**Each excerpt below**

**is color-coded**

**for your convenience:**

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

**Courage**

**Be strong and of good courage;**

**for you shall cause this people to inherit the land**

**which I swore to their fathers to give them.**

***(Joshua 1:6)***

**Without courage, we cannot practice any other virtue with consistency. We can’t be kind, true, merciful, generous, or honest. *(Maya Angelou)***

**Courage is the art of being the only one who knows you’re scared to death. *(Earl Wilson, Field Newspaper Syndicate)***

**Ancient Greeks ate bananas. Shipped up from India. Weren’t any bananas in the Western Hemisphere until brave seamen hauled plants west from the Canary Islands. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Courage is fear that has said its prayers. *(Karl Barth)***

[**“Does anyone know why a bear sleeps in his cave during the first 6 months of winter?” the teacher asked her 3rd-grade class. Eight-year-old Susan waved her hand excitedly. “Yes, Susan?” encouraged the teacher. “Because there’s no one brave enough to go in there and wake him up.” *(Tom Haley, in Catholic Digest***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)***)***

**All of us have moments in our lives that test our courage. Taking children into a house with a white carpet is one of them*. (Erma Bombeck)***

**What is in someone, hundreds of them, to compel them to run into a burning building while everyone else is running out, just to save people they don’t even know? Their bravery has become a collective national legacy. Their bravery dignifies us all. *(Bill Hybels, American minister, present day)***

**What makes burglars dangerous is cowardice. Theirs. They are liable to go ape if confronted. So says a police doctor. He says robbers also are dangerous, surprisingly, because of cowardice. They are bullies. Bullies bully when scared. This authority’s claims boil down to: Cowards are more dangerous than the courageous. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**I wanted to point out that one of the earliest supporters of smallpox inoculation in Europe was Catherine the Great, of Russia. Her bravery in receiving the smallpox inoculation in 1768, 28 years before Edward Jenner invented the first vaccine, narrowed the trust gap significantly in 18th century Russia – no small feat, given the slow pace of communication. She used her status as empress to make the issue nonpartison and nonclassist. She established inoculation clinics in several cities, and by 1800, 2 million Russians had been inoculated. *(Robynn Jensen, in The Atlantic magazine, April, 2023)***

**He who loses wealth loses much; he who loses a friend loses more; but he that loses his courage loses all. *(Miguel de Cervantes, novelist)***

**The most courageous act is still to think for yourself. Aloud. *(Coco Chanel)***

**Failure is unimportant. It takes courage to make a fool of yourself. *(Charlie Chaplin)***

**When cheerfulness is kept up on principle, against all odds, it is the finest form of courage. *(Ovidio Michel Magri)***

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**Courage is almost a contradiction in terms. It means a strong desire to live taking the form of a readiness to die. *(G. K. Chesterton)***

**Brave men are all vertebrates. They have their softness on the surface and their toughness in the middle. But these modern cowards are all crustaceans; their hardness is all on the cover, and their softness is inside. *(G. K. Chesterton)***

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**Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen. *(Winston Churchill)***

**Courage is the finest of human qualities because it guarantees all the others. *(Winston Churchill) 129982***

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**It is the character of a brave and resolute man not to be ruffled by adversity and not to desert his post. *(Cicero)***

**To know what is right and not to do it is the worst cowardice. *(Confucius)***

**Another word for creativity is courage. *(Henri Matisse, in SurfaceMag)***

**It takes courage to grow up and turn out to be who you really are. *(E. E. Cummings)***

**You cannot test courage cautiously. *(Annie Dillard, Pulitzer Prize-winning author)***

**Courage is the discovery that you may not win, and trying when you know you can lose. *(Tom Krause)***

**Courage does not mean never being afraid. It means to go on doing what you know is right, even though you are afraid. *(Christopher Ian Chenoweth, Unity Minister)***

**Courage is the price that life extracts for granting peace. *(Amelia Earhart)***

**It is easy to be brave from a safe distance. *(Aesop)***

**Whatever you do, you need courage. Whatever course you decide upon, there is always someone to tell you you are wrong. There are always difficulties arising which tempt you to believe that your critics are right. To map out a course of action and follow it to an end requires some of the same courage which a soldier needs. Peace has its victories, but it takes brave men to win them. *(Ralph Waldo Emerson)***

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**Courage is not the absence of fear but the ability to carry on with dignity in spite of it. *(Scott Turow, in The Burden of Proof)***

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**If you are lucky enough to find a way of life you love, you have to find the courage to live it. *(John Irving)***

**Courage is not the towering oak that sees storms come and go; it is the fragile blossom that opens in the snow. *(Alice Mackenzie Swain)***

**Most of us are proud of our freedom to say what we please. What we wish we had is the courage to say it. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Never doubt the courage of the French, they are the ones who discovered snails are edible. *(Doug Larson, humorist)***

**It must have taken a lot of courage to discover that frog legs are edible. *(Doug Larson, United Feature Syndicate)***

**Courage is like a muscle. We strengthen it with use. *(Ruth Gordon)***

**Courage is contagious. When a brave man takes a stand, the spines of others are stiffened. *(Rev. Billy Graham)***

**Happiness is a form of courage. *(Holbrook Jackson)***

**All brave men love; for he only is brave who has affections to fight for. *(Nathaniel Hawthorne)***

**Have courage for the great sorrows of life and patience for the small ones; and when you have laboriously accomplished your daily task, go to sleep in peace. *(Victor Hugo)***

**Courage, after all, is not being unafraid, but doing what needs to be done in spite of fear. *(James Farmer, celebrated civil rights activist)***

**We must constantly build dikes of courage to hold back the flood of fear. *(Martin Luther King, Jr.)***

**Courage is the ladder on which all the other virtues mount. *(Clare Boothe Luce, in The Human Life Review)***

**Real courage is when you know you're licked before you begin, but you begin anyway and see it through no matter what. *(Harper Lee, in To Kill a Mockingbird)***

**Our bravest and best lessons are not learned through success, but through misadventure. *(Amos Bronson Alcott, American educator)***

**Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one’s courage. *(Anais Nin, in The Diary of Anais Nin)***

**It takes as much courage to have tried and failed as it does to have tried and succeeded. *(Anne Morrow Lindbergh)***

**With a little more courage, I could get myself into a lot more trouble. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**Man cannot discover new oceans unless he has the courage to lose sight of the shore. *(Lord Chesterfield)***

**Once again, the media have made the courageous decision to pander to the public’s basest instincts. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**You can’t be brave if you’ve only had wonderful things happen to you. *(Mary Tyler Moore)***

**Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the judgment that something else is more important than fear. *(Ambrose Redmoon, writer)***

**What is more mortifying than to feel that you have missed the plum for want of courage to shake the tree? *(Logan Pearsall Smith, in Afterthoughts)***

**Courage is fear holding on a minute longer. *(Gen. George Patton)***

**Courage is the power to let go of the familiar. *(Raymond Lindquist) 823905***

**The moment of near despair is quite often the moment that precedes courage. *(Christopher Hitchens)***

**When life seems hard, the courageous do not lie down and accept defeat; instead, they are all the more determined to struggle for a better future.(*Queen Elizabeth II said in 2008)***

**Why Rather keeps reporting: Dan Rather is still chasing stories, said Ryan D'Agostino in Esquire. Soon to be 89, the former anchor of the CBS Evening News now runs his own investigative journalism production company, News and Guts. He's been at it for more than six decades, plucked from KHOU in Houston after his standout coverage of a horrific hurricane in 1961. Courage, he says, is in short supply in today's news media. "I ache to have courage," he says. "I regret those times when I had the opportunity to stand up and have courage and didn't do it." Covering the civil rights movement for CBS, Rather was thrilled to be assigned to such a big story but admits he was unprepared. "We're around these dangerous people, Klan rallies, cue stick-bearing crowds. At the beginning, when people would ask where I was from, I would seldom say CBS, because CBS was sometimes called the Communist Broadcasting System, the Colored Broadcasting System." Today he worries that journalists are afraid of challenging people in power because they don't want to be labeled as biased or unpatriotic. Rather says pursuing the truth should be the sole "navigational star" for a reporter. It's why he's continued to work into his late 80s. "I'm still trying to be a great reporter," (*The Week magazine, October 9, 2020)***

**George Will’s column of June 7 makes an interesting point about the measure of Ronald Reagan’s greatness – the end of the Cold War and the disappearance of communism as a global threat. Similarly Churchill and FDR are irrevocably, and correctly, tied to the defeat of Nazism and fascism. Who will be the world leader who will have the defeat of Islamic extremism and terrorism his monument – a U.S. president, another Western leader, an Arab leader (don’t make me laugh)? There can be no doubt that this threat rivals the ones overcome in World War II and in the Cold War. Is there a leader out there today who has the courage to define this threat in “evil empire” terms and not give it some level of legitimacy because of its roots in religion and culture, to focus on it with the strength required to get to its fundamental causes, and to eradicate it? For the future of the world we should all hope that there is such a leader, and that whoever it is will step forward very soon. *(Rick Jarboe, in Rocky Mountain News, June 24, 2004)***

**Republicans who saved the country: It was Republicans “who saved democracy in 2020, said Henry Olsen. The latest indictment of Donald Trump highlights the fact that his efforts to overturn the election were blocked by “Republican leaders at every level who put country over party.” In Georgia, Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger repeatedly refused Trump’s threatening demands that he “find” enough votes to overturn his state’s results, while Gov. Brian Kemp flatly turned down Trump’s request to create a false slate of electors. The same is true of elected officials in Arizona and Michigan. When Trump took his claims of widespread election fraud to court, numerous Trump- and Republican-appointed judges ruled there was no evidence to support his claims. Meanwhile, inside the Trump administration itself, Attorney General William Barr and White House council Pat Cipollone told a furious Trump there was no evidence of fraud, and Vice President Mike Pence refused to bend to Trump’s pressure to change or postpone the official counting of Electoral College votes. If a dozen key Republicans “had been partisan instead of patriotic,” multiple states’ election results would have been overturned, “throwing the country into chaos.” Their courage and honesty preserved “the rule of law.” *(The Week magazine, August 18, 2023)***

**Courage is doing what you’re afraid to do. There can be no courage unless you’re scared. *(Eddie Rickenbacker)***

**Courage doesn't mean you're not afraid. It means you're afraid but you do it anyway. *(Tony Robbins, motivational speaker)***

**Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the assessment that something else is more important than fear*. (Franklin D. Roosevelt)***

**It takes a great deal of courage to stand up to your enemies, but even more to stand up to your friends. *(J. K. Rowling)***

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**It is always brave to say what everyone thinks. *(George Duhamel, French author)***

**Most of us are proud of our freedom to say what we please, what we wish we had is the courage to say it. *(Bits & Pieces)
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**Nobel Peace Prizewinner Andrei Sakharov was a gentle man who stood against the awesome police powers of the Soviet state armed only with his convictions. Journalist Fred Coleman, who knew him, recalls: “The most dramatic example I saw of Sakharov’s extraordinary courage occurred among the Moscow trial of Natan Sharansky. The dissident’s elderly mother tried to enter the courtroom for a glimpse of the son she had not seen for more than a year. She was brutally shoved away. As she sobbed uncontrollably, not a person in the large crowd moved – except Sakharov. White-faced with anger, he shouted at the police, “You are not people. You are fascists!” Once, when I came to see him, Sakharov asked why I looked worried. I told him my small daughter was ill. She soon recovered, and I forgot the incident, but Sakharov didn’t. Even after a long day filled with the tales of human suffering brought to him by countless Soviet citizens, he would ask me how my daughter was getting on. *(Newsweek)***

**Keep your fears to yourself; share your courage with others. *(Robert Louis Stevenson)***

**Whenever you see a successful business, someone once made a courageous decision. *(Peter Drucker)***

**He was a bold man that first ate an oyster. *(Jonathan Swift)***

**It takes courage to say that the good were defeated not because they were good, but because they were weak. *((Bertolt Brecht)***

**Everyone has talent but what is rare is the courage to follow it into the dark places. *(Erica Jong)***

**Courage is not limited to the battlefield or the Indianapolis 500 or bravely catching a thief in your house. The real tests of courage are much deeper and much quieter. They are the inner tests, like remaining faithful when nobody’s looking, like enduring pain when the room is empty, like standing alone when you’re misunderstood. *(Charles R. Swindoll, in Growing Strong in the Seasons of Life)***

**Being courageous does not mean never being scared; it means acting as you know you must even though you are undeniably afraid. *(Archbishop Desmond Tutu)***

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**Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear, not absence of fear. *(Mark Twain) 8239014***

**It is curious that physical courage should be so common in the world, and moral courage so rare. *(Mark Twain)***

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**Courage is often lack of insight, whereas cowardice in many cases is based on good information. *(Peter Ustinov)***

**What would life be if we had no courage to attempt anything? *(Vincent van Gogh)***

**Courage is being scared to death . . . and saddling up anyway. *(John Wayne)***

**Terry Anderson, the longest-held American hostage, refuses to hate his extremist Shi-ite captors. “I have no room for hatred, no time for it,” he says. “My hating them is not going to hurt them an ounce. It’s only going to hurt me, and I’m not going to do that.” Anderson credits his survival to the strength of the Roman Catholic faith, noting that he read the Bible some 50 times while in captivity. “We all find it in ourselves to do what we have to do,” he says. “People are capable of an awful lot when they have no choice, and I had no choice. Courage is when you have choices. *(Associated Press, as it appeared in Reader’s Digest, October, 1992)***

**The willingness to show up changes us. It makes us a little braver each time. *(Brene Brown)***

**You will never do anything in this world without courage. It is the greatest quality of the mind next to honor. *(James Allen)***

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