

J. M. AND M. J. COHEN

THE PENGUIN
DICTIONARY OF
MODERN
QUOTATIONS



PENGUIN BOOKS

Penguin Books Ltd, Harmondsworth, Middlesex, England
Penguin Books Inc., 7110 Ambassador Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21207, U.S.A.
Penguin Books Australia Ltd, Ringwood, Victoria, Australia

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First published 1971
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Made and printed in Great Britain
by Hazell Watson & Viney Ltd, Aylesbury, Bucks
Set in Monotype Times

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- 16 In future I trust that a son of mine will at least show enough sense to come in out of the rain. [*The Winslow Boy*, I]
- 17 A nice, respectable, middle-class, middle-aged maiden lady, with time on her hands and the money to help her pass it. . . . Let us call her Aunt Edna. . . . Aunt Edna is universal, and to those who may feel that all the problems of the modern theatre might be solved by her liquidation, let me add that . . . she is also immortal. [*Collected Plays*, Vol. II, Preface]

GWEN RAVERAT

- 18 But she never, never missed the train. I think she felt that it would not have been sporting to start in time; it would not have given the train a fair chance of getting away without her. [*Period Piece*, Ch. 5]
- 19 I have defined Ladies as people who did not do things themselves. [*Ib.* 7]

E. T. RAYMOND

- 20 During the Spring [of 1918] it seemed possible that the Japanese would, in quite a friendly way, invade Siberia, and that Britain would smile approval. [*Mr Balfour*, Ch. 20]

HERBERT READ

- 21 I saw him stab / And stab again / A well-killed Boche. / This is the happy warrior. / This is he . . . [*The Happy Warrior*]

PETER REDGROVE

- 22 He sighs, and the waves are a city of doors slamming; / God's arm engloves this tree and brandishes it. [*The Affianced*]
- 23 Love pines loudly to go out where / It need not spend itself on fancy and the empty air. [*Bedtime Story for My Son*]
- 24 I am a man that sits on benches. / My back is crossed and warranted by planks. / I accept beech-mast in payment. / The children take my conkers for their pleasantries. [*Genius Loci*]
- 25 For sixpence he can get drunk / And be a torero, the government, or a saint. [*Malagueño*]

HENRY REED

- 26 The wind within a wind, unable to speak for wind. [*A Map of Verona*, 'Chard Whitlow' (Mr Eliot's Sunday Evening Postscript)]
- 27 It is, we believe, / Idle to hope that the simple stirrup-pump / Can extinguish hell. [*Ib.*]
- 28 Oh, listeners, / And you especially who have switched off the wireless, / And sit in Stoke or Basingstoke, listening / appreciatively to the silence / (which is also the silence of hell), pray / not for yourselves but your souls. [*Ib.*]
- 29 To-day we have naming of parts. Yesterday / We had daily cleaning. And tomorrow morning, / We shall have what to do after firing. But to-day, / To-day we have naming of parts. [*Ib.* 'Lessons of the War', I]
- 30 They call it easing the Spring: it is perfectly easy / If you have any strength in your thumb: like the bolt, / And the breech, and the cocking-piece, and the point of balance, / Which in our case we have not got. [*Ib.*]
- 31 You must never be over-sure. You must say, when reporting: / At five o'clock in the central sector is a dozen / Of what appear to be animals; whatever you do, / Don't call the bleeders *sheep*. [*Ib.*]
- 32 Perhaps between me and the apparent lovers, / (who, incidentally, appear by now to have finished,) / At seven o'clock from the houses, is roughly a distance / Of about one year and a half. [*Ib.*]
- 33 And the various holds and rolls and throws and breakfalls / Somehow or other I always seemed to put / In the wrong place. And as for war, my wars / Were global from the start. [*Ib.* III]
- 34 We must learn the lesson / Of the ever important question of human balance. / It is courage that counts. [*Ib.*]
- 35 I think it may justly be said that English women in general are very common diatonic little numbers. They differ greatly in this from the women of, say, North Africa. [Radio drama, *Emily Butter*]
- 36 Take, for example, the passage in Act Seven when Emily gets herself locked into the lift. Here we have a series of frag-

mentary utterances, pathetic, wistful and disjointed, which suddenly melt into a heavenly curve of melody. [Ib.]

37 Henry has always led what could be called a sedentary life, if only he'd ever got as far as actually sitting up. [Radio drama, *Not a Drum was Heard: The War Memoirs of General Gland*]

38 It was, I think, a *good* war, one of the best there have so far been. I've often advanced the view that it was a war deserving of better generalship than it received on either side. [Ib.]

39 It's a life-mask of myself wearing an army respirator. Rather an experimental piece, of course. I did it myself. [Ib.]

40 A charming, simple, extremely virile race . . . barely touched by civilization, their only garb a small loin-cloth, loosely slung over the right shoulder. [Ib.]

41 She's invented a new religion. Called 'Creative Sleep'. [Ib.]

42 In a civil war, a general must know – and I'm afraid it's a thing rather of instinct than of practice – he must know exactly when to move over to the other side. [Ib.]

43 We spent one whole evening a few weeks ago recording a very loud and beautiful chromium-plated bicycle bell. I bought it specially. Dreadfully tiring to the thumb, of course, but oh, it was worth it! [Radio drama, *The Primal Scene, as it were*]

44 GLAND: I would say it's somehow redolent, and full of vitality.

HILDA: Well, I would say it's got about as much life in it as a potted shrimp.

GLAND: Well, I think we're probably both trying to say the same thing in different words. [Ib.]

45 Anyone else in my position would have been riddled with internal persecutors, riddled with them; but my internal persecutors are all external ones, as you have only to look around you to see. [Ib.]

46 I dream quite a bit, myself. Only when I'm asleep, of course. Curious thing is it's always the same dream. . . . Not that I mind, of course, I'm not one to hanker after change the whole time. [Ib.]

47 If one doesn't get birthday presents it can remobilize very painfully the persecutory anxiety which usually follows birth. [Ib.]

48 HILDA: This dance is absolutely authentic.

GLAND: No, no. It's just a debased copy of the things Sister Martin and the two nurses used to do in the jungle on their afternoon off. [Ib.]

49 Throw your voice *at* the note, by all means; but for God's sake remember to miss it. [Radio drama, *The Private Life of Hilda Tablet*]

50 Richard Sherwin is the only man, alive or dead, who can ever have been said to have interfered with . . . my basic tone-row. [Ib.]

51 The sooner the tea's out of the way, the sooner we can get out the gin, eh? [Ib.]

52 Very few of our meetings with Miss Tablet were destined to be short ones. . . . It was only when we came to say good-bye that we realized Miss Tablet had kindly accorded us nine-and-a-half hours of her illuminating company. [Ib.]

53 HILDA: Have you ever heard of a couple of chaps called Faber and Faber?

REEVE: Oh, of course, I . . .

HILDA: Good. Right. Well, they're both after my life. [Ib.]

54 The original idea was that it should take place in the sixteenth century on a boat anchored off Rimini; it's Hilda who's altered it to a mutiny in the bargain basement of a drapery store. [Ib.]

55 Of course, we've all dreamed of reviving the castrati; but it's needed Hilda to take the first practical steps towards making them a reality. . . . She's drawn up a list of well-known singers who she thinks would benefit from . . . treatment. . . . It's only a question of getting them to agree. [Ib.]

56 The work I refer to is my recent Quintet for eight instruments. [Ib.]

57 I know when Richard tickles me / Or bites me on the calf / It isn't for any subconscious reasons: / He does it to make me laugh. [Radio drama, *A Very Great Man Indeed*]

58 BETTY: Modest? My word, no. Nobody could say that. He was an all-the-lights-on man, Dicky Sherwin was.

ADELA: And a looking-glass too. [Ib.]

59 She's really quite playful sometimes. I know you wouldn't think it, but really I

have known her pass the whole evening without mentioning a single book, or in fact anything unpleasant at all. [*Ib.*]

- 60 It's the last scene from that final exquisite study in the ambiguity that attends all human relationships, *The Arse and the Elbow*. [*Ib.*]

JOHN REED

- 61 Ten Days that Shook the World [Title of book on Russian Revolution]

LEONARD REES

- 62 Damn it, man, I could cut the Lord's Prayer! [Quoted in James Agate, *Ego I*]

REV. JAMES REID

- 63 'What's the good?' expresses the most characteristic mood of the modern mind. [1932. *Observer*, 'Sayings of Our Times', 31 May 1953]

GOTTFRIED REINHARDT

- 64 Hollywood people are afraid to leave Hollywood. Out in the world, they are frightened. . . . Sam Hoffenstein used to say we are the croupiers in a crooked gambling house. And it's true. Everyone of us thinks, You know, I really don't deserve a swimming pool. [Quoted in Lillian Ross, *Picture*, 'Throw the Little Old Lady Down the Stairs!']
- 65 It reminds me of the time Sam Hoffenstein was given a Tarzan picture to rewrite. He was told to give it a new twist. He rewrote it - he put it all into Yiddish. [Quoted in *ib.* 'Everything has just gone Zoom']
- 66 You know, there are three kinds of intelligence - the intelligence of man, the intelligence of the animal, and the intelligence of the military. In that order. [Quoted in *ib.* 'Piccolos under Your Name, Strings under Mine']
- 67 Money is good for bribing yourself through the inconveniences of life. [Quoted in *ib.* 'Looks Like We're Still in Business']

LORD REITH

- 68 You can't think rationally on an empty stomach, and a whole lot of people can't do it on a full one either. [Attr.]

MANDY RICE-DAVIES

- 69 I am notorious. I will go down in history as another Lady Hamilton. [Apropos the Profumo scandal, 1963]

FRANK RICHARDS

- 70 'My esteemed chums,' murmured Hurree Jamset Ram Singh. 'This is not an occasion for looking the gift horse in the mouthfulness.' [*Bunter's Last Fling*, Ch. 5]

I. A. RICHARDS

- 71 Anything is valuable that will satisfy an appetency without involving the frustration of some equal or more important appetency. [*Principles*]
- 72 It [poetry] is a perfectly possible means of overcoming chaos. [*Science and Poetry*]

JOHN RICHARDSON

- 73 Picasso has a whim of iron. ['Shouts and Murmurs', from the *Observer*, 'Picasso in Private']

RALPH RICHARDSON

- 74 The most precious things in speech are pauses. [Attr.]

WILLIAM J. RICHARDSON

- 75 Do you want your philosophy straight or with a dash of Legerdemain? [*Heidegger*]

DONALD RICHBERG

- 76 In the first months of N.R.A. [National Recovery Administration] it seemed as though a great part of the business world had 'got religion'. [Quoted in A. M. Schlesinger Jr, *The Coming of the New Deal*, Pt 7, Ch. 25, sect. ii]

MORDECAI RICHLER

- 77 Remember this, Griffin. The revolution eats its own, Capitalism re-creates itself. [*Cocksure*, Ch. 22]