiians, and any lady who weighed 300 pounds was approaching perfection. (Boyd's Curiosity Shop, p. 48)**

**Fat was fashionable right up till the turn of the twentieth century. The biggest sex symbol of the late 1800s was two-hundred-pound Lillian Russell. (Don Voorhees, in The Essential Book of Useless Information, p. 120)**

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**If you retain nothing else, always remember the most important rule of beauty, which is: Who cares? *(Tina Fey)***

**Know this, dear, that I know I must be beautiful within, and in my fellowship with others, and in my sharing with them the good things of life, if I am to become beautiful without. Anything that makes me have the feeling of selfishness cannot result in more beauty to me. Anything that awakens in me the loving desire to have others happy and adorned with beautiful things, and anything that helps me to express this loving desire in my own living is sure to bring forth its fruit in my own life. Now, I am sure that you understand, and approve my passing on to another the use of the beautiful gift that you with so much love sent to me. You did mean for me to use it in the way it would give me most joy, didn't you? (Myrtle Fillmore’s Healing Letters, p. 19)**

**Youth and beauty are not accomplishments, they're the temporary by-products of time and/or DNA. (Carrie Fisher)**

**There is nothing more beautiful than finding your course as you believe you bob aimlessly in the current. Your path was there all along, waiting for you to knock, waiting for you to become. (Jodie Foster)**

**One day, in retrospect, the years of struggle will strike you as the most beautiful. (Sigmund Freud)**

**Beauty comes from a life well lived. If you've lived well, your smile lines are in the right places. (Jennifer Garner, actress)**

**Beauty is rarely soft or consolatory. Quite the contrary. Genuine beauty is always quite alarming. (*Donna Tartt, author)***

**Grandma: “What have you got there, Nelson?” Nelson: “A geode. Grampa gave it to me. Geodes are hollow stones with beautiful crystals inside.” Grandma: “It looks like a pile of rubble to me.” Nelson: “Yeah, they’re prettier when they haven’t been dropped on the sidewalk.” (Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)**

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**If indeed you must be candid, be candid beautifully. (Kahlil Gibran, in Sand and Foam: A Book of Aphorisms)**

**Beauty is not in the face; beauty is a light in the heart. (Kahlil Gibran) 4901**

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**God passes through the thicket of the world, and wherever God’s glance falls it turns all things to beauty. *(St. John of the Cross)***

**I spent more than two hours in the beauty shop getting my hair permed, cut and styled. Relieved to be done, I went up to the receptionist to pay. “Good afternoon!” she said cheerfully. “And who’s your appointment with today?” *(Kenna Latwesen, in Reader’s Digest)***

**The Scots long ago came up with an ancient word for a magic spell that creates an illusion of beauty where no beauty exists. The word is “glamour.” *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Summer afternoon – summer afternoon; to me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language. *(Henry James)***

**Beautiful bodies and beautiful personalities rarely go together. *(Karl Jung, psychiatrist)***

**Youth is happy because it has the ability to see beauty. Anyone who keeps the ability to see beauty never grows old. *(Franz Kafka)***

**Beauty isn’t worth thinking about; what’s important is your mind. You don’t want a $50 haircut on a 50-cent head. *(Garrison Keillor)***

**The most beautiful things in the world are not seen nor touched. They are felt with the heart. *(Helen Keller)***

**I still believe that everyone is beautiful in some way and by seeing the beauty in others we make ourselves more beautiful. *(Carole King, legendary American singer-songwriter)***

**Any girl can be glamorous. All she has to do is stand still and look stupid. (Hedy Lamarr)**

**All God’s children are not beautiful. Most of God’s children are, in fact, barely presentable. (Fran Lebowitz)**

**I slept, and dreamed that life was Beauty; I woke, and found that life was Duty. (Ellen Sturgis Hooper, American poet)**

**One cannot collect all the beautiful shells on the beach. One can collect only a few, and they are more beautiful if they are few. (Anne Morrow Lindbergh, in Gifts from the Sea)**

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*There is no garment more becoming than love, no cosmetic more glamorizing. Some say that when beauty fades, love goes. Isn’t it the other way around? Beauty fades only when love is gone. *(Marjorie Holmes, in A Time to Love)***

**Love that has nothing but beauty to keep it in good health, is short-lived. *(Desiderius Erasmus)***

**Love beauty; it is the shadow of God on the universe. *(Gabriela Mistral, in Desolacion)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*What does the word Mafia mean? In Italian, Mafia means “beauty, excellence, bravery.” (*Barbara Berliner, in The Book of Answers)***

**I don’t ask for the meaning of the song of a bird or the rising of the sun on a misty morning. There they are, and they are beautiful. *(Pete Hamill, in Esquire)***

**Then it was as if I suddenly saw the secret beauty of their hearts, the person that each one is in God’s eyes. If only they could see themselves as they really are. If only we could see each other that way all the time, there would be no more war, no more hatred, no more cruelty, no more greed. I suppose the big problem would be that we would all fall down and worship each other. *(Thomas Merton)***

**A monster went to the doctor with a branch growing out of his head. “hmmm,” said the doctor. “I’ve no idea what it is.” The next week the branch was covered in leaves and blossom. “I’m stumped,” said the doctor, “but you can try taking these pills.” When the monster came back a month later the branch had grown into a tree, and just a few weeks later he developed a small pond, surrounded by trees and bushes, all of them on top of his head. “Ah!” said the doctor, “I know what it is. You’ve got a beauty spot.” *(Tidbits)***

**At some point in life the world's beauty becomes enough. You don't need to photograph, paint, or even remember it. It is enough. *(Toni Morrison)***

**Some say a host of cavalry, others of infantry, and others of ships, is the most beautiful thing on the dark earth, but I say it is whatever a person loves. *(Sappho)***

**Some people, no matter how old they get, never lose their beauty – they merely move it from their faces into their hearts. (Martin Buxbaum, in National Enquirer)**

**I’m tired of all this nonsense about beauty being only skin-deep. That’s deep enough. What do you want, an adorable pancreas? *(Jean Kerr, author)***

**Beauty, to me, is about being comfortable in your own skin. *(Gwyneth Paltrow, American actress)***

**Beauty is only skin deep, but ugly goes clean to the bone. *(Dorothy Parker)***

**Beautiful young people are accidents of nature, but beautiful old people are works of art. *(Marjorie Barstow, writer)***

**Visiting my daughter’s house recently, I excused myself from the dinner table to take my heart medication. “I’ll be right back,” I told my 6-year-old grand-daughter, Livvy. “I have to take myy beauty pills. “Grandma,” Livvy said, “they’re not working – you still have all those wrinkles.” *(Donald Barth, in Reminisce magazine)***

**My 3-year-old granddaughter, Michelle, loves to play beauty shop. While I sit on the floor, she will style my hair using a comb and a squirt bottle of water. One day, she used a little extra water on my thinning top, and she suddenly exclaimed, “PaPa, I can see your brain!” *(George Armes, in Reminisce Extra magazine)***

**The pleasure which is at once the most pure, the most elevating, and the most intense, is derived, I maintain, from the contemplation of the beautiful. *(Edgar Allan Poe)***

**Beauty is the promise of happiness. *(Stendhal)***

**Beauty is a reflection of all life’s moments – joy, sorrow, love. It begins inside long before it shows itself on the surface. *(Dayle Haddon, former model)***

**Beautiful young people are accidents of nature, but beautiful old people are works of art. *(Eleanor Roosevelt)***

**The composer Rossini said: “Wagner has beautiful moments, but awful quarter hours.” *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Why does sadness often seem so beautiful, and beauty often seem so sad? *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**Since love grows within you, so beauty grows. For love is the beauty of the soul. *(St. Augustine)***

**A San Francisco guitarist has released an album of "duets" with the Golden Gate Bridge featuring his guitar improvisations over the eerie hum created by the Bay Area landmark. Nate Mercureau first heard about the bridges sounds – produced by wind passing through the metal slats – after reading about nearby residents' complaints. But when he heard the bridge's metallic moaning, he was struck by its beauty. "It's remarkably musical," he said. "It plays multiple notes." *(The Week magazine, September 10 / September, 2021)***

**Beauty as we feel it is something indescribable; what it is or what it means can rarely be said. (George Santayana)**

**More than 177,000 people enroll in for-profit beauty schools in the U.S. annually, paying an average charge of $17,000 for tuition and fees. Degrees from the schools are required for state licenses, but often lead to jobs paying as little as $9 or $10 an hour. (The New York Times, as it appeared in The Week magazine, January 11, 2019)**

**We do not have to choose our favorite among the seasons. It is only necessary to rejoice in the beauty of their differences. *(Evelyn H. Lauder)***

**Beauty seen is never lost. *(John Greenleaf Whittier)***

**Beauty is all very well at first sight; but who ever looks at it when it has been in the house for three days?” (William Shakespeare)**

**The three most beautiful sights: a potato garden in bloom, a ship in sail, a woman after the birth of her child. *(Irish proverb)***

**Beauty is a short-lived tyranny. *(Socrates)***

**Actor Sylvester Stallone attended beauty school after graduating high school.(Don Voorhees, in *The Perfectly Useless Book of Useless Information, p. 83)***

**I saw such a beautiful sunrise this morning. . . . Had the sky been clear and without the clouds there would not have been such beauty. *(Jim White, S.J.)***

**When, at 16, I was vain because someone praised me, my father said: “They are only praising your youth. You can take no credit for beauty at 16. But if you are beautiful at 60 it will be your own soul soul's doing. Then you may be proud of it and be loved for it.” *(Marie Stopes, in Change of Life in Men and Women)***

**Time may be a great healer, but it’s also a lousy beautician. *(Tidbits)***

**It is amazing how complete is the delusion that beauty is goodness. *(Leo Tolstoy)***

**If truth is beauty, how come no one has their hair done in the library? *(Lily Tomlin)***

**Beauty if always transient, which is why it is so interesting. Ugliness lasts longer. *(Stephen Bayley, design critic)***

**The truth isn’t always beauty, but the hunger for it is. *(Nadine Gordimer, writer)***

**Ugliness is superior to beauty because it lasts longer. *(Serge Gainsbourg)***

**Women in ancient Egypt thought varicose veins on the legs and bosom were beautiful and even colored them with dye. (Don Voorhees, in The Essential Book of Useless Information, p. 121)**

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**The pure taste of the apple is as much contact with the beauty of the universe as the contemplation of a picture by Cezanne. *(Simone Weil, French philosopher, in The Catholic Spirit)***

**Nothing is so beautiful and wonderful, nothing is so continually fresh and surprising, so full of sweet and perpetual ecstasy, as the good. *(Simone Weil)***

**A beautiful woman looking at her image in the mirror may very well believe the image is herself. An ugly woman knows it is not. *(Simone Weil)***

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**Of the American woman, Oscar Wilde said: “The secret of her charm is she behaves as though she were beautiful.” *(L. M. Boyd)***

**I have found that all ugly things are made by those who strive to make something beautiful, and that all beautiful things are made by those who strive to make something useful. *(Oscar Wilde)***

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**The winged glory of flies: The transparent wings of flies and wasps aren’t prized for their beauty, but that’s only because we haven’t looked properly. A new study reveals them to be “as distinctive and marvelous as the much-studied, much-celebrated wings of butterflies and beetles,” reports Wired Science. Fly and wasp wings are made of transparent chitin, which lets most light pass through but reflects some back, much like a soap bubble does. Viewed against a white background – the usual approach of modern entomologists studying veins and other structural features – the wings look colorless and drab. But when biologists from Lund University in Sweden began placing them before black backgrounds, the sings revealed vivid, stable patters of swirls, spots, and stripes. The designs, which differ consistently between sexes and among species, are thought to function as signals for territorial defense or mating. “I envision taxonomists going back to their animals and looking at them in a new light,” says co-author Daniel Janzen, an evolutionary ecologist at the University of Pennsylvania. “It’s like discovering a whole new piece of the animal.” (The Week magazine, January 21, 2011)**

**At the circus, four-year-old Bob was admiring a woman aerialist who appeared in the spotlight wearing a plumed headdress and a flowing robe. Overwhelmed by the costume, Bob exclaimed, “Mom! Is she ever bee-U-tiful!” The woman then shed her headpiece and flowing robe and approached her ladder in a brief sequined costume. Again Bob gasped. “Wow!” he said. “And her insides are beautiful too!” (Doyle K. Getter, in Milwaukee Journal)**

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*This would be a more beautiful world, if we were all equally able to enjoy its beauty. (Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)**

**The most beautiful thing in the world is, of course, the world itself. (Wallace Stevens)**

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