



Thoughts

Volume 1

Mitchell Ferrin

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Our thoughts reveal us.

**If you wait for everyone
else to do things, things
will never get done,
because everyone else
is waiting for you.**

November 5, 2010

**There is always more
and better, but you can
never do them; you can
only ever do what you do.
So once you've done it,
move on.**

December 7, 2010

**Right and wrong—
which is which? And isn't
it funny how sometimes
they switch?**

December 16, 2010

**Most of our
problems are lies
we tell ourselves.**

March 10, 2011

**If you want to look
good, make everyone
else look better.**

November 25, 2011

**If you have to
use words to elevate
or compensate for your
actions, you're lying.**

December 8, 2011

**Commend people
on how good they are
without reminding them
how bad they were.**

March 31, 2012

**Avoid making
yourself miserable by
not wanting to do what
you should or must.**

November 13, 2012

**If you believe in
someone, tell them.
If you don't, don't.**

February 9, 2014

**There is only one
absolute: all things are
relative to context and
circumstance.**

June 16, 2015

**Better than to be
opinionated is to
be informed.**

August 26, 2015

**Everyone is
susceptible, and
no one is exempt.**

September 22, 2015

**Do not pursue
relationships with people
who do not want them
with you, as this will lead
only to suffering.**

January 19, 2016

**Give people the
benefit of the doubt,
and see what happens.**

January 30, 2016

**You cannot pull
people or things along,
nor can you push them;
they must come to you or
go with you. So if you find
yourself pulling, let go.**

October 29, 2016

**Strive, not for truth,
but for objectivity,
for in objectivity is
truth revealed.**

November 7, 2016

**Most things simply are,
without explanation, and
any meaning derived is
likely attributed.**

January 1, 2017

**We don't change;
we just get better at
managing ourselves.**

January 2, 2017

**If traditions or behaviors
serve no purpose beyond
themselves, then of what
value are they? And at
what cost are you willing
to maintain them?**

January 21, 2017

**The best way to reconcile
the past is, not to envision
a new future, but to create
a new present.**

January 23, 2017

**Just do you, and let the
rest take care of itself.**

February 8, 2017

A thing that has no value beyond itself has no purpose, and a thing that has no purpose beyond itself has no value.

February 22, 2017

When people feel as if they do not have power generally, they will find a way—or a place in which or a person on whom—to assert it specifically.

March 30, 2017

**A yearning for
death is not so, but
a longing for life.**

April 2, 2017

**All choices are
relative to options.**

June 16, 2017

**If you find people inept
and thus your expectations
of them are too low, people will
consistently disappoint you.
And if your expectations are
too high and thus people
consistently fail to meet them,
you will find people inept. Both
are self-fulfilling prophecies.**

October 31, 2017

**Desire >
Determination >
Delusion >
Desperation >
Defeat.**

November 21, 2017

**Be efficient only to the
degree that it's effective.**

December 6, 2017

**Lest it appear as an
excuse, provide reasons
and context only when
asked or when necessary.
In all other cases, simply
admit fault and accept
responsibility.**

December 15, 2017

**The key to peace is
relieving yourself and
others of the burden of
your expectations.**

December 26, 2017

**The need to be seen
makes others look away;
they want to discover
beauty, not be shown it.**

January 31, 2018

**When people say,
“Everything happens for a
reason,” what they mean
is, “I don’t know what’s
going on.”**

February 4, 2018

**You do the best you can
with what you've got, and
sometimes you just don't
got very much.**

February 10, 2018

**If you're so much better
than your circumstances,
then why are they your
circumstances?**

February 18, 2018

**There's a difference
between "you're not good
enough" and "you could
be better."**

February 22, 2018

**Our interpretations of
others say more about
ourselves than they do
about others.**

February 24, 2018

**A perfect thing is full,
whole, and complete,
having all of its parts—
even the bad, ugly, and
inconvenient ones.**

February 28, 2018

**If you can form an
intelligent argument,
people will be more willing
to listen to you.**

February 28, 2018

Being independent does not mean relinquishing responsibility; it means accepting responsibility and taking on more.

March 4, 2018

**You are not
your thoughts.**

March 12, 2018

**Be deliberate;
lean forward.**

March 28, 2018

**You can be ignorant
and not arrogant, but you
can't be arrogant and
not ignorant.**

May 5, 2018

**Inherent in conformity
is complicity, and herein
lies the problem of
conforming.**

May 23, 2018

**The moment you become
aware of your condition is
the moment you become
responsible for it.**

May 26, 2018

**Nobody is going to
make life easier for
you just because it's
harder for you.**

May 26, 2018

**You cannot use
the failures of others to
continue in or justify
your own.**

May 26, 2018

**The need to feel loved
will keep you from being
so. It will also keep you
from loving.**

June 6, 2018

**Nobody will ever
know what it's like to be
you, but there's a way to
encourage them to try:
learn what it's like
to be them.**

July 7, 2018

**Start now, because
whatever you want to do
is going to take a long
time. This is just how
long it takes.**

July 22, 2018

The world functions just fine without you—unless, of course, you introduce something into it for which it needs you. Thus, you cannot simply offer yourself to the world; you must offer your ideas and services.

August 6, 2018

**Poetry must come
naturally or not at all.
However, you must sit
down to write.**

September 7, 2018

**If dying is romantic
to you, remember that
death is what follows.**

October 3, 2018

**All understanding
is relative to scale
and resolution.**

October 18, 2018

**If you don't have
power, it's because you
don't have responsibility.
And if you don't have
responsibility, it's because
you haven't earned
or assumed it.**

November 21, 2018

**You don't get to
demand your place in a
relationship; either you
earn it or it befalls you
and you maintain it.**

December 12, 2018

**Stay naive; people
who accomplish things
believe they can.**

February 28, 2018

**If you want something
to die, don't give it food,
water, or light.**

March 15, 2018

**We are not who
we are rather who
we have become.**

August 12, 2018

**Nobody, in their right
mind, chooses misery
over happiness.**

September 18, 2018

Avoid saying and doing things that make you feel weak or stupid, and avoid people who make you feel the same. I don't care that you love her or that he's funny or that it's a good opportunity; if a person or context makes you feel this way, you will only ever feel this way with them or in it.

September 16, 2018

**At all costs,
protect your mind.**

September 16, 2018

**Dreams die, as from
every dream, you awake.
Thus, prefer visions,
goals, and ideas.**

September 30, 2018

**Progress does not
necessarily mean moving
forward; it may also mean
leaving things behind.**

October 21, 2018

**The broader your
experience, the fuller your
life; and the deeper, the
more fulfilling.**

December 21, 2018

**Make predictions
based on patterns,
not expectations.**

December 24, 2018

**To live a full life, you must
make room for new and
varying experiences.**

December 25, 2018

**People who deem
themselves morally
superior also deem
themselves superior.**

January 30, 2019

**Punish only when
expectations are predefined
and consequences are not
inherent. Anything else
is cruel.**

January 31, 2019

**If your circumstances
are your circumstances
for more than a year,
they are no longer your
circumstances; they are
your lifestyle.**

February 8, 2019

**Assume associated
responsibility—meaning,
if you have a good
voice, sing.**

February 12, 2019

**Being accountable
for nothing and to no
one is not freedom
or independence;
it's madness.**

February 18, 2019

**Do not withhold from
others what they have
earned from you.**

February 20, 2019

**There's a difference
between "minimal
necessary force" and
"least amount of effort."**

March 3, 2019

**You have two
options: either die as an
inviolate human, or trust,
believe in, and fight for
your ideas.**

March 13, 2019

**Death stings,
not because a bad thing
is come, but because a
good thing is gone.**

March 19, 2019

**Your relationship
with a thing (or person)
depends on and is colored
by your motivation for
engaging it.**

March 25, 2019

**Nobody makes
rules based on outliers
and exceptions; doing so
leaves too much room
for manipulation, and you
may as well have anarchy.**

April 18, 2019

**A rose by any other name
would still smell as sweet,
but remove its petals...**

April 19, 2019

**Those who insist on
absolutes want money or
power or both.**

June 18, 2019

**Confronting your fear
does not mean confronting
the thing of which you are
afraid; it means confronting
the thing that makes you
so: your fear.**

June 27, 2019

Be motivated by interest rather than by desire, as the probability that doing what interests you will bring about what you desire is greater than that of doing only what is necessary to acquire it.

September 17, 2019

**To get what you want, give
people what they need.**

January 20, 2020

**There is no equity;
that some things are is
possible only because
other things are not.**

February 25, 2020

**Aim, not at desired
consequences, but at that
which produces them.**

February 29, 2020

**If an argument is
sound, that only one
person makes it does not
render it irrelevant.**

April 28, 2020

When relationships fail, the problem is not that either person has changed but that neither have changed together.

May 30, 2020

**Once you accept
that you can joke about
anything, everything
becomes funny.**

June 1, 2020

**Purpose is not
inherent; it must be
assumed or endowed.**

June 21, 2020

**Be slow to characterize
people or situations, and
consider that your
characterizations may be
inaccurate, despite being
empirical, as they are
based on only the facts
available to you.**

August 13, 2020

**Sometimes, the value of a
bad idea is that a good
idea emerges in response.**

September 10, 2020

Be wary of consensus.

September 14, 2020

**Ignore general or
vague criticism; people
who know what they're
talking about are specific
and precise.**

September 22, 2020

If you know you're bad, get better; avoid giving people opportunities to tell you that you suck.

September 22, 2020

**Either relinquish the
belief that you're smart
and capable or believe it
until your circumstances
demonstrate it.**

September 27, 2020

**The only reason why
you're not like people you
don't like is because
you're not them.**

October 3, 2020

**The benefit of stating
what you believe even if
what you believe is
unpopular is, at least, that
people can count on you
to be honest.**

October 12, 2020

**The merits and values of
ideas are demonstrated in
their consequences.**

November 17, 2020

**People who are critical
tend to be unhappy, and
people who are unhappy
tend to be critical.**

November 21, 2021

**If a problem persists,
it is less likely because
those responsible for it are
nefarious and more likely
because they are ignorant
or incompetent.**

November 21, 2020

**Give people the gift of
your personality, not the
burden of being like you.**

December 8, 2020

