**Fame**

**Show business is not so much "dog eats dog" as "dog doesn't return other dog's phone calls." *(Woody Allen)***

**It took me 15 years to discover that I had no talent for writing, but I couldn't give it up because by that time I was too famous. *(Robert Benchley)***

**Fame is the circumstance of one man imparting an erotic terror to the dreams of the republic. *(Don DeLillo)***

**Fame comes in many sorts and sizes, from the one-week notoriety of the cover story to the splendor of an everlasting name. *(Hannah Arendt)***

**Being a celebrity is probably the closest to being a beautiful woman as you can get. *(Kevin Costner)***

**"How does it feel to be a celebrity?" Walt Disney was once asked. "It feels fine," he replied, "when it helps to get a good seat for a football game. But it never helped me to make a good film or a good shot in a polo game, or command the obedience of my daughter. It doesn't even seen to keep fleas off our dogs -- and if being a celebrity won't give one an advantage over a couple of fleas, then I guess there can't be much in being a celebrity after all." *(Little Brown Book of Anecdotes)***

**How fleeting is fame? Well, I’ll bet you can’t identify John Watts Young, Charles Duke, Jr., and Tom Mattingly. They were the crew of Apollo 16, the longest, most ambitious, and, in many respects, the most productive of all the Apollo flights to the moon. In April 1972, Young and Duke spent 71 hours on the lunar surface, collected 214 pounds of rocks and soil, and drove an electric car to the lunar highlands for a total of 20 hours. For three days, they were the most famous men on earth. And off it too! *(Bernie Smith, in The Joy of Trivia, p. 247)***

**If actor Michael J. Fox ever shows signs of letting all the success and adulation go to his head, there's always his family to bring him back down to earth. "I'll never forget when I won my first Emmy," Fox says. "I flew home with it to show my family and proudly put it on the hall table. The next day when I came downstairs, my brother's boxing trophy, my mother's bowling trophy and my father's bridge trophy were all sitting next to it. And no one said a word." *(Iain Blair, in Boston Herald)***

**There have been as many great souls unknown to fame as any of the most famous. *(Ben Franklin)***

**Al Gore was campaigning at an old retirement home. He went up to a woman and shook her hand and asked, “Do you know who I am?” “No,” replied the old woman, “but if you go to the front desk, they’ll tell you!” *(S.C.U.C.A. newsletter)***

**Son: "Do you have to die to become famous?" Dad: "I don't think it's required so much as it's inevitable." Son: "Huh?" Dad: "True fame may take more than a single lifetime to ripen." Son: "So, that actress who keeps almost getting married?" Dad: "Poof!" *(Jef Mallett, in Frazz comic strip)***

**Fame usually comes to those who are thinking about something else. *(Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.)***

**I love being a star more than life itself. *(Janis Joplin)***

**The nice thing about being a celebrity is that, if you bore people, they think it’s their fault. *(Henry Kissinger, Nobel Peace Prize, 1973)***

**The best kind of fame is a writer's fame. Just enough to get a good table at a restaurant and not enough for someone to interrupt you while you are eating. *(Fran Lebowitz, author)***

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**Show business pays you a lot of money because eventually you're gonna get screwed. *(Jay Leno)***

**According to a Court TV poll, 91 percent of people think celebrities get preferential treatment in the judicial system. The other 9 percent are celebrities. *(Jay Leno)***

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**Fame is finally only the sum total of all the misunderstandings that can gather around a new name. *(Rainer Maria Rilke)***

**The fact that my 15 minutes of fame has extended a little longer than 15 minutes is somewhat surprising to me and completely baffling to my wife. *(Barack Obama)***

**Hollywood is the one place on earth where you could die of encouragement. *(Dorothy Parker)***

**The charm of fame is so great that we like every object to which it is attached, even death. *(Blaise Pascal)***

**People seldom become famous for what they say until after they are famous for what they've done. *(Cullen Hightower)***

**The price of rock stardom: Don't let your kids grow up to be rock stars. A new Australian study has found that pop and rock stars have average life spans that are about 25 years shorter than those of their non-musician counterparts. Professor Dianna Kenny of Sydney University examined the deaths of more than 12,000 popular musicians from 1950 to 2014. Among them were Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, Jim Morrison, Kurt Cobain, and Amy Winehouse -- all of whom died at 27. Their deaths fueled the belief that 27 is a rock star's average life span, but Kenny calls that "a myth." Instead, she found that the average age at which male performers die is in the late 50s, while for female performers, it's in the early 60s. Drug and alcohol abuse contributed to many pop stars' early deaths, but they were also five to 10 times more likely to die in accidents, two to seven times more likely to commit suicide, and eight times more likely to be murdered. Kenny says rock stars often seek fame to compensate for troubled childhoods and stunted emotional development, but they eventually find the glory and attention do not end their feelings of emptiness. Pop culture also tolerates outrageous behavior and offers little support to emotionally immature artists. "The pop scene," she tells TheAtlantic.com, "is toxic and needs rehabilitation." *(The Week magazine, November 21, 2014)***

**Fame has killed more very talented guys than drugs. Jimi Hendrix didn't die of an overdose -- he died of fame. *(Keith Richards)***

**The river is famous to the fish. The load voice is famous to silence, which knew it would inherit the earth before anybody said so. The cat sleeping on the fence is famous to the birds watching him from the birdhouse. The tear is famous, briefly, to the cheek. The idea you carry close to your bosom is famous to your bosom. The boot is famous to the earth, more famous than the dress shoe which is famous only to the floors. The bent photograph is famous to the one who carries it and not at all famous to the one who is pictured. I want to be famous to the shuffling men who smile while crossing streets, sticky children in grocery lines, famous as the one who smiled back. I want to be famous in the way a pulley is famous, or a buttonhole, not because it did anything spectacular, but because it never forgot what it could do. *(Naomi Shihab Nye, in Hugging the Jukebox)***

**What Julia Roberts hates about fame: If Julia Roberts had it all to do over, she would choose another profession, she tells Jane Sarkin and Krista Smith in Vanity Fair. Roberts, 40, still enjoys what she calls "the silly job" of acting, but says that the boom in gossip and celebrity journalism has taken all the fun out of being rich and famous. "It's just grotesque," she says. "It's like a circus sideshow. I don't know why anybody would want to go into show business these days. I see what's happening to Britney Spears and it's all I can do not to move her into my guesthouse." Having paparazzi trail you whenever you step out of your front door -- or aiming telephoto lenses at your windows -- is exhausting, she says. "It's so demeaning the way they behave, and I hate the fact that I even put any of my energy into thinking about it or being stressed about it." She's particularly irked when photographers target her three children. Recently, a cameraman ran after Roberts as she walked along with her newborn in a sling around her chest. "I get pissed off, because I think it's inhuman to chase a woman with her children. Why can't we get on board with this? We're all the same. Some have cooler jobs, some have longer legs, but we're all the same. We're all orbiting the same sun." *(The Week magazine, November 23, 2007)***

**Wealth is like seawater; the more we have, the thirstier we become, and the same is true of fame. *(Arthur Schopenhauer)***

**There are no busybodies like showbusybodies. If a song is at the top of the charts, why should not the singer hold forth on the environment? Does not a stunning performance as Lady Macbeth entitle an actress to tell us about the rights and wrongs in the Middle East? If a man can make us laugh till we ache, can't he tell us how to vote too? In fact, average men and women you stop in the street are far more likely to produce political wisdom than showbiz personalities overburdened with self-importance. *(Paul Johnson, in The Spectator)***

**Fame simply means millions of people have the wrong idea of who you are. *(Erica Jong)***

**Fame is the sum of misapprehensions that accrue around a name. *(Rainer Maria Rilke, poet)***

**The toughest acting job is becoming a star, then pretending success hasn't changed you. *(Earl Wilson, Publishers-Hall Syndicate)***

**The value of an industry is inversely proportional to the number of awards it gives itself. *(David Burge, blogger)***

**If you want a place in the sun, you've got to put up with a few blisters. (*Abigail Van Buren, Universal Press Syndicate)***

**Hagar: “When I was young I wanted fame and fortune! Now that I’m more mature, I realize you have to compromise. Now I just want fortune!” *(Dik Browne, in Hagar the Horrible comic strip)***

**When everyone is somebody, then no one’s anybody. *(W. S. Gilbert, dramatist)***

**The best kind of fame is a writer's fame. Just enough to get a good table at a restaurant and not enough for someone to interrupt you while you are eating. *(Fran Lebowitz, author)***

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