

Black History Month – Impromptu Prompts

QUOTATIONS

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Man, if you gotta ask you'll never know.

— *Louis (Satchmo) Armstrong*

Racism is not an excuse to not do the best you can.

— *Arthur Ashe*

No person is your friend who demands your silence, or denies your right to grow.

— *Alice Walker*

What the mind doesn't understand, it worships or fears.

— *Alice Walker*

Nobody is as powerful as we make them out to be.

— *Alice Walker*

I've found, in my own writing, that a little hatred, keenly directed, is a useful thing.

— *Alice Walker*

All History is current.

— *Alice Walker*

The thing that makes you exceptional, if you are at all, is inevitably that which must also make you lonely.

— *Lorraine Hansberry*

I can be changed by what happens to me. But I refuse to be reduced by it.

— *Maya Angelou*

It is time for parents to teach young people early on that in diversity there is beauty and there is strength.

— *Maya Angelou*

Some people feel the rain. Others just get wet.

— *Bob Marley*

Life is short, and it's up to you to make it sweet.

— *Sadie Delany*

I used to want the words "She tried" on my tombstone. Now I want "She did it."

— *Katherine Dunham*

The question is not whether we can afford to invest in every child; it is whether we can afford not to.

— *Marian Wright Edelman*

There will always be men struggling to change, and there will always be those who are controlled by the past.

— *Ernest J. Gaines*

If you're walking down the right path and you're willing to keep walking, eventually you'll make progress.

— *Barack Obama*

The whole world opened to me when I learned to read.

— *Mary McLeod Bethune*

It's not the load that breaks you down, it's the way you carry it.

— *Lena Horne*

It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept, and celebrate those differences.

— *Audre Lorde*

Where there is love and inspiration, I don't think you can go wrong.

— *Ella Fitzgerald*

Hate is too great a burden to bear. It injures the hater more than it injures the hated.

— *Coretta Scott King*

Never be limited by other people's limited imaginations.

— *Dr. Mae Jemison*

The cost of liberty is less than the price of repression.

— *W.E.B. Du Bois*

In recognizing the humanity of our fellow beings, we pay ourselves the highest tribute.

— *Thurgood Marshall*

Defining myself, as opposed to being defined by others, is one of the most difficult challenges I face.

— *Carol Moseley-Braun*

My humanity is bound up in yours, for we can only be human together.

— *Desmond Tutu*

Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die, life is a broken winged bird that cannot fly.

— *Langston Hughes*

Freedom is never given; it is won.

— *A. Philip Randolph*

You can't separate peace from freedom because no one can be at peace unless he has his freedom.

— *Malcolm X*

Anyone who has ever struggled with poverty knows how extremely expensive it is to be poor.

— *James Baldwin*

To know how much there is to know is the beginning of learning to live.

— *Dorothy West*

Healing begins where the wound was made.

— *Alice Walker*

If one is lucky, a solitary fantasy can totally transform one million realities.

— *Maya Angelou*

Not everything that is faced can be changed; but nothing can be changed until it is faced.

— *James Baldwin*

Oppressive language does more than represent violence; it is violence; does more than represent the limits of knowledge; it limits knowledge.

— *Toni Morrison*

The greatest lie ever told about love is that it sets you free.

— *Zadie Smith*

Nobody's as powerful as we make them out to be.

— *Alice Walker*

Deal with yourself as an individual worthy of respect, and make everyone else deal with you the same way.

— *Nikki Giovanni*

If you don't understand yourself you don't understand anybody else.

— *Nikki Giovanni*

A crown, if it hurts us, is not worth wearing.

— *Pearl Bailey*

Fear is a disease that eats away at logic and makes man inhuman.

— *Marian Anderson*

The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you.

— *B. B. King*

A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination.

— *Nelson Mandela*

One important key to success is self-confidence. An important key to self-confidence is preparation.

— *Arthur Ashe*

Somebody once said we never know what is enough until we know what's more than enough.

— *Billie Holiday*