

No one is truly free to live
until one is free to die.

Martin Luther King
The eve of his assassination



Now comes the mystery.

Henry Ward Beecher, evangelist, d. March 8, 1887



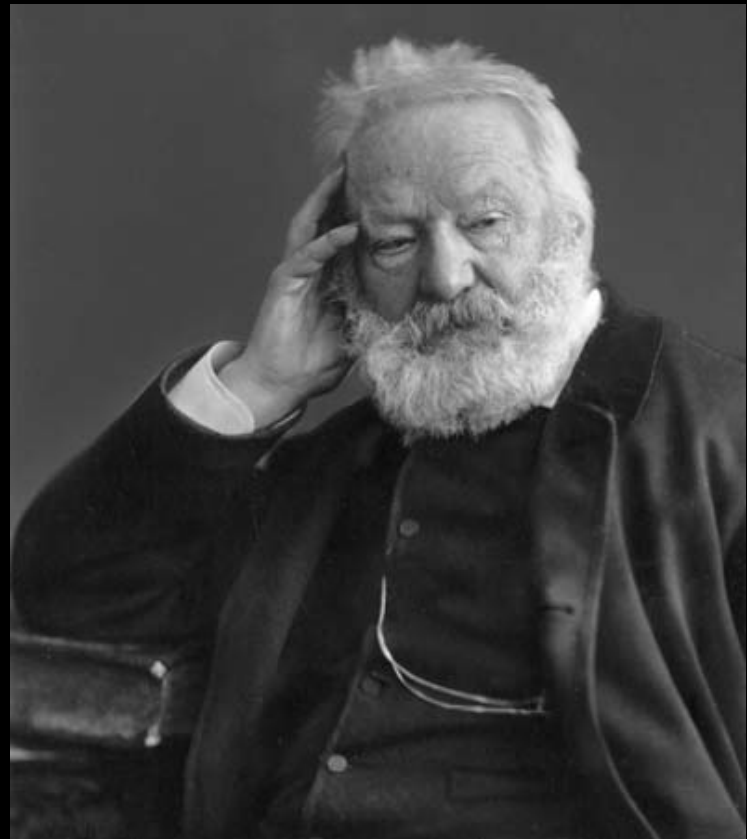


Is everybody happy?
I want everybody to be happy.
I know I'm happy.

Ethel Barrymore, actress, d. June 18, 1959

I see black light.

Victor Hugo, writer, d. May 22, 1885





Josephine ...

Napoleon Bonaparte, French Emperor, May 5, 1821

Too late for fruit...
...too soon for flowers.



Walter De La Mare, writer, d. 1956



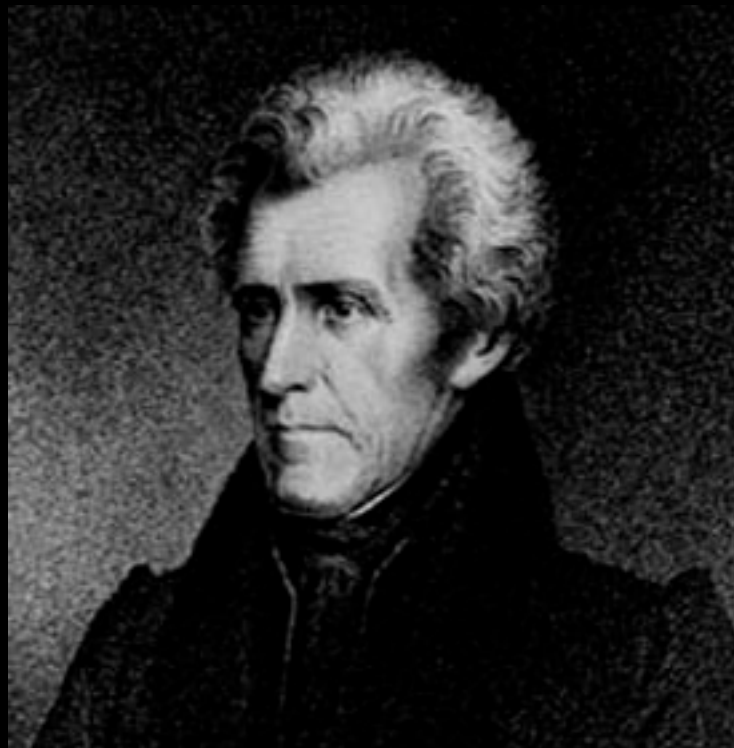
I owe much; I have nothing ...
...the rest I leave to the poor.

François Rabelais, writer, d. 1553



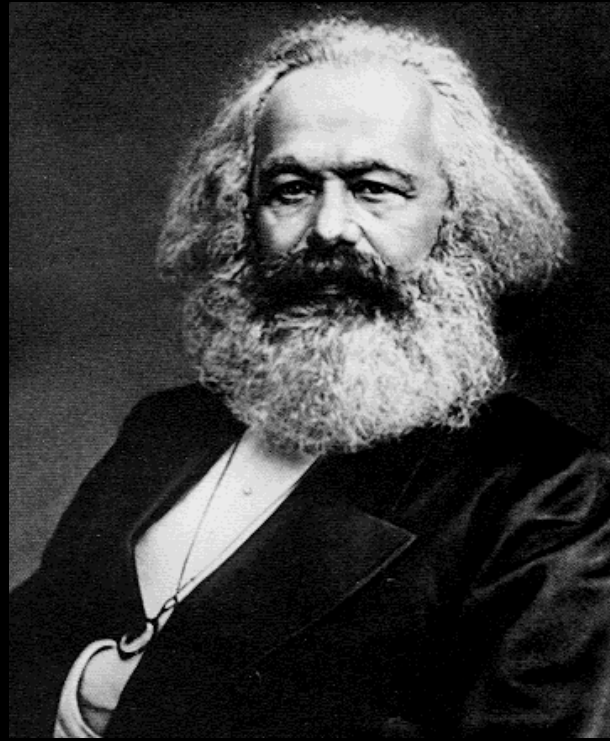
Damn it . . . Don't you dare ask God to help me!

Joan Crawford, actress, d. May 10, 1977
To her housekeeper, who had begun to pray aloud.



Oh, do not cry - be good children
and we will all meet in heaven.

Andrew Jackson, US President, d. 1845



**Go on, get out - last words are for fools
who haven't said enough.**

Karl Marx, d. 1883
*To his housekeeper, who urged him to tell her his last words so she could write
them down for posterity.*



When all usefulness is over, when one is assured of an unavoidable and imminent death, it is the simplest of human rights to choose a quick and easy death in place of a slow and horrible one.

Charlotte Perkins Gilman, writer, d. August 17, 1935

Suicide note. As an advocate for the right-to-die, Gilman committed suicide on August 17, 1935 by taking an overdose of chloroform. She chose chloroform over cancer.

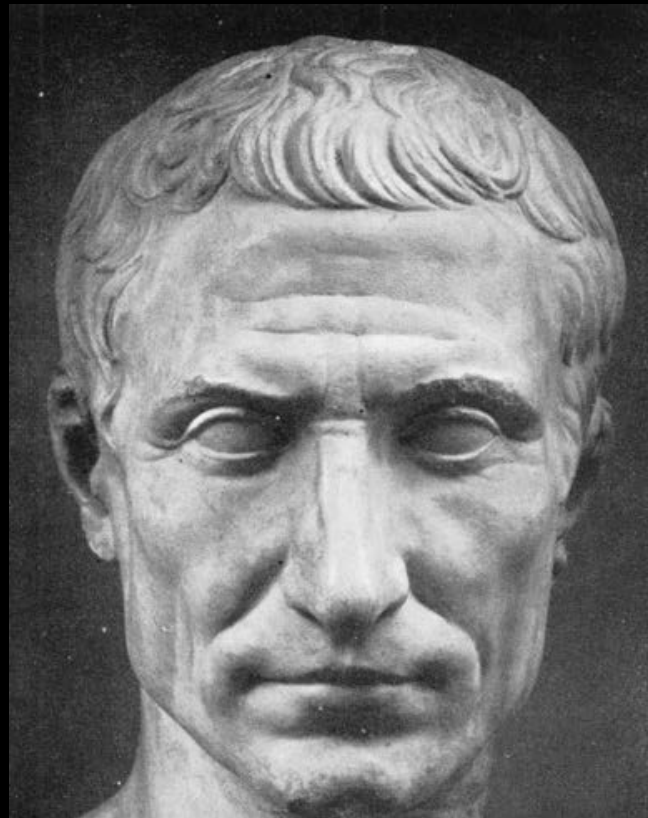
See in what peace
a Christian can die



Joseph Addison, writer, d. June 17, 1719

Et tu, Brute?

Gaius Julius Caesar, Roman Emperor, d. 44 BC
Assassinated

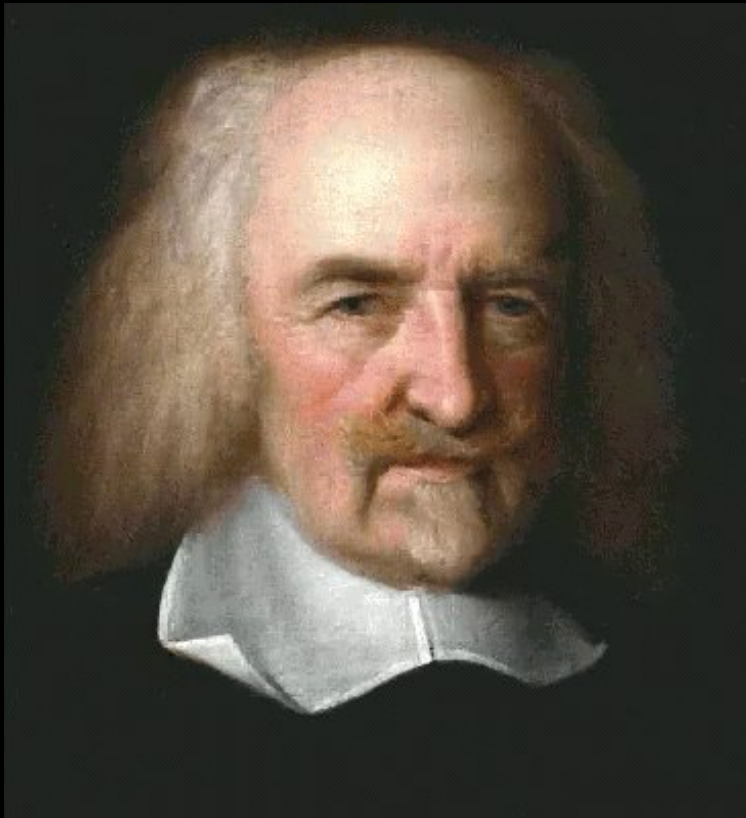


Don't let it end like this.
Tell them I said something.

Pancho Villa, Mexican revolutionary, d. 1923



I am about to take my last voyage,
a great leap in the dark.

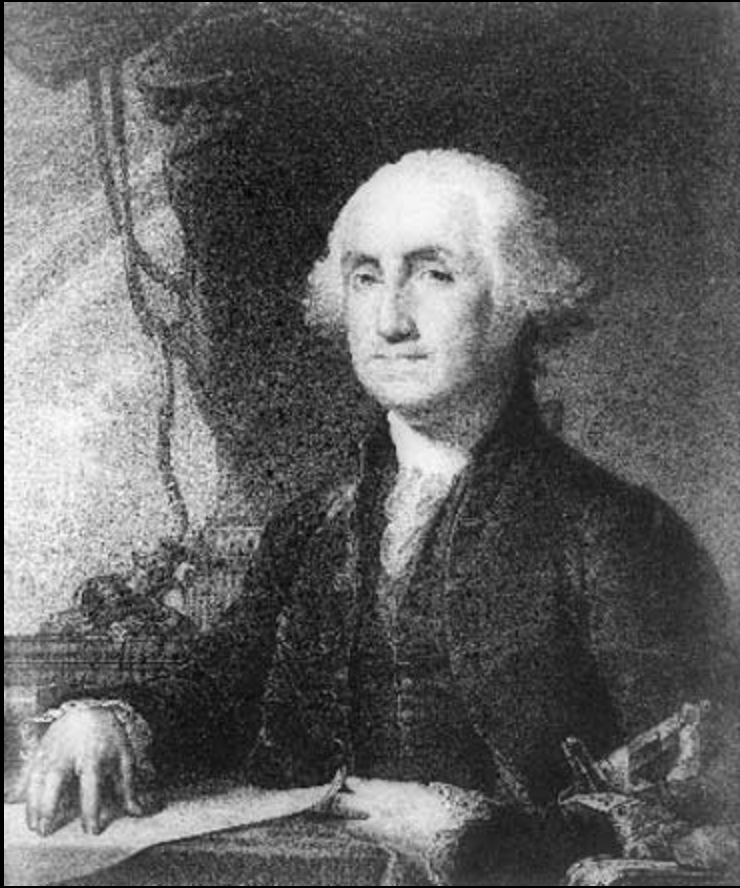


Thomas Hobbes, writer, d. 1679



**I know you have come to kill me.
Shoot coward, you are only going to kill a man.**

*Comandante, Ernesto "Che" Guevara, M.D. - d. October 9, 1967
Facing his assassin, Mario Teran, a Bolivian soldier.*



I die hard but am not afraid to go.

George Washington, US President, d. December 14, 1799



I am curious to see what happens in the next world to one who dies unshriven.

Pietro Perugino, Italian painter, d. 1523
Giving his reasons for refusing to see a priest as he lay dying.



**Adieu, mes amis.
Je vais la gloire.**

(Farewell, my friends! I go to glory!)
Isadora Duncan, dancer, d. 1927

And now, in keeping with Channel 40's policy of always bringing you the latest in blood and guts, in living color, you're about to see another first - an attempted suicide.



Chris Chubbuck, newscaster, d. July 15, 1974
Shot herself during broadcast.

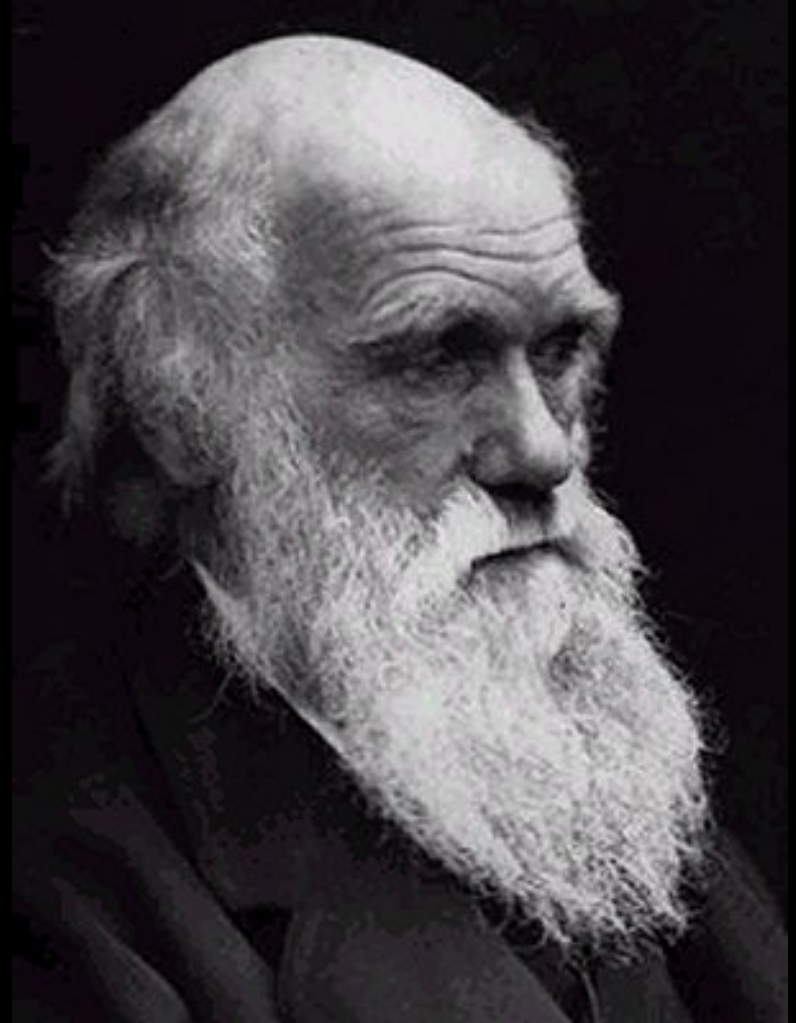


How were the receipts today at Madison Square Garden?

P. T. Barnum, entrepreneur, d. 1891

I am not the least afraid to die.

Charles Darwin, d. April 19, 1882



Name: Karla Faye Tucker D.R. # 777

DOB: 11/18/59 Received: 12/18/84 Age: 25 (when received)

County: Harris Date of Offense: 06/13/83

Age at time of offense: 23 Race: white Height: 5-3

Weight: 121 Eyes: brown Hair: black


Native County: Harris State: Texas

Prior Occupation: office worker Education Level: 7 years

Prior Prison Record:

None

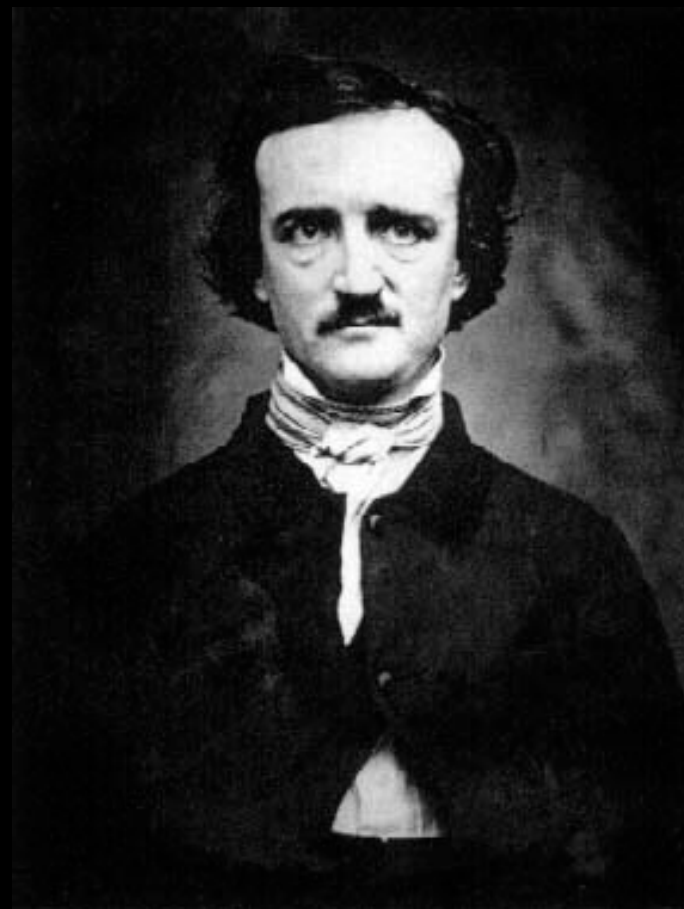
Summary:



Convicted in the June 1983 pickax slaying of 27-year-old Jerry Lynn Dean at the victim's apartment on Watonga Drive in northeast Houston. Dean and his companion, 32-year-old Deborah Thornton, were hacked to death after Tucker and accomplice Daniel Ryan Garrett sneaked into the apartment, supposedly to steal some motorcycle parts. Tucker testified that she and Garrett confronted Dean in

I am going to be face to face with Jesus now . . .
 I love you all very much. I will see you all when
 you get there. . . . I will wait for you.

Karla Faye Tucker Brown, d. February 3, 1998
 Executed by injection, Texas.



Lord help my poor soul.

Edgar Allan Poe, writer, d. October 7, 1849



God bless... God damn!

James Thurber, humorist, d. 1961



I'd like to thank my family for loving me and taking care of me. The rest of the world can kiss my ass.

Executed by injection, Texas.
Johnny Frank Garrett, Sr., d. February 11, 1992



God will pardon me...
...that's his line of work.

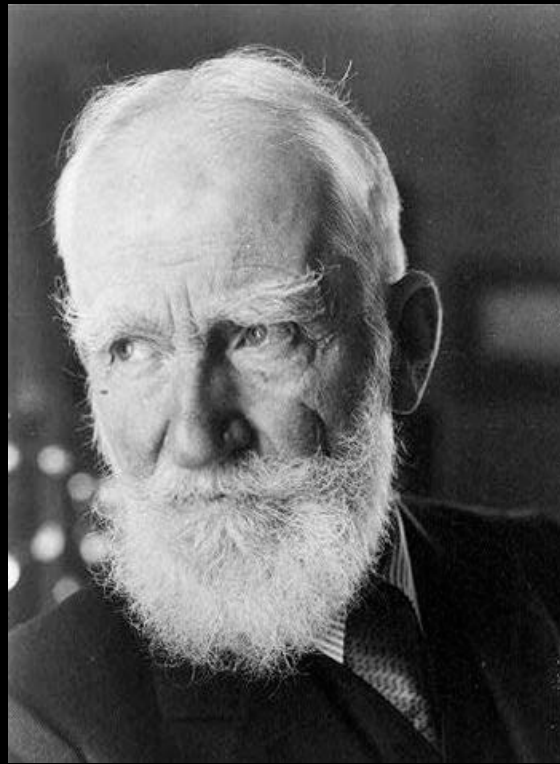
Heinrich Heine, poet, d. February 15, 1856

There is no God but Allah and Muhammad
is God's messenger.

Saddam Hussein d. December 30, 2006

Executed by hanging, at Camp Justice in the Baghdad suburb of Khadimiya





Sister, you're trying to keep me alive as an old curiosity, but I'm done, I'm finished, I'm going to die.

George Bernard Shaw, playwright, d. November 2, 1950
Spoken to his nurse.



I'd hate to die twice.
It is so boring.

Richard Feynman, physicist, d. 1988



How about this for a headline for tomorrow's paper?
"French fries"

James French, d. 1966
Executed in electric chair in Oklahoma.

Get my swan costume ready.

Anna Pavlova, ballerina, d. 1931



Now, now my good
man, this is no time
for making enemies.

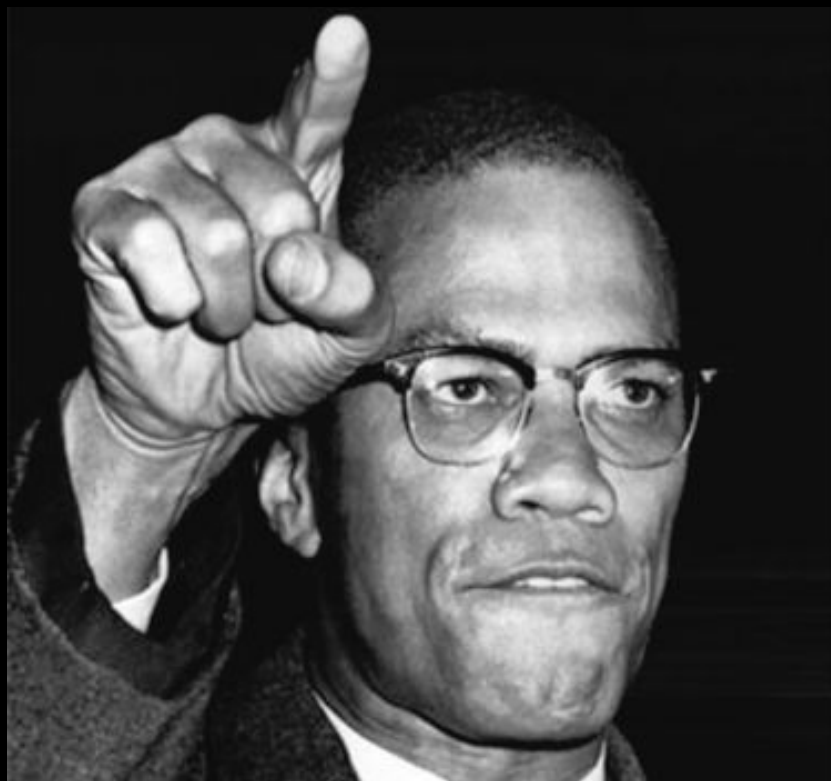
Voltaire - on his deathbed, to a priest
asking that he renounce Satan



François Marie Arouet
Voltaire

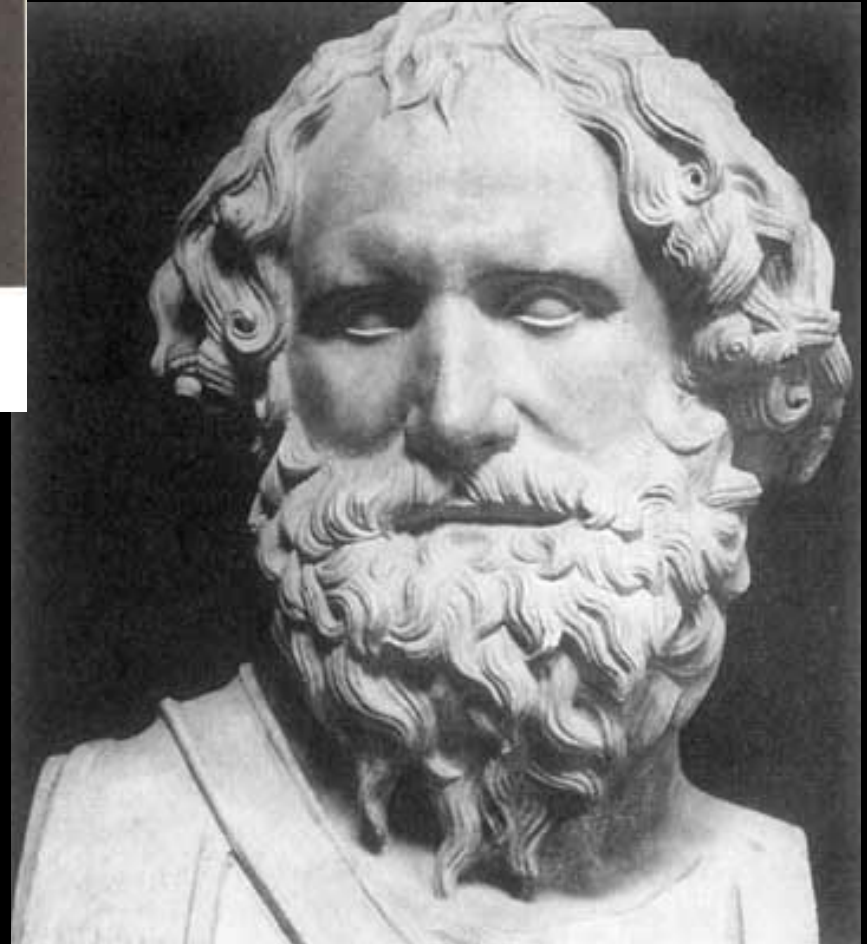
Let's cool it brothers . . .

Malcolm X, Black leader, d. 1966
Spoken to his assassins, 3 men who shot him 16 times.





Wait till I finish my problem
Archimedes of Syracuse (298-212 B.C.)



The future is just old age and
illness and pain ... I must have
peace and this is the only way.

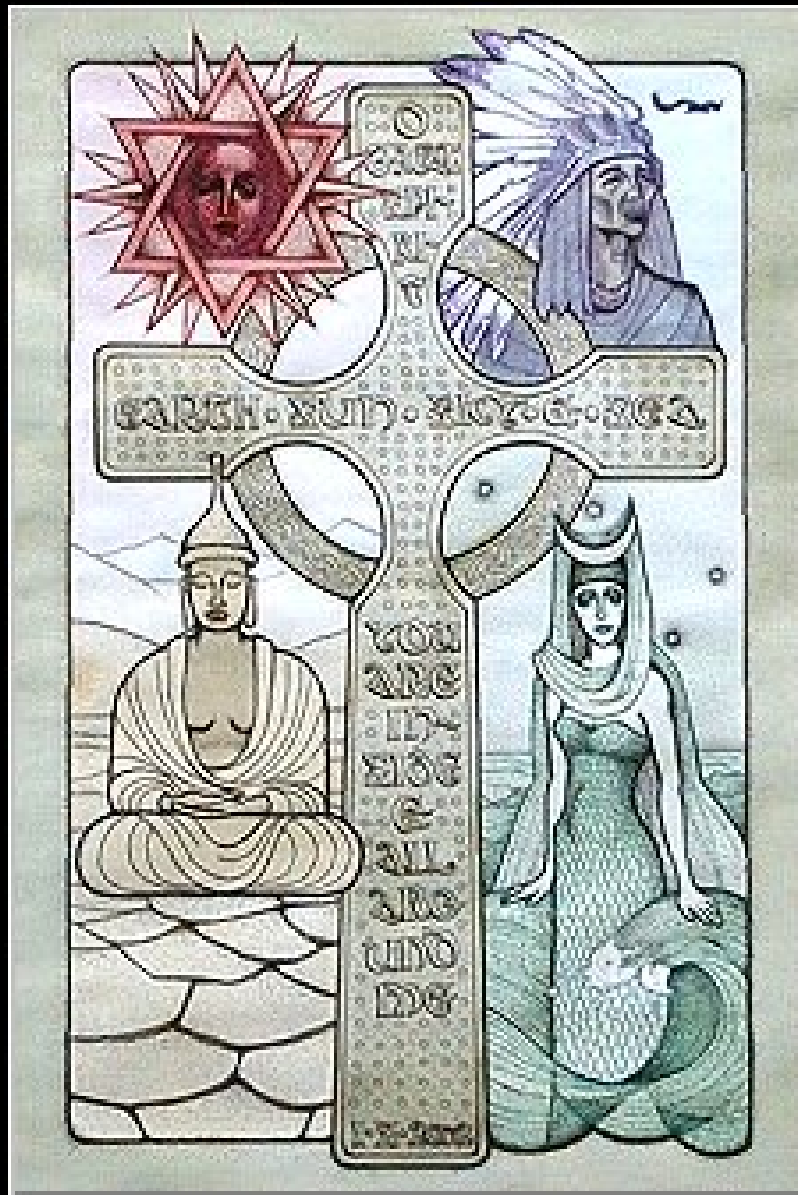
James Whale, film director, d. May 29, 1957
Suicide note.



I feel here that this time
they have succeeded.

Leon Trotsky, Russian revolutionary, d. 1940





Attitudes towards dying and death: Perspectives from around the world

Germán R. Núñez G., Ph.D.

Vice President for International and Multicultural Affairs
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center





For His Excellency Victor Gimenez Landinez
With best wishes,

George Bush

Ronald Reagan

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

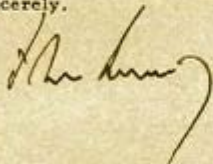
January 10, 1962

Dear Mr. Minister:

I wish to extend to you my gratitude and appreciation for the part you played during my visit to Venezuela on December sixteenth and seventeenth.

I was greatly impressed by the extremely interesting program and the excellent arrangements which enabled me to see first-hand the worthy achievements taking place in the Venezuelan country-side to raise the standard of living of the agrarian workers and to improve agricultural production.

Sincerely,



His Excellency
Dr. Victor Gimenez Landinez
Minister of Agriculture of Venezuela
Caracas, Venezuela





Painful agony and death

The children





The siblings

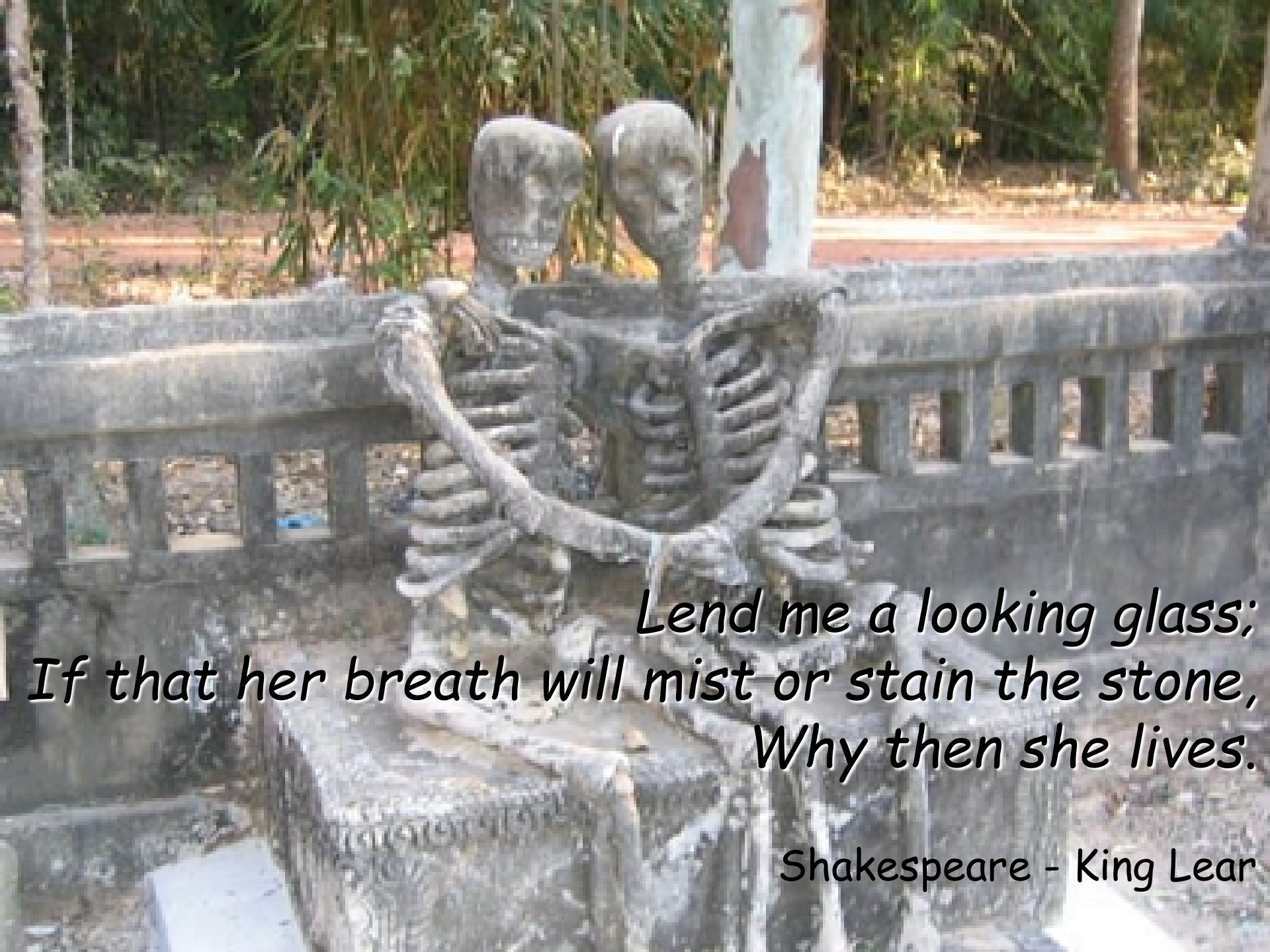
Why?



Self inflicted pain and suffering
as means of **purification and
soul cleansing**



Pain and suffering as
redemption for past sins



*Lend me a looking glass;
If that her breath will mist or stain the stone,
Why then she lives.*

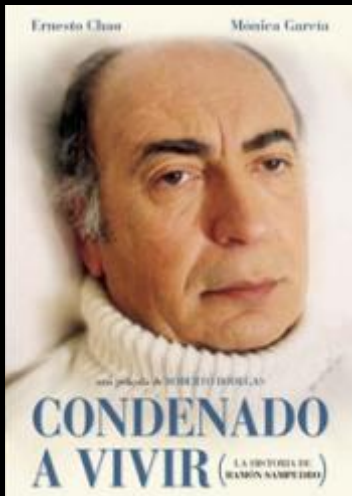
Shakespeare - King Lear

What if ...



SPAIN

Ramon Sampedro (01-12-1998+) was a live head on a dead body ... He was not terminally ill. He was terminally sad.



We negate death to the point that a gentle man is forced to struggle without the use of arms or legs to **devise a way to obtain and ingest** cyanide. At night. Away from home. Illegally.

Rod Usher

TIME. JANUARY 26, 1998 VOL. 151 NO. 4

SPAIN

Inmaculada Echevarria - Muscular Dystrophy. Obtained the right to die , disconnection of breathing tube. March 2007

"No es justo vivir así, mi vida es soledad, vacío y opresión; no acepto que medios (artificiales) me mantengan con vida", dijo, al solicitar una inyección que le paralice el corazón.



Inmaculada Echevarria, Age 51

France

France revised its law in 2005 and now permits what it terms passive euthanasia, which may mean withholding treatment or giving painkillers in such a massive dose that the patient can slide into an eternal sleep. But it forbids active euthanasia such as the use of potassium chloride

AIX-EN-PROVENCE, France: "Every person shall have the right to die with dignity; this right shall include the right to choose the time of one's death and to receive medical and pharmaceutical assistance to die painlessly. No physician, nurse or pharmacist shall be held criminally or civilly liable for assisting a person in the free exercise of this right."

Ronald Sokol, former lecturer in law at the University of Virginia, practices law in Aix-en-Provence, France.

Europe - EU

In the **Netherlands** physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia are provided in the context of universal and comprehensive health care. - Ezekiel Emanuel

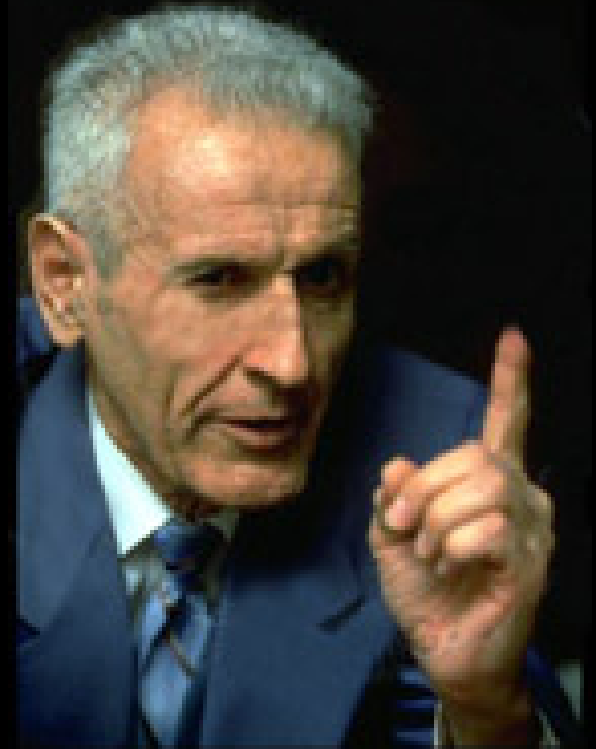
In countries less practical it is common for people suffering in their last stages to be quietly overdosed with painkillers, the act camouflaged by the nicety that what counts in many penal codes is whether the lethal amount was given to alleviate pain or to kill.

Rod Usher

Belgium has enacted legislation almost as permissive as the **Netherlands**. **Switzerland** is moving in that same direction. **Sweden** explicitly forbids any form of active or passive euthanasia. - Teresa Montero



USA





*Julia Quinlan
Mother of Karen Ann*

I have no regrets. We would do the same thing all over again. Karen Ann would never, never want to live that way. I thank God we were able to make the decision as a family and still be a close loving family after it all



USA



Patients have a "constitutionally protected liberty interest in refusing unwanted medical treatment" under the due process clause.

USA



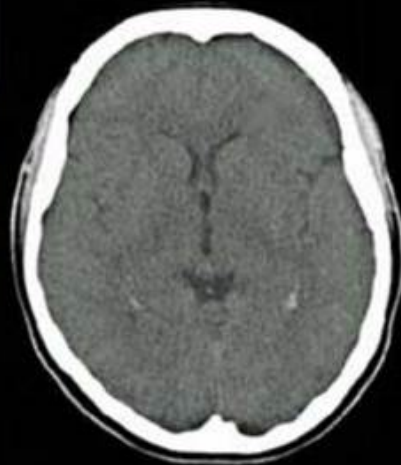
Theresa Marie Schindler Schiavo

Anoxic-ischemic encephalopathy
PVS

USA



TERRI'S BRAIN



HEALTHY BRAIN



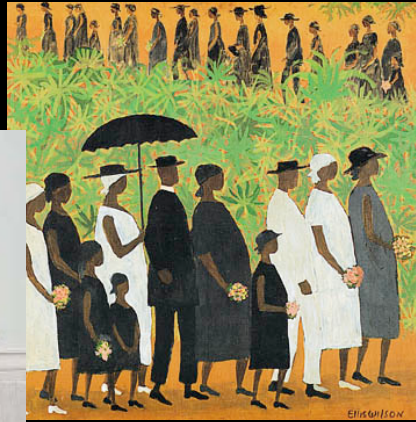
What if ...



Attitudes towards death

- Is death the end of life?
- Is death the beginning of a new cycle?
- What are we mourning?
- What are we celebrating?
- What is the meaning of these ceremonies?







Rituals



- Preparation, Washing, Embalming
- Dresses, Shrouds
- Prayers, offerings and sacrifices



In preparation for burial, the family or other members of the community will wash and shroud the body. (If the deceased was killed as a martyr, this step is not performed; martyrs are buried in the clothes they died in.) The deceased will be washed respectfully, with clean and scented water, in a manner similar to how Muslims make ablutions for prayer. The body will then be wrapped in sheets of clean, white cloth (called the kafan).

Egyptians believed that being mummified was the only way to have an afterlife. Only if the corpse had been properly embalmed and entombed in a mastaba, could the dead live again in the Fields of Yalu and accompany the Sun on its daily ride. Due to the dangers the afterlife posed, the Book of the Dead was placed in the tomb with the body.

Jewish Death Rituals According to Jewish Law

- The body of the deceased is washed thoroughly.
- The deceased is buried in a simple pine coffin.
- The deceased is buried wearing a simple white shroud (*tachrichim*).
- The body is guarded or watched from the moment of death until after burial.
- Just before a funeral begins, the immediate relatives of the deceased tear their garments or the rabbi does this to them or hands them torn black ribbons to pin on their clothes to symbolize their loss.
- Upon hearing about a death, a Jew recites the words, *Baruch dayan emet*, Blessed be the one true Judge.

Grieving. Mourning. Bereavement



What is life?

What is death ?

When does death occur ?

What happens after death ?

- One-way trip ?
- Round trip ?
- Non-stop ?
- One stop ?
- Multiple stops ?



Who owns your life ?

Who owns your body ?



Is there a soul ?



What is the soul ?

- **Christians** believe that death is not something to be feared. Instead, at death we arrive home ... heaven.
- **Universalists** believe in Universalism which holds that all will eventually be rewarded regardless of what they have done or believed.
- Some practitioners of eastern religions follow a different concept called **Metempsychosis** which purposes that human beings can **transmigrate** into **animals, vegetables or even minerals**.

- **Atheists** believe that at death one ceases to exist. There is **no afterlife or eternal soul that continues in eternity.**
- **Animistic** or tribal religions believe that **after death the human soul remains on the earth** or travels to join the departed spirits of the ancestors in the underworld. For eternity they wander in darkness, experiencing neither joy nor sorrow. **Some of the spirits of the deceased may be called upon to aid or torment those on earth.**
- **Islam** teaches that at the end of history, **God will judge the works of all men.** Those whose good deeds outweigh their bad deeds will enter into paradise. The rest will be consigned to hell.

- **Hindus** as well as others such as **Wiccan, Spiritists, and Rosicrucians** believe in an afterlife concept of evolving human life after life in the physical world that is, acquiring a superior grade of altruism by means of **successive reincarnations**. This succession is conceived to lead toward an eventual liberation or spiritual rebirth as spiritual beings.
- One consequence of the Hindu and Spiritist beliefs is that **our current lives are also an afterlife**. According to those beliefs events in our current life are consequences of actions taken in previous lives or **Karma**

What if ...

