**Curiosity**

**As I walked closer to the glassed entrance, I saw that Sarah had caught sight of a yellow butterfly. She was making an attempt to chase it, but her robe kept tripping her and her wings weighed her down...I could tell she was getting disgusted with her outfit, because she was not able to keep up with the butterfly. The next moment I saw halo, wings, and robe being shed and tossed onto the ground. And Sarah, well, she was dashing across another yard, almost touching the butterfly. Her eyes were alive with delight, as if she had found treasured gold. And then Sarah’s words came to me. “Angel clothes get in the way.” By forgetting about the costume, the garment that encased her curiosity, she had discovered the secret home of a salamander, something special she wanted to learn. By tossing off the robe, wings, and halo – getting rid of all the things that got in her way to experience life to the fullest -- she caught the joy of the butterfly. *(Jan DeVries, in Unity magazine)***

**Passion can seem intimidatingly out of reach at times. But curiosity is available to everyone. *(Elizabeth Gilbert, writer)***

**Be curious always! For knowledge will not acquire you; you must acquire it. *(Sudie Back)***

**Rose reads on the grocery labels: “Nothing to be refrigerated. I can put these things away later!” Kitten: “She really knows how to push my curiosity button!” *(Pat Brady & Don Wimmer, in Rose Is Rose comic strip)***

**Curiosity is the wick in the candle of learning. (William A. Ward, in San Diego Tribune)**

**Curiosity is a clever device nature invented to teach children how little their parents really know. *(Ohio State Grange Monthly)***

**Curiosity will conquer fear even more than bravery will. (James Stephens)**

**This desire to cover all bases was augmented by his unquenchable curiosity; he always wanted to know everything about everything. "I get fascinated when I'm in a shoe store," says Walter Cronkite. "I'd like to know how they keep their inventory -- how they always have enough models on hand to get their work done. I'd like to work in one for a week to see if I could find out." (Barbara Matusow, in The Evening Stars)**

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**Nelson: “I’m bored.” Grandpa: “Bored? There’s no reason to b bored. Dorothy Parker said, ‘The cure for boredom is curiosity. There is no cure for curiosity.’” Nelson: “Who’s Dorothy Parker?” Grandpa: “There you go. See? I just cured your boredom.” *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

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**Somehow I can't believe there are many heights that can't be scaled by a man who knows the secret of making dreams come true. This special secret, it seems to me, can be summarized in four C's. They are Curiosity, Confidence, Courage, and Constancy, and the greatest of these is CONFIDENCE. When you believe a thing, believe it all over, implicitly and unquestioning. *(Walt Disney)***

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**More than intelligence or persistence or connections, curiosity has allowed me to live the life I wanted. *(Brian Grazer)***

**Curiosity has never let me down. *(Brian Grazer, Oscar-winning director, from his book, A Curious Mind: The Secret to a Bigger Life)***

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**"Do you want my honest opinion?" People ask. I say, "Yes," for I'm curious. So they give me their honest opinion, and I -- well, I'm always furious. *(Richard Armour, in The Wall Street Journal)***

**Your ideas don't have to be big to be creative. The Frisbee didn't change the world, but it gave people loads of fun and made a mint. The adhesive bandage, safety pin, paper cup and soda can pop-top were “small” ideas. Still, they were prime examples of imagination, curiosity, common sense and hard work--all blended to fill a need, solve a problem and make life a bit better. (Lester David, in Reader's Digest)**

**We were winding up a discussion in my fourth-grade class on the importance of curiosity. “Where,” I asked, “would we be today if no one had ever been curious?” One hand shot up. “In the Garden of Eden.” *(Edith L. Priest, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Curiosity is an instinct of infinite scope: on the other hand it leads to listening behind closed doors; on the other, it leads to the discovery of America. *(Jose Maria Eca de Queiros)***

**Curiosity is insubordination in its purest form. *(Vladimir Nabokov)***

**Curiosity is one of the permanent and certain characteristics of a vigorous intellect. (Samuel Johnson)**

**What keeps people going on in life? In some cases it's courage; in others, just curiosity. (Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)**

**How worried should a cat owner be if the neighbor’s dog is named Curiosity? (Bob Greenwade, in Reader’s Digest)**

**An old Scotsman was operating a small rowboat for transporting passengers across one of the little lakes in Scotland. One day a passenger noticed that he had carved on one oar the word “Faith,” and on the other oar, the word “Works.” Curiosity led him to ask the meaning of this. The old man said, “I will show you.” He dropped one oar and plied the other called “Works,” and they just went around in circles. Then he dropped that oar and began to ply the one called “Faith,” and the little boat went around in circles again – this time the other way around. After this demonstration the old man picked up both “Faith” and “Works” and, plying both oars together, sped swiftly over the water, explaining to his inquiring passenger, “You see, that is the way it is in life as well as in the boat.” *(Canadian Churchman)***

**I have heard Dr. Norman Vincent Peale talk about the time he wandered into a tattoo parlor. He wasn’t looking for a tattoo. He was just curious. As he looked around at the different slogans and symbols people could choose, one in particular caught his eye. It said “born to lose.” “Excuse me,” Dr. Peale asked the owner of the shop. “Do people really choose to have this printed on their bodies?” “Oh, sure,” came the answer. “Lots of people like that one.” “I don’t understand. Why?” “Why?” the owner repeated. “They choose to have it printed on their arms because it’s already printed in their minds.” *(Robert A. Schuller, in What Happens to Good People..., p. 78)***

**You have achieved excellence as a leader when people will follow you anywhere, if only out of curiosity. *(Colin Powell)***

**When my daughter Kelli was 3, she and my son Cody would say their nightly prayers together. As most children do, they would bless every family member, every friend, and every animal, current and past. For several weeks after we had finished the nightly prayers, Kelli would say “And all girls.” My curiosity finally got the best of me. “Kelli,” I asked, “why do you always add the part about all girls?” “Because,” she replied, “we always finish our prayers by saying All men!” *(JokeBank)***

**Large signs posted in our psychology building read "Psychology Experiment." Arrows under the posters pointed the way to a windowless door bearing a final sign: "Psychology Experiment Today." Passing by the door several times, my friend and I wondered what was going on in there. We finally entered, discovering that the room was bare, except for a woman seated behind a desk. She smiled and thanked us for participating. The experiment was in human curiosity. *(John Sweet, in Reader's Digest)***

**Commonplaces never become tiresome. It is we who become tired when we cease to be curious and appreciative. *(Norman Rockwell)***

**I think, at a child's birth, if a mother could ask a fairy godmother to endow it with the most useful gift, that gift would be curiosity. *(Eleanor Roosevelt)***

**Curiosity is a willing, a proud, an eager confession of ignorance. *(S. Leonard Rubinstein, in Writing: A Habit of Mind)***

**Curious learning not only makes unpleasant things less unpleasant but also makes pleasant things more pleasant. *(Bertrand Russell)***

**The secret of happiness is curiosity. *(Norman Douglas)***

**A sense of curiosity is nature's original school of education. *(Dr. Smiley Blanton, in Love or Perish)***

**I can remember the first time I had to go to sleep. “Steven,” Mom said, “time to go to sleep.” “But I don’t know how,” I said. “It’s real easy,” she said. “Just go down to the end of tired and hang a left.” So I went down to the end of tired and, just out of curiosity, I hung a right. My mother was there. *(Steven Wright, in Catholic Digest)***

**Curiosity is stronger than fear. *(Katia Krafft, volcanologist)***

**Speaking of her profession, TV newswoman Barbara Walters, says: "Curiosity gives me courage, To me, the most important question is not the first, but the second. And it's usually why. Why did you? Why didn't you? Why can't you? I forget myself, I am so intent on finding out what someone is like or why he's not telling the truth. It is an intensity that supersedes my private fears. But the greatest compliment I can get is when a viewer says to me, 'You asked just the question that we wanted to ask.'" *(ABC News)***

**New Viewpoint: I’m finally wearing glasses now, though I resisted to the point of insanity. But I finally reached the age where my curiosity exceeded my vanity. *(Ruth M. Walsh)***

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