**Vanity**

**Fashion is the armor to survive the reality of everyday life. I don't think you can do away with it. It would be like doing away with civilization. *(Bill Cunningham, street photographer)***

**On February 7, 1497, the Bonfire of the Vanities took place in Florence, Italy. Thousands of objects deemed likely to tempt sin were burned. These objects included cosmetics, fine dresses, mirrors, playing cards, art, musical instruments, and books. *(The Daily Chronicle)***

**I don’t want to be younger, I just want to look it. *(Christie Brinkley)***

**Dentist to patient: "Where do you think Jimmy Carter would be if he had neglected his teeth?" *(Ralph Dunagin, Field Newspaper Syndicate)***

**The wrinkles and creaky joints that come with aging may one day be optional. Scientists at the National Cancer Institute have found that aging may be halted or even reversed at the cellular level. When people grow old, the study shows, the walls of the nuclei in their cells lose their perky, round shape and become wrinkled and weak. The weak membranes allow damaging agents to get inside the nucleus to the cell’s DNA, where, studies have shown, resulting mutations lead to physical aging. Now, researchers Tom Misteli and Paola Scaffidi have shown that by blocking a specific protein called lamin A, they can reverse nuclear wrinkling. When they blocked the protein in the cells of elderly people in the lab, the cells plumped back up to their youthful state. “You can take these old cells and make them young again,” Misteli tells Nature. The next step, researchers say, is a drug that blocks lamin A in animals, so that the effects on an entire body of cells can be evaluated. *(The Week magazine, May 19, 2006)***

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**Fashion changes, but style endures. *(Coco Chanel)***

**Nothing makes a woman look so old as desperately trying to look young. *(Coco Chanel)***

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**There is no such animal as a clean-shaven bum. So says a man who claims once to have been a bum. Find a place to shave off your stubble, says he, and you'll walk tall until the whiskers grow out again. It is a morale matter, he says. When a man just can't bring himself to shave, he is sort of sick in his heart. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**I don't think George Clooney has a bathroom mirror, just a note taped to the wall that says: "Don't worry about it." *(Eli Yudin, comedian)***

**During the Victorian Era, the corset became a staple of every well-dressed woman's wardrobe. During the early 19th century, men, too, wore the garment. High society men were expected to look sleek and fit, and so they took to wearing corsets. Military men, especially those in the cavalry, believed that the truss helped them maintain good posture while riding. Corsets were also believed to protect the body if a soldier was thrown from a horse. By the late 19th century, however, men's clothing became looser, negating the need for a corset. Women had to wait about 50 more years. *(The Daily Chronicle)***

**Parents still want their children to avoid ugliness, and many (will) lend a helping hand: Cosmetic dentistry, such as braces, is routine. People will say that braces are for health, not looks, but braces are our culture's version of foot-binding. *(Jonny Thakkar, philosophy and humanities lecturer, in Aeon)***

**The only cure for vanity is laughter. And the only fault that's laughable is vanity. *(Henry Bergson)***

**Vanity is as ill at ease under indifference as tenderness is under the love which it cannot return. *(George Eliot)***

**Today is February 19, Lashes Day, a day to appreciate eyelashes. In 1902, British hairdresser Karl Nessler created the first artificial eyelashes. Long before Nessler, men of ancient Egypt darkened their lashes to shield their eyes from the sun. *(The Daily Chronicle)***

**One must forgive fashion everything because it dies so young. *(Jean Cocteau)***

**I have a wonderful makeup crew. They're the same people restoring the Statue of Liberty. *(Bob Hope, Brit-turned-American comedian)***

**Any girl can be glamorous. All you have to do is stand still and look stupid. *(Hedy Lamarr, in Time)***

**The U.S. meat industry discards approximately $1 billion of edible meat annually because it is considered too ugly to sell. *(Chicago Tribune, as it appeared in The Week magazine, March 17, 2006)***

**Nelson: "Grampa, how come men don't wear makeup." Grandpa: "Because we don't care what we look like." Nelson: "That's what I thought." *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

**Good week for: Metrosexuals, after a British study found that men now spend 81 minutes a day on personal grooming, including shaving, washing, moisturizing, and picking out clothes. Women need only 75 minutes a day for personal grooming. *(The Week magazine, December 2, 2011)***

**You have a more interesting life if you wear impressive clothes. *(Vivienne Westwood, designer)***

**Vanity is a mortgage that must be deducted from the value of a man. *(Otto von Bismarck)***

**History records Napoleon used on his own body as much as two bottles of perfume a day. He was on the move a lot. No showers. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**In the 1960s, Black Americans tired of European standards of beauty decided to use their natural hair as an expression of pride and to fight oppression. The Afro became a hairstyle of freedom and strength. The natural hair movement of the 1960s enjoyed a resurgence in the 2000s, with many women embracing their natural hair and abandoning chemical relaxers. Today, the Afro may not threaten the mainstream social fabric as much as it did during the '60s and '70s, but it remains a source of power and pride for those who choose the style. *(The Daily Chronicle)***

**Never wear anything that panics the cat. *(P. J. O'Rourke)***

**Oscar de la Renta, the doyen of American fashion who dressed First Ladies, socialites, and Hollywood stars for more than six decades, understood the feminine form. "He makes a women look like a woman, feel like a woman," designer Diane von Furstenberg said last year. His unparalleled glamour and elegance and impeccable social skills made him beloved by fashion editors and the international jet set. His designs were so popular among the well heeled that in 2006, four attendees at the Kennedy Center Honors arrived for a White House reception in the same red, $8,500 de la Renta dress, including then-First Lady Laura Bush, who went upstairs and changed. *(The Week magazine, October 31, 2014)***

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**People always ask me how long it takes to do my hair. I don't know, I'm never there. *(Dolly Parton)***

**It’s hard to be a diamond in a rhinestone world. *(Dolly Parton)***

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**I've had so much plastic surgery, when I die they will donate my body to Tupperware. *(Joan Rivers)***

**When we have provided against cold, hunger and thirst, all the rest is but vanity and excess. *(Seneca)***

**“If there is a single quality that is shared by all great men,” says the famous photographer, Yussef Karsh, “it is vanity. But I mean by vanity only that they appreciate their own worth. Without this kind of vanity they would not be great. And with vanity alone, of course, a man is nothing.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Fashion, in the right hands, has a soul. It's a way to express ourselves and tell our stories. *(Gabrielle Bernstein, writer, in Elle magazine)***

**Happiness and confide0nce are the prettiest things you can wear. *(Taylor Swift)***

**Beware of all enterprises that require new clothes. *(Henry David Thoreau)***

**Fashion goes with the feeling of the moment. It's related to movies, to art. to young people's taste. *(Gianni Versace, designer)***

**Virtue would not go far without vanity to escort her. *(Francois, Duc de La Rochefoucauld***

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**Fashion is merely a form of ugliness so unbearable that we are compelled to alter it every six months. *(Oscar Wilde)***

**Fashion is what one wears oneself. What is unfashionable is what other people wear. *(Oscar Wilde)***

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**A woman's best accessory is a well-dressed man. *(Albert Capraro, on "The Phil Donahue Show," NBC)***

**Women dress alike all over the world; they dress to be annoying to other women*. (Elsa Schiaparelli, fashion designer)***

**Why do women wear makeup? Habit mostly. But you can take the topic as deep as you wish. When a woman applies makeup, theorists say, she exercises control over something -- her appearance. Traditionally, she has not enjoyed sufficient control over things of importance to her. Makeup lets her take charge of herself. She likes that. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**I was putting moisturizer on my face when my little girl asked what I was doing. I explained that the cream was good for wrinkles. "It's sure doing a great job, Mommy," she replied. "You're getting lots of them." *(Patricia G. Ruth, in Ladies'' Home Journal)***

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