

# WISE WORDS FOR UNCERTAIN TIMES

## THE ASCL QUOTATION COLLECTION FROM THE CORONAVIRUS UPDATES

During the coronavirus crisis, ASCL sent 86 daily email updates to members. In many of them, General Secretary Geoff Barton used a range of quotations and poetry aspects. Here, in response to members, is an informal collection.

Please note: we cannot vouch for the accuracy or source of all of them.

### TAKING STOCK



*Plans are useless; planning is essential*

**Dwight Eisenhower**

*Only a crisis - actual or perceived - produces real change. When that crisis occurs, the actions that are taken depend on the ideas that are lying around and the politically impossible becomes politically inevitable*

**Milton Friedman**

*There are decades where nothing happens, and there are weeks where decades happen*

**Vladimir Lenin**

*Our anxiety does not come from thinking about the future, but from wanting to control it*

**Kahlil Gibran**

*The person who says it cannot be done should not interrupt the person doing it*

**Chinese proverb**

*Don't bring negative to my door*

**Maya Angelou**

*There is more to life than increasing its speed*

**Mahatma Gandhi**

*It's OK to have butterflies in your stomach. Just get them to fly in formation*

**Helen Keller**

*Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you're doing the impossible*

**St Francis of Assisi**

*You never know how strong you are until being strong is your only choice*

**Bob Marley**

*Abraham Lincoln and his cabinet were 'members of a restless generation of Americans, destined to leave behind the eighteenth-century world of their parents'*

**Doris Kearns Goodwin | Team of Rivals**

*If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door*

**Milton Berle**

*It always seems impossible until it's done*

**Nelson Mandela**

*You may not control all the events that happen to you, but you can decide not to be reduced by them*

**Maya Angelou**

*The best way out is always through*

**Robert Frost**

*Do not ask your children  
to strive for extraordinary lives.  
Such striving may seem admirable,  
but it is the way of foolishness.  
Help them instead to find the wonder  
and the marvel of an ordinary life.  
Show them the joy of tasting  
tomatoes, apples and pears.  
Show them how to cry  
when pets and people die.  
Show them the infinite pleasure  
in the touch of a hand.  
And make the ordinary come alive for them.  
The extraordinary will take care of itself.*

**William Martin**



### GAINING COURAGE



*Courage is the art of being the only one who knows you're scared to death*

**Harold Wilson**

*Come to the edge.  
We might fall.*

*Come to the edge.*

*It's too high!*

*COME TO THE EDGE!*

*And they came,*

*and he pushed,*

*And they flew*

**Christopher Logue**

*The sidelines are not where you want to live  
your life. The world needs you in the arena*

**Tim Cook**

*With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts*

**Eleanor Roosevelt**

*The world is indeed full of peril, and in it there are many dark places; but still there is much that is fair, and though in all lands love is now mingled with grief, it grows perhaps the greater*

**JRR Tolkien | The Lord of the Rings**

*My wish for you is that you continue. Continue to be who and how you are, to astonish a mean world with your acts of kindness.*

*Continue to allow humour to lighten the burden of your tender heart*

**Maya Angelou**

*"Piglet sidled up to Pooh from behind.*

*"Pooh!" he whispered.*

*"Yes, Piglet?"*

*"Nothing," said Piglet, taking Pooh's paw. "I just wanted to be sure of you."*

**AA Milne | The House at Pooh Corner**

*'It's so easy to laugh, it's so easy to hate, it takes guts to be gentle and kind*

**Morrissey**

*There is no path; the path is made by walking*

**Antonio Machado**

*We do not have to become heroes overnight. Just a step at a time, meeting each thing that comes up, seeing it is not as dreadful as it appeared, discovering we have the strength to stare it down*

**Eleanor Roosevelt**

*Choose to be optimistic. It feels better*

**Dalai Lama**

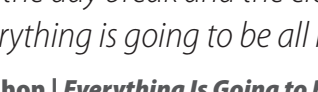
*Life will be okay in the end. If it's not okay, it's not the end*

**John Lennon**

*How should I not be glad to contemplate  
the clouds clearing beyond the dormer window  
and a high tide reflected on the ceiling?  
There will be dying, there will be dying,  
but there is no need to go into that.  
The poems flow from the hand unbidden  
and the hidden source is the watchful heart.  
The sun rises in spite of everything  
and the far cities are beautiful and bright.*

*I lie here in a riot of sunlight  
watching the day break and the clouds flying.  
Everything is going to be all right*

**Derek Mahon | Everything Is Going to Be All Right**



THANK YOU FOR WHAT YOU ARE DOING FOR OUR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES

YOU INSPIRE US