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Thinking is extra price.
Julio Cesar Solla

Fermi was polite and friendly but was not impressed. He said, “There are two ways to do calculations. The first way, which I prefer, is to have a clear physical picture. The second way is to have a rigorous mathematical formalism. You have neither”. That was the end of the conversation and of our theory.
Freeman Dyson

O what is my destination? (I fear it is henceforth chaos;)
Walt Whitman,
Leaves of Grass: Out of the Cradle Endlessly Rocking

This view struck my diplomatic friend as impractical. He recalled the story about Charles de Gaulle, who overheard a frustrated reformer cry out, “Death to all fools!” *Le général* shook his head wearily and observed, “That is a vast program.”

Une idée, c’est déjà quelque chose.
(a French colleague’s philosopher uncle)

Many questions are unanswerable. Many answers are questionable.
(Chinese fortune cookie)

A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step.
Lao-zi

A detour of a thousand pages starts with a single misstep.
Chairman Miaw

You have been weighed, you have been measured, and you have been found wanting.
From “A Knight’s Tale”, the movie

Why think when you can compute?
? Zworski

English is just what we use to fill in between the equations.
H. David Politzer

Nothing to be done.
Samuel Beckett, *Waiting for Godot*

Not waiting for Godot is also waiting for Godot.
Estragon

If you want love and admiration, get a dog.
J.F. Kennedy (1961)

Fate laughs at probabilities.
Edward Bulwer Lytton

"Nonlinear physics presents us with a perplexing variety of complicated fractal objects and strange sets. Notable examples include strange attractors for chaotic dynamical systems, regions of high vorticity in fully developed turbulence and fractal growth processes."
I. Procaccia, a *Phys Rev. Lett.*

Det er vanskeligt at spå, især om fremtiden.
Storm P.

Prediction is difficult, especially of the future.
misatributed to N. Bohr

acknowledge Planck quote from Pais: "Bohr", p. 177.

The theoreticians now work with an audacity unheard of in earlier times, at present no physical law is considered assured beyond doubt, each and every physical truth is open to dispute. It often looks as if the time of chaos again is drawing near in theoretical physics.
M. Planck, *Phys. Zeitschr.* **11**, 922 (1910)

Many branches of both pure and applied mathematics are in great need of computing instruments to break the present stalemate created by the failure of the purely analytical approach to nonlinear problems.
J. von Neumann, speech Montreal 1945

No one here gets out alive.
Jim Morrison

How does it feel
To be on your own
With no direction home
Like a complete unknown?
Bob Dylan, *Like a Rolling Stone*

Time is a great teacher, but unfortunately it kills all of its pupils.
Hector Berlioz

You can write about me anything you want, but just spell my name right.
Oscar Wilde

To expect the unexpected shows a thoroughly modern intellect.
Oscar Wilde

The pure and simple truth is rarely pure and never simple.

Oscar Wilde

Experience is the name everyone gives to their mistakes.
Mr. Dumby in "Lady Windermere's Fan", by Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde

We live in hope and die in despair.

Turgay Uzer

from Joel Lebowitz via Sara A Solla, Granada, Spain, on 5/9/98; requires more of an explanation

Why do you want to know?

P.A.M. Dirac

And the reign of order gives way to the reign of chaos. The physical universe, so glancingly built up in all its multiplicities in early episodes, begins to lose its plausability. Space and time, once so distinct, are shaken almost out of recognition.

R. Elleman, on the world of James Joyce, in *New York Review of Books* (November 18, 1982)

Ibland blockerar man sig själv med ett projekt som blir så stort att man till sist blir handlingsförlamad. Nu har jeg släpt tanken att skriva färdigt bokan og det kändes som att slippa bära en stensäck på ryggen.

Per Olov Enquist, *Dagens Nyheter* (August 18, 1985)

Man kan drabbas av ambitiösa släktingar. Men den normala förstörelsen är när man sitter vid skrivmaskinen med glasartad blick och stirrar på ingenting. Det ligger något destruktivt i lusten att skapa.

Per Olov Enquist, *Dagens Nyheter* (August 18, 1985)

U moru života
što vječno kipi
što vječno hlapi
sastaju se opet
rastaju se opet
možda iste kapi.
Možda bi se mogla desit ljubav
samo možda velim
ali ja neznam dali to želim ili ne želim.

A Croatian poet (A.G. Matoš?)

If your experiment needs statistics, you ought t have done a better experiment.

Earnest Rutherford

I was misquoted.

Mason Porter

To appreciate these advantages, the system should be overlooked as a whole.
(from a paper posted on the arXiv)

This chaos is killing me.
David Bowie, "Hallo Spaceboy"

If you're damned if you do and damned if you don't, then the Principle of Least Effort tells you that you shouldn't.
Mason Porter

The advantage of a bad memory is that one enjoys several times the same good things for the first time.
Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche

Unless handled with tranquility this equation can result in considerable stress, ulcers and even death.
Douglas Adams, *The Hitchiker's Guide to the Galaxy*

The future ain't what it used to be.
Yogi Berra

It ain't over till it's over.
Yogi Berra

Experience is that marvelous thing that enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again.
F. P. Jones

In place of infinity, we usually put some really big number, like 15.
Anonymous Computer Science Professor

One must still have chaos within oneself to be able to give birth to a dancing star.
Friedrich Nietzsche

That which does not kill us makes us stronger.
Friedrich Nietzsche

You need chaos in your soul to give birth to a dancing star.
Friedrich Nietzsche

I love deadlines. I love the whooshing noise they make as they go by.
Douglas Adams

Only wimps specialize in the general case. Real scientists pursue examples.
Sir Michael V. Berry, adapting a remark from Beresford Parlett

No endeavor that is worthwhile is simple in prospect; if it is right, it will be simple in retrospect.

Edward Teller

There is only one thing that interests me vitally now, and that is the recording of all that which is omitted in books. Nobody, so far as I can see, is making use of those elements in the air which give direction and motivation to our lives.

Henry Miller, in *Tropic of Cancer*

Boris has just given me a summary of his views. He is a weather prophet. The weather will continue bad, he says. There will be more calamities, more death, more despair. Not the slightest indication of a change anywhere. The cancer of time is eating us away. Our heroes have killed themselves, or are killing themselves. The hero, then, is not Time, but Timelessness. We must get in step, a lock step, toward the prison of death. There is no escape. The weather will not change.

Henry Miller, in *Tropic of Cancer*

My endless inquiries made it impossible for me to achieve anything. Moreover, I get to think about my own thoughts of the situation in which I find myself. I even think that I think of it, and divide myself into an infinite retrogressive sequence of 'I's who consider each other. I do not know at which 'I' to stop as the actual, and as soon as I stop, there is indeed again an 'I' which stops at it. I become confused and feel giddy as if I were looking down into a bottomless abyss, and my ponderings result finally in a terrible headache.

Poul Martin Mller, in *Adventures of a Danish Student*

"It's snowing still", said Eeyore gloomily. "So it is". "*And* freezing". "Is it?" "Yes", said Eeyore. "However," he said , brightening up a little, "we haven't had an earthquake lately."

A. A. Milne "Winnie-the-Pooh"

Rabbit never minded saying things again, so he asked where he should begin from; and when Pooh had said from the moment when the fluff got in his ear, and Rabbit had asked when that was, Pooh said he didn't know because he hadn't heard properly.

A. A. Milne "Winnie-the-Pooh"

There are days when spelling Tuesday simply doesn't count

A. A. Milne, "The House at Pooh Corner"

"I don't see much sense in that," said Rabbit. "No," said Pooh humbly, "there isn't. But there was going to be when I began it. It's just that something happened to it along the way."
A. A. Milne, "Winnie-the-Pooh"

Man må begrænse sig, det er en Hovedbetingelse for al Nydelse.
Søren Kierkegaard, *Forførerens Dagbog*

[2]

In economics, reflexivity runs counter to the notion of equilibrium which an free market system is supposed to tend towards. It is, indeed, the reason why open systems do not reach equilibrium but are prone to instability and self-increasing trends, cycles of boom and bust. Development is not linear but feeds on itself. Instead of balancing towards the point of equilibrium self-reinforcing trends create unstable far-from-equilibrium conditions. recheck Danek's selection
George Soros, "The Crisis of Global Capitalism"

Thirty-three percent of the public thought Jesus would not drive a sport utility vehicle, while 29 percent thought he would, 31 percent offered no opinion and 7 percent volunteered the reply that he would not drive, but walk.
The Times referring to a poll by the Pew Research Center and the Pew Forum.

We adore chaos because we like to restore order.
M.C. Escher

There is lots of strangeness without beauty.
Benny Lautrup

What we imagine is order is merely the prevailing form of chaos.
Kerry Thornley

It will take time to restore chaos [in Iraq].
George W. Bush, American President

[2]Divikar: translate Kierkegaard

I know of scarcely anything so apt to impress the imagination as the wonderful form of cosmic order expressed by the "Law of Frequency of Error." The law would have been personified by the Greeks and deified, if they had known of it. It reigns with serenity and in complete self-effacement, amidst the wildest confusion. The huger the mob, and the greater the apparent anarchy, the more perfect is its sway. It is the supreme law of Unreason. Whenever a large sample of chaotic elements are taken in hand and marshaled in the order of their magnitude, an unsuspected and most beautiful form of regularity proves to have been latent all along.

Sir Francis Galton

I'm a material girl in a material world.

Madonna, *Material Girl*

Chaos is a name for any order that produces confusion in our minds.

George Santayana

The average Ph.D thesis is nothing but the transference of bones from one graveyard to another.

J.F. Dobie

Perhaps no hall of comparable size anywhere has served so nobly as a spawning ground for young talent and, it must be said, as a graveyard for the hopes of the mediocre.

Donal Henahan

The first to reason by analogy was the devil.

Islamic saying

Now this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning.

Winston Churchill,

'Follow me!', the wise man said. But he walked behind.

Leonard Cohen

To avoid getting mired in mathematical questions beyond human capabilities, perhaps you should stay closer to physics.

D. Ruelle

Rarely is the question asked: Is our children learning?

G.W. Bush

I think we agree, the past is over.

G.W. Bush

the paths of error are various and infinite
Gibbon

[...] which is an expression of consecration of “angular momentum”.
Mason A. Porter’s student

Any job worth doing is worth doing right
Freddie Ashley’s mother

Why is ‘abbreviation’ such a long word?

Nothing spoils fun like finding out it builds character.
Calvin, Calvin & Hobbes.

Nature is not chaotic, nature follows rules.
Hairless Wonder, Feb 15 2005

The sole cause of man’s unhappiness is that he does not know how to stay quietly in his room.
Pascal, Pensees (1670)

Vorsicht ist die Mutter der Porzelankiste
Andreas Wirzba

We can. We will. We must.
Franklin Delano Roosevelt

Life is nonlinear.
David Weitz

Under heaven, all is chaos.
Chairman Mao Zedong, a letter to Jiang Qing

No matter how far down the wrong road you’ve gone, turn back.
Turkish proverb

I won’t answer your question, but the question you may have wanted to ask.
Leo P. Kadanoff

What does a mathematician say when he walks into a kitchen and sees his mom on the kitchen table, standing on her head? WOW!
Denis Sullivan

Knowing the equations and knowing the solution are two different things. Far, far away.
T.D. Lee

Q: What if you choose a really bad initial condition and it doesn't converge? T.D. Lee: Well then you only have yourself to blame.

T.D. Lee

Theorem: Conjecture 3 with technical hypothesis is true in a lot of cases.

M. Shub

Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer
The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune,
Or to take arms against a sea of troubles,
And by opposing end them?

W. Shakespeare, *Hamlet*

Instant gratification takes too long.

Carrie Fisher

Each time he thought things had reached a plateau of weirdness, something even weirder had happened. The result, he realized, was that he was now accepting anything that happened, no matter how weird, without resistance. Chaos was the new order in his life.

Sam in *Coyote Blue*, by Christopher Moore

All human knowledge begins with intuitions, then passes to concepts, and ends with ideas.

I. Kant

Being Hungarian is not sufficient. You also must be talented.

Zsa Zsa Gabor