

220 Maya Angelou Quotes About Love, Life, Women and Success

Looking for some meaningful words of wisdom and quotes by the legendary author Maya Angelou? We have rounded up the best collection of Inspirational Maya Angelou quotes, sayings, poems, speeches, (with images and pictures) on life, love, happiness, courage, family, friendship, education, women empowerment, and more.

Marguerite Annie Johnson Angelou, or most commonly known as Maya Angelou, was best known for her first nonfiction best-seller, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*.

[Maya Angelou](#) was born in 1928 (April 4th) Died in 2014 on May 28th. She is best known for being a great poet and Civil rights activist of America. Ms. Angelou worked as an actor, dancer, television and film writer, producer and most famously, as a poet and memoirist.

Her words have encouraged many lives. She was 86, and in her last year of life was awarded the medal of freedom by Barack Obama. To see the world with kindness and love these inspiring quotes by Maya Angelou will guide you through life with wise words of wisdom.

We have divided these insightful quotes by Maya Angelou in the following sections;

- Top 20 Maya Angelou Quotes To Inspire You
- Maya Angelou Quotes about Love
- Famous Maya Angelou Quotes About Life
- Short Quotes By Maya Angelou
- Maya Angelou Quotes About Women And Feminism
- Insightful Maya Angelou Quotes on Success & Courage
- Inspirational Maya Angelou Quotes about Change
- Inspirational Maya Angelou Quotes About Family
- Maya Angelou Quotes on Kindness, Forgiveness And Hope
- Maya Angelou Quotes About Racism, History, Equality, And Blacks
- Deep And Thought Provoking Maya Angelou Sayings
- Words of Wisdom By Maya Angelou

Top 20 Maya Angelou Quotes To Inspire You

1. “Nothing will work unless you do.”– Maya Angelou
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2. “Try to be a rainbow in someone’s cloud.”– Maya Angelou
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3. “Let nothing dim the light that shines from within.”— Maya Angelou
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4. “If someone shows you who they really are, believe them.”– Maya Angelou

5. "You alone are enough. You have nothing to prove to anybody."– Maya Angelou

6. "We may encounter many defeats but we must not be defeated."– Maya Angelou

7. "Never make someone a priority when all you are to them is an option."– Maya Angelou

8. "I've learned that making a living is not the same thing as making a life." – Maya Angelou

9. "Hate, it has caused a lot of problems in the world, but has not solved one yet."– Maya Angelou

10. "It's one of the greatest gifts you can give yourself: to forgive. Forgive everybody."– Maya Angelou

11. "You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have."– Maya Angelou

12. "If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude."– Maya Angelou

13. "If you're going to live, leave a legacy. Make a mark on the world that can't be erased."– Maya Angelou

14. "If you're always trying to be normal, you will never know how amazing you can be."– Maya Angelou

15. “Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better.”– Maya Angelou

16. “No matter what happens, or how bad it seems today, life does go on, and it will be better tomorrow.”– Maya Angelou

17. “I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”– Maya Angelou

18. “Life is not measured by the number of breaths you take but by the moments that take your breath away.”– Maya Angelou

19. “You may shoot me with your words, You may cut me with your eyes, You may kill me with your hatefulness, But still, like air, I’ll rise.”– Maya Angelou

20. “My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style.”– Maya Angelou

Maya Angelou Quotes about Love

1. “Love is like a virus. It can happen to anybody at any time.” – Maya Angelou

2. “To those who have given up on love: I say, “Trust life a little bit”.– Maya Angelou

3. “I know for sure that loves saves me and that it is here to save us all.” – Maya Angelou

4. “You can only become truly accomplished at something you love.” – Maya Angelou

5. “If we lose love and self-respect for each other, this is how we finally die.” – Maya Angelou

6. “I am grateful to have been loved and to be loved now and to be able to love.” – Maya Angelou

7. “Have enough courage to trust love one more time and always one more time.” – Maya Angelou

8. “Loving someone liberates the lover as well as the beloved. And that kind of love comes with age.” – Maya Angelou

9. “If you have only one smile in you give it to the people you love.” – Maya Angelou

10. “If you happen to fall in love with someone in another race, it’s more difficult, because you have to translate yourself.” – Maya Angelou

11. “If you find it in your heart to care for somebody else, you will have succeeded.” – Maya Angelou

12. I know for sure that loves saves me and that it is here to save us all. – Maya Angelou

13. “Love recognizes no barriers. It jumps hurdles, leaps fences, penetrates walls to arrive at its destination full of hope.” – Maya Angelou

14. “Suddenly we see that love costs all we are, and will ever be. Yet it is only love which sets us free.” – Maya Angelou

15. “When we find someone who is brave, fun, intelligent, and loving, we have to thank the universe.” – Maya Angelou

16. “If you want to liberate someone, love them. Not be in love with them – that’s dangerous.” – Maya Angelou

17. “I’ve learned that whenever I decide something with an open heart, I usually make the right decision.” – Maya Angelou

18. “I had to trust life, since I was young enough to believe that life loved the person who dared to live it.”— Maya Angelou

19. “It’s hard because people think they have something to lose and the truth is they have everything to gain in trying to love somebody.” – Maya Angelou

20. “Whatever you want to do, if you want to be great at it, you have to love it and be able to make sacrifices for it.” – Maya Angelou

21. “First best is falling in love. Second best is being in love. Least best is falling out of love. But any of it is better than never having been in love.” – Maya Angelou

22. “I believe that people want the scent of love, more than anything else. And I don’t mean sentimentality, I don’t mean mush. I mean that idea, that human beings are more alike than we are different.” – Maya Angelou

23. “You can’t forgive without loving. And I don’t mean sentimentality. I don’t mean mush. I mean having enough courage to stand up and say, ‘I forgive. I’m finished with it.’” – Maya Angelou

24. “My great hope is to laugh as much as I cry; to get my work done and try to love somebody and have the courage to accept the love in return.” – Maya Angelou

25. “I’ve learned that every day you should reach out and touch someone. People love a warm hug, or just a friendly pat on the back.” – Maya Angelou

26. “What I really would like said about me is that I dared to love. By love, I mean that condition in the human spirit so profound it encourages us to develop courage and build bridges, and then to trust those bridges and cross the bridges in attempts to reach other human beings.” – Maya Angelou

27. “You can never be great at anything unless you love it. Not be in love with it, but love the thing, admire the thing. And it seems that if you love the thing, and you don’t just want to possess it, it will find you. But if you’re in love with the thing, it may run like hell away from you.” – Maya Angelou

28. “I do not trust people who don’t love themselves and yet tell me, ‘I love you.’ There is an African saying which is: Be careful when a naked person offers you a shirt.” — Maya Angelou

29. “By love I don’t mean indulgence. I do not mean sentimentality. And in this instance, I don’t even mean romance. I mean that condition that allowed humans to dream of God. That condition that allowed the “dumb” to write spirituals and Russian songs and Irish lilt. That is love, and it’s so much larger than anything I can conceive.” – Maya Angelou

Famous Maya Angelou Quotes About Life

In remembrance of her incredible legacy left behind, read through for some of Angelou's most inspiring and uplifting quotes about truth of life, and the lessons which one learns.

1. **“Life loves the liver of it.” – Maya Angelou**

2. **“We are only as blind as we want to be.” – Maya Angelou**

3. “We need much less than we think we need.” – Maya Angelou

4. “Live as though life was created for you.” – Maya Angelou

5. “I’ve learned that life sometimes gives you a second chance.” – Maya Angelou

6. “There is a very fine line between loving life and being greedy for it.” – Maya Angelou

7. “Life loves to be taken by the lapel and told, ‘I’m with you kid. Let’s go’.” – Maya Angelou

8. “We are here to love each other. That is why you are alive. That is what life is for.” – Maya Angelou

9. “At fifteen life had taught me undeniably that surrender, in its place, was as honorable as resistance, especially if one had no choice.” – Maya Angelou

10. “Life is pure adventure, and the sooner we realize that, the quicker we will be able to treat life as art.” – Maya Angelou

11. “Most people don’t grow up. Most people age. They find parking spaces, honor their credit cards, get married, have children, and call that maturity. What that is, is aging.” – Maya Angelou

12. “I encourage courtesy. To accept nothing less than courtesy, and to give nothing less than courtesy.” – Maya Angelou

13. “We spend precious hours fearing the inevitable. It would be wise to use that time adoring our families, cherishing our friends and living our lives.” – Maya Angelou

14. “I think a hero is any person really intent on making this a better place for all people.” – Maya Angelou

15. “You are the sum total of everything you’ve ever seen, heard, eaten, smelled, been told, forgot – it’s all there. Everything influences each of us, and because of that I try to make sure that my experiences are positive.” – Maya Angelou

16. “We can be better, we can be wiser, we can be more kind. Yes we have to change. We have to grow up and stop acting like 10 years old. Yes there is much to do, much to see, much to go into.” – Maya Angelou

17. “I believe in living a poetic life, an art full life. Everything we do from the way we raise our children to the way we welcome our friends is part of a large canvas we are creating.” – Maya Angelou

18. “Love life. Engage in it. Give it all you’ve got. Love it with a passion because life truly does give back, many times over, what you put into it.” – Maya Angelou

19. “If we live long enough, we may even get over war. I imagine a time when somebody will mention the word war and everyone in the room will start to laugh. And what do you mean war?” – Maya Angelou

20. “Human beings are more alike than unlike. Whether in Paris, Texas, or Paris, France, we all want to have good jobs where we are needed and respected and paid just a little more than we deserve. We want healthy children, safe streets, to be loved and have the unmitigated gall to accept love.” – Maya Angelou

Short Quotes By Maya Angelou

These wise and deep one-liners, short quotes, thoughts by Maya Angelou are perfect for your Instagram captions, WhatsApp status, Insta bio, sloagns, posters, mantra, and more to spread some motivation.

1. “Effective action is always unjust.”— Maya Angelou

2. “Whining is just unbecoming.”— Maya Angelou

3. “I know why the caged bird sings.”— Maya Angelou

4. “Everybody is worth everything.”— Maya Angelou

5. “The needs of society determine its ethics.”— Maya Angelou

6. “All great achievements require time.”— Maya Angelou

7. “Achievement brings its own anticlimax.”— Maya Angelou

8. “Your belief and your work will speak for you.”— Maya Angelou

9. “Determine to live life with flair and laughter.”— Maya Angelou

10. “We need much less than we think we need.”— Maya Angelou

11. “The honorary duty of a human being is to love.”— Maya Angelou

12. “When you learn, teach, when you get, give.”— Maya Angelou

13. “Surviving is important. Thriving is elegant.”— Maya Angelou

14. “I believe that every person is born with talent.”— Maya Angelou

15. “If someone shows you who they really are, believe them.”— Maya Angelou

Maya Angelou Quotes About Women And Feminism

1. “My mother raised me, and then freed me.”— Maya Angelou

2. “I became the kind of parent my mother was to me.”— Maya Angelou

3. “How important it is for us to recognize and celebrate our heroes and she-
roes!”— Maya Angelou

4. “A wise woman wishes to be no one's enemy; a wise woman refuses to be
anyone's victim.”— Maya Angelou

5. “I am grateful to be a woman. I must have done something great in another
life.”— Maya Angelou

6. “The wise woman thinks twice and speaks once or, better yet, does not speak
at all.”— Maya Angelou

7. “Most plain girls are virtuous because of the scarcity of opportunity to be
otherwise.”— Maya Angelou

8. “A woman’s heart should be so hidden in God that a man has to seek Him just
to find her.”— Maya Angelou

9. "I love to see a young girl go out and grab the world by the lapels. Life's a bitch. You've got to go out and kick ass."— Maya Angelou

10. "Each time a woman stands up for herself, without knowing it possibly, without claiming it, she stands up for all women."— Maya Angelou

11. "Encouragement to all women is - let us try to offer help before we have to offer therapy. That is to say, let's see if we can't prevent being ill by trying to offer a love of prevention before illness."— Maya Angelou

12. "The woman who truly intends to live a good life is already living phenomenally since intent is part of the achievement."— Maya Angelou

13. "I would like to be known as an intelligent woman, a courageous woman, a loving woman, a woman who teaches by being." – Maya Angelou

14. "Courage allows the successful woman to fail – and to learn powerful lessons from the failure – so that in the end, she didn't fail at all."— Maya Angelou

15. "We must insist that the men and women who expect to lead us recognize the true desires of those who are being led."— Maya Angelou

16. "Stepping onto a brand-new path is difficult, but not more difficult than remaining in a situation, which is not nurturing to the whole woman."— Maya Angelou

17. "When teachers or people in authority put me down or in one way or another tried to make me feel less than equal to what they thought I should be – my mother was on my side. It was amazing."— Maya Angelou

18. “A man or woman who sees other people as whole and prepared and accords them respect and the same rights has arranged his or her own allies.”— Maya Angelou

19. “I am a woman phenomenally, phenomenal woman that is your grandmother, that is your mother, that is your sister, that is you and that is me.”— Maya Angelou

20. “The sadness of the women’s movement is that they don’t allow the necessity of love. See, I don’t personally trust any revolution where love is not allowed.”— Maya Angelou

21. “A woman in harmony with her spirit is like a river flowing. She goes where she will without pretense and arrives at her destination prepared to be herself and only herself.”— Maya Angelou

22. “My mother had said me, “All right, you’ve been raised, so don’t let anybody else raise you. You know the difference between right and wrong. Do right. And remember – you can always come home.” And she continued to liberate me until she died.”— Maya Angelou

Insightful Maya Angelou Quotes on Success & Courage

1. “All great achievements require time.”– Maya Angelou

2. “Achievement brings its own anticlimax.”– Maya Angelou

3. “Success is loving life and daring to live it.” – Maya Angelou

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

5. “There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you.”— Maya Angelou

6. "Success is liking yourself, liking what you do, and liking how you do it."—
Maya Angelou

7. "At 50, I began to know who I was. It was like waking up to myself." – Maya
Angelou

8. "I think we all have empathy. We may not have enough courage to display
it."— Maya Angelou

9. "If you find it in your heart to care for somebody else, you will have
succeeded."— Maya Angelou

10. "Nothing succeeds like success. Get a little success, and then just get a little
more."— Maya Angelou

11. "I am not competing with anyone other than myself. I want to be excellent at
whatever I do."— Maya Angelou

12. "The only way you can be a mark is if you want something for nothing. If
you're greedy, you're set up."— Maya Angelou

13. "You may not control all the events that happen to you, but you can decide not
to be reduced by them."— Maya Angelou

14. "If I'm here, I'll be trying to be a better human being, a better writer, a better
friend and a better beloved."— Maya Angelou

15. "Those who have something to say accept the fact that that's lonely. One
already knows that there will be adversaries."— Maya Angelou

16. “Courage – you develop courage by doing small things like just as if you wouldn’t want to pick up a 100-pound weight without preparing yourself. – Maya Angelou

17. “We may encounter many defeats, but we must not be defeated. It may even be necessary to encounter the defeat, so that we can know who we are.”— Maya Angelou

18. “I’ve learned that whenever I decide something with an open heart, I usually make the right decision.”— Maya Angelou

19. “To develop courage you have to start developing courage as you do any other muscle. You have to start with small things and build it up.”— Maya Angelou

20. “In order to win, we pay with energy and effort and discipline. If we lose, we pay in disappointment, discontent, and lack of fulfillment.”— Maya Angelou

21. “My great hope is to laugh as much as I cry; to get my work done and try to love somebody and have the courage to accept the love in return.” – Maya Angelou

22. “Courage is the most important of all the virtues because without courage you can’t practice any other virtue consistently. You can practice any virtue erratically, but nothing consistently without courage.” – Maya Angelou

23. “One isn’t necessarily born with courage, but one is born with potential. Without courage, we cannot practice any other virtue with consistency. We can’t be kind, true, merciful, generous, or honest.” – Maya Angelou

24. “You can’t forgive without loving. And I don’t mean sentimentality. I don’t mean mush. I mean having enough courage to stand up and say, ‘I forgive. I’m finished with it.’” – Maya Angelou

25. "I did get knocked down flat in front of the whole world, and I rose. I didn't run away – I rose right where I'd been knocked down. And then that's how you get to know yourself."— Maya Angelou

26. "The quality of strength lined with tenderness is an unbeatable combination, as are intelligence and necessity when unblunted by formal education."— Maya Angelou

27. "If I am going to do the most difficult and frightening thing – dying – is it possible that I could do some difficult and impossible things that are good?"— Maya Angelou

28. "You have to deal with what you encounter. But you must not be reduced. And so a way not to be reduced is don't whine! Don't let the incidents which take place in life bring you low."— Maya Angelou

29. "In the latter years of your life, your happiness and your self-esteem will be determined by the mountains you surmounted, the valleys you climbed out of, and the life and/or career that you forged for yourself."— Maya Angelou

30. "I have enough of life in me to make somebody jealous enough to want to knock me down. I have so much courage in me that I have the effrontery, the incredible gall to stand up. That's it. That's how you get to know who you are."— Maya Angelou

31. "I think that each of us is so much alike, and yet at the same time we are so different, and I have a feeling that if you encountered difficulty, and I with my age encountered the same difficulty, I would respond one way, and you would respond another. Neither would be right or wrong. It's just that each of us is courageous, and that's what I encourage, courage, and the courage to see, and the courage to say to oneself what one has seen. Don't be in denial."— Maya Angelou

Inspirational Maya Angelou Quotes about Change

1. "I can be changed by what happens to me. But I refuse to be reduced by it."— Maya Angelou

2. “The need for change bulldozed a road down the center of my mind.”— Maya Angelou

3. “If you don’t like something, change it. If you can’t change it, change your attitude.”— Maya Angelou

4. “We delight in the beauty of the butterfly, but rarely admit the changes it has gone through to achieve that beauty.”— Maya Angelou

5. “There are those who say that poets should use her and his art to change the world. I’d agree with that, but I think everybody should do that. I think the chef and the baker and the candlestick maker – I think everybody should be hoping to make it a better world.”— Maya Angelou

Maya Angelou Quotes About Education And Learning

Though she never went to college herself, she was a college professor and held 30 honorary degrees. In addition to learning from what she did and wrote, educators can be inspired from what she said.

1. “I’ve learned that I still have a lot to learn.” – Maya Angelou

2. “There’s a world of difference between truth and facts. Facts can obscure the truth.” – Maya Angelou

3. “I do hope that young men and women will start to think for themselves and start to take responsibility for their own thoughts.” – Maya Angelou

4. “I think we have systematically and critically harmed ourselves and many young people by advising them not to try things.” – Maya Angelou

5. “It is time for parents to teach young people early on that in diversity there is beauty and there is strength.” – Maya Angelou

6. “Any book that helps a child to form a habit of reading, to make reading one of his deep and continuing needs, is good for him.” – Maya Angelou

7. “Each child belongs to all of us and they will bring us a tomorrow in direct relation to the responsibility we have shown to them.” – Maya Angelou

8. “If I’m going to a new country, I try to learn something about the language and the culture, so I don’t just go bumbling over things.” – Maya Angelou

9. “The real difficulty is to overcome how you think about yourself. If we don’t have that we never grow, we never learn, and sure as hell we should never teach.” – Maya Angelou

10. “I learned a long time ago the wisest thing I can do is be on my own side, be an advocate for myself and others like me.” – Maya Angelou

11. “Words mean more than what is set down on paper. It takes the human voice to infuse them with deeper meaning.” – Maya Angelou

12. “If you’re in love with your children, you’re in their lives all the time. Leave them alone. Let them grow and make some mistakes.” – Maya Angelou

13. “If a person – any human being – is told often enough, “You are nothing. You are nothing. You account for nothing. You count for nothing. You are less than a human being. I have no visibility of you”, the person finally begins to believe it.” – Maya Angelou

14. “My mother said I must always be intolerant of ignorance but understanding of illiteracy. That some people, unable to go to school, were more educated and more intelligent than college professors.” – Maya Angelou

Inspirational Maya Angelou Quotes About Family

1. "A mother's love liberates." – Maya Angelou

2. "I sustain myself with the love of family." – Maya Angelou

3. "If I have a monument in this world, it is my son." – Maya Angelou

4. "My pride had been starved by a family who assumed unlimited authority in its own affairs." – Maya Angelou

5. "I've learned that regardless of your relationship with your parents, you'll miss them when they're gone from your life." – Maya Angelou

6. Only equals make friends, every other relationship is contrived and off balance." — Maya Angelou

7. "Home is a refuge not only from the world, but a refuge from my worries, my troubles, my concerns." – Maya Angelou

8. "The love of the family, the love of one person can heal. It heals the scars left by a larger society. A massive, powerful society." – Maya Angelou

9. "I do not believe that the accident of birth makes people sisters and brothers. It makes them siblings. Gives them mutuality of parentage. Sisterhood and brotherhood are conditions people have to work at. It's a serious matter. You compromise, you give, you take, you stand firm, and you're relentless...And it is an investment. Sisterhood means if you happen to be in Burma and I happen to be in San Diego and I'm married to someone who is very jealous and you're married to somebody who is very possessive, if you call me in the middle of the night, I have to come." – Maya Angelou

10. “The sisters and brothers that you meet give you the materials which your character uses to build itself. It is said that some people are born great, others achieve it, some have it thrust upon them. In truth, the ways in which your character is built have to do with all three of those. Those around you, those you choose, and those who choose you.” – Maya Angelou

Maya Angelou Quotes on Kindness, Forgiveness And Hope

1. “Faith is the evidence of the unseen.”— Maya Angelou
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2. “I hope you always find a reason to smile.”— Maya Angelou
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3. “It’s one of the greatest gifts you can give yourself, to forgive. Forgive everybody.” – Maya Angelou
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4. “I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver. – Maya Angelou
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5. “Forgive yourself for not knowing what you didn’t know before you learned it.”— Maya Angelou
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6. “Take a day to heal from the lies you’ve told yourself and the ones that have been told to you.”— Maya Angelou
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7. “My people couldn’t have survived slavery without having hope that it would get better.” – Maya Angelou
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8. “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.” – Maya Angelou
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9. “My great hope is to laugh as much as I cry; to get my work done and try to love somebody and have the courage to accept the love in return.” – Maya Angelou

10. “Seek patience and passion in equal amounts. Patience alone will not build the temple. Passion alone will destroy its walls.” – Maya Angelou

11. “God puts rainbows in the clouds so that each of us – in the dreariest and most dreaded moments – can see a possibility of hope.” – Maya Angelou

12. “We can be better, we can be wiser, we can be more kind. Yes we have to change. We have to grow up and stop acting like 10 years old. Yes there is much to do, much to see, much to go into.” – Maya Angelou

13. “I work very hard, and I play very hard. I’m grateful for life. And I live it – I believe life loves the liver of it. I live it.” – Maya Angelou

14. “I know that when I pray, something wonderful happens. Not just to the person or persons for whom I’m praying, but also something wonderful happens to me. I’m grateful that I’m heard.” – Maya Angelou

15. “On this platform of peace, we can create a language to translate ourselves to ourselves and to each other.”— Maya Angelou

16. “While I know myself as a creation of God, I am also obligated to realize and remember that everyone else and everything else are also God’s creation.” – Maya Angelou

17. “My greatest blessing has been the birth of my son. My next greatest blessing has been my ability to turn people into children of mine.” – Maya Angelou

18. “In all my work, I try to say, ‘You may be given a load of sour lemons, why not try to make a dozen lemon meringue pies?’ ” – Maya Angelou

19. “If you must look back, do so forgivingly. If you will look forward, do so prayerfully. But the wisest course would be to be present in the present gratefully.” – Maya Angelou

20. “I’m convinced of this: Good done anywhere is good done everywhere. For a change, start by speaking to people rather than walking by them like they’re stones that don’t matter. As long as you’re breathing, it’s never too late to do some good.” – Maya Angelou

Maya Angelou Quotes About Racism, History, Equality, And Blacks

1. “I have great respect for the past.” – Maya Angelou

2. “I am overwhelmed by the grace and persistence of my people.” – Maya Angelou

3. “Don’t hesitate to learn the most painful aspects of our history, understand it.” – Maya Angelou

4. “The problem I have with haters is that they see my glory, but they don’t know my story.” – Maya Angelou

5. “History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be unlived, but if faced with courage, need not be lived again.” – Maya Angelou

6. “It is imperative that young white men and women study the black American history. It is imperative that blacks and whites study the Asian American history.” – Maya Angelou

7. "I'm a descendant of someone bought and sold, and brought in 1619 in what was to become the United States." – Maya Angelou

8. "As far as I knew white women were never lonely, except in books. White men adored them, Black men desired them and Black women worked for them." – Maya Angelou

9. "I like to speak on matters which matter to human beings, and almost everything matters to human beings." – Maya Angelou

10. "There's something beautiful about the fact that Obama was not just elected, but elected decisively across racial, and socio-economic and cultural groups and that we all celebrated in his win." – Maya Angelou

11. "It is time for parents to teach young people early on that in diversity there is beauty and there is strength." – Maya Angelou

12. "We cannot change the past, but we can change our attitude toward it. Uproot guilt and plant forgiveness. Tear out arrogance and seed humility. Exchange love for hate – thereby, making the present comfortable and the future promising." – Maya Angelou

13. "For Africa to me... is more than a glamorous fact. It is a historical truth. No man can know where he is going unless he knows exactly where he has been and exactly how he arrived at his present place." – Maya Angelou

14. "The fact that the adult American Negro female emerges a formidable character is often met with amazement, distaste and even belligerence. It is seldom accepted as an inevitable outcome of the struggle won by survivors, and deserves respect if not enthusiastic acceptance." – Maya Angelou

15. "There's racism and sexism and ageism and all sorts of idiocies. But bad news is not news. We've had bad news as a species for a long time. We've had

slavery and human sacrifice and the holocaust and brutalities of such measure.” – Maya Angelou

16. “I would encourage us all, African Americans, Asians, Latinos, Whites, Native Americans to study history. I long for the time when all the human history is taught as one history. I am stronger because you are stronger. I am weaker if you are weak. So we are more alike than we are unlike.” – Maya Angelou

17. “The country didn’t get that way in a week; we’ve had years and years of getting behind in our economy. So President Obama stepped into a hellhole and people wanted him to change it as soon as he came in. But he’s got his adversaries to deal with in the House and Senate, so it’s not easy.” – Maya Angelou

18. “All of my history as an African-American woman, as a Jewish woman, as a Muslim woman. I’m bringing everything I ever knew, and all the stories I’ve read – everything good, strong, kind and powerful. I bring it all with me into every situation, and I will not allow my life to be minimized by anybody’s racism or sexism or ageism.” – Maya Angelou

Deep And Thought Provoking Maya Angelou Sayings

1. “Give yourself time just to be with yourself.” – Maya Angelou

2. “The only way out of something is all the way through it.”— Maya Angelou

3. “You can’t get too high for somebody to bring you down.”— Maya Angelou

4. “I did then what I knew best, when I knew better, I did better.”— Maya Angelou

5. “We must be warriors in the struggle against ignorance.” – Maya Angelou

6. “A bird doesn’t sing because it has an answer, it sings because it has a song.”
– Maya Angelou

7. “The desire to reach for the stars is ambitious. The desire to reach hearts is wise.”- Maya Angelou

8. “Believe people when they tell you who they are. They know themselves better than you.”— Maya Angelou

9. “Remember, people will judge you by your actions not your intentions. You may have a heart of gold but so does a hard-boiled egg.”— Maya Angelou

10. “I believe that each of us comes from the Creator trailing wisps of glory.” – Maya Angelou

11. “I wrote some of the worst poetry west from the Mississippi River, but I wrote. And I finally sometimes got it right.” – Maya Angelou

12. “I respect myself and insist upon it from everybody. And because I do it, I then respect everybody, too.” – Maya Angelou

13. “Don’t get older just to get wiser. If you get older, you will be wiser, I believe that – if you dare. But get older because it’s fun! ” – Maya Angelou

14. “There’s something which impels us to show our inner souls. The more courageous we are, the more we succeed in explaining what we know. ” – Maya Angelou

15. “Everyone has at least one story, and each of us is funny if we admit it. You have to admit you’re the funniest person you’ve ever heard of. ” – Maya Angelou

16. “They may have forgotten how badly they treated you, or they may pretend that they have forgotten. But watch: They will come back to you.” — Maya Angelou

17. “I looked up the way I was going and back the way I come and since I wasn’t satisfied, I stepped off and [found] me a new path.” — Maya Angelou

18. “Peace means when there is conflict, use our common sense and our compassion to consider rest of humanity, our human brothers and sisters.” — Maya Angelou

Words of Wisdom By Maya Angelou

1. “I’ve had rainbows in my clouds.”— Maya Angelou

2. “Living well is an art which can be developed.”— Maya Angelou

3. “Their faces shone with the delight of their souls.”— Maya Angelou

4. “In diversity there is beauty and there is strength.”— Maya Angelou

5. “I created myself. I have taught myself so much.” – Maya Angelou

6. “We begin to stop in order simply to begin again.” — Maya Angelou

7. “I have respect for the past, but I’m a person of the moment.” – Maya Angelou

8. “It’s hard to make the prettiest clothes fit a miserable man.” — Maya Angelou

9. “This is a wonderful day, I have never seen this one before.” — Maya Angelou

10. “I learned that a friend may be waiting behind a stranger’s face.” — Maya Angelou

11. “The real difficulty is to overcome how you think about yourself.”— Maya Angelou

12. “Talent is like electricity. We don’t understand electricity. We use it.” — Maya Angelou

13. “If I am not good to myself, how can I expect anyone else to be good to me?” – Maya Angelou

14. “I’m here, and I do my best to be completely centered at the place I’m at, then I go forward to the next place.” – Maya Angelou

15. “You don’t need another person, place or thing to make you whole. God already did that. Your job is to know it.” – Maya Angelou

16. “I learned that to be charitable with gestures and words can bring enormous joy and repair injured feelings.” — Maya Angelou

17. “Although I had no regrets, I told myself sadly that growing up was not the painless process one would have thought it to be.”— Maya Angelou

18. “Take as much time as you need to make up your mind, but once it is made up, step out on your decision like it’s something you want.”— Maya Angelou

19. “Bitterness is like cancer. It eats upon the host. But anger is like fire. It burns it all clean.” — Maya Angelou

20. “Precious jewel, you glow, you shine, reflecting all the good things in the world. Just look at yourself.” — Maya Angelou

21. “If you want what you’re saying heard, then take your time and say it so that the listener will actually hear it. You might save somebody’s life. Your own, first.” – Maya Angelou

22. “Human beings are like some plants. If we pause a few seconds in our journey, we begin setting down roots, tendrils that entangle other people as we ourselves are entangled.” — Maya Angelou

23. “Your reputation is the most important thing you’ll ever have. Not clothes, nor money, not the big cars you may drive. If your reputation is good, you can achieve anything you want in the world.”— Maya Angelou

24. “Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer. And let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good.” — Maya Angelou

25. “What is a fear of living? It’s being preeminently afraid of dying. It is not doing what you came here to do, out of timidity and spinelessness. The antidote is to take full responsibility for yourself – for the time you take up and the space you occupy. If you don’t know what you’re here to do, then just do some good.” – Maya Angelou

More About Maya Angelou

- Name at birth: Marguerite Annie Johnson
- Place: St. Louis, Missouri, US
- April 4, 1928 – May 28, 2014 (aged 86)
- Occupation: Writer, poet, civil rights, activist
- More [Maya Angelou facts](#) (Wikipedia page)

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Did you enjoy these Maya Angelou quotes? Which of these quotes inspired you the most? Let us know in the comment section below. If you have more quotes from Maya Angelou which we missed in the list, feel free to share with us.

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