

Alan Alda

Quotes

*People, Thinking, Actors, Play, Trying, Laughter, Inspirational, School,
Listening, Change, Giving, Fun, Use, Long, Heaven, Character, Real, Keys,
Money, Catholic*

My mother didn't try to stab my father until I was six, but she must have shown signs of oddness before that.

~Alan Alda

You have to leave the city of your comfort and go into the wilderness of your intuition. What you'll discover will be wonderful. What you'll discover is yourself.

~Alan Alda

Be as smart as you can, but remember that it is always better to be wise than to be smart.

~Alan Alda

Laugh at yourself, but don't ever aim your doubt at yourself. Be bold. When you embark for strange places, don't leave any of yourself safely on shore. Have the nerve to go into unexplored territory.

~Alan Alda

Originality is unexplored territory. You get there by carrying a canoe - you can't take a taxi.

~Alan Alda

After a while I started to think of that as an image of something that went a lot deeper than the dead dog, which is you can't bring back anything to life.

~Alan Alda

Begin challenging your own assumptions. Your assumptions are your windows on the world. Scrub them off every once in awhile, or the light won't come in.

~Alan Alda

Jean Paul Sartre says in "No Exit" that hell is other people. Well, our task in life is to make it heaven. Or at least earth.

~Alan Alda

Never Have Your Dog Stuffed is really advice to myself, a reminder to myself not to avoid change or uncertainty, but to go with it, to surf into change.

~Alan Alda

Be brave enough to live life creatively. The creative place where no one else has ever been.

~Alan Alda

Be brave enough to live creatively.

~Alan Alda

It isn't necessary to be rich and famous to be happy. It's only necessary to be rich.

~Alan Alda

Listening is being able to be changed by the other person.

~Alan Alda

No man or woman of the humblest sort can really be strong, gentle and good, without the world being better for it, without somebody being helped and comforted by the very existence of that goodness.

~Alan Alda

The good thing about being a hypocrite is that you get to keep your values.

~Alan Alda

You can't get there by bus, only by hard work and risk and by not quite knowing what you're doing. What you'll discover will be wonderful. What you'll discover will be yourself.

~Alan Alda

Republicans are as capable of coming up with great ideas and moving this country along as anyone - they just don't do it.

~Alan Alda

Here's my Golden Rule for a tarnished age: Be fair with others, but keep after them until they're fair with you.

~Alan Alda

When people are laughing, they're generally not killing one another.

~Alan Alda

The best things said come last. People will talk for hours saying nothing much and then linger at the door with words that come with a rush from the heart.

~Alan Alda

Real listening is a willingness to let the other person change you.

~Alan Alda

I found I wasn't asking good enough questions because I assumed I knew something.

~Alan Alda

It's really clear to me that you can't hang onto something longer than its time. Ideas lose certain freshness, ideas have a shelf life, and sometimes they have to be replaced by other ideas.

~Alan Alda

How can I ever hope to communicate something to you unless I get signals back from you that I'm on the right track or that I've started at some place that you're familiar with?

~Alan Alda

It's always better to be wise than to be smart.

~Alan Alda

As an artist, as an actor, as a writer, you have to use what's personal to you. You have to be personal about your work; otherwise, it doesn't ring true.

~Alan Alda

Almost everybody that's well-known gets tagged with a nickname.

~Alan Alda

I'm an angry person, angrier than most people would imagine, I get flashes of anger. What works for me is working out when it's useful to use that anger.

~Alan Alda

In 2003, I almost died of an intestinal blockage when I was on a mountain in Chile, filming a segment for 'Scientific American Frontiers.'

~Alan Alda

Laugh at yourself, but don't ever aim your doubt at yourself.

~Alan Alda

When does she do all this thinking? We're together all the time but she thinks deeply about things and with feeling and she can remember the facts. We've been married 48 years.

~Alan Alda

Insanity is just a state of mind.

~Alan Alda

life is meaningless unless you bring meaning to it; ... it is up to us to create our own existence. Unless you do something, unless you make something it's as though you aren't there.

~Alan Alda

People who laugh together generally don't kill each other.

~Alan Alda

I'll carry on, carry over, carry forward, Cary Grant, cash and carry, carry me back to Old Virginia, I'll even 'hari-kari' if you show me how, but I will not carry a gun!

~Alan Alda

It's too bad I'm not as wonderful a person as people say I am, because the world could use a few people like that.

~Alan Alda

I've never tried to manipulate my image.

~Alan Alda

I've sat looking down into a volcano that could blow at any moment; I've helped catch a shark and several rattlesnakes; I let a tarantula walk across my hand, and I ate rat soup.

~Alan Alda

In the midst of the sense of tragedy or loss, sometimes laughter is not only healing, it's a way of experiencing the person that you've lost again.

~Alan Alda

If I can't get the girl, at least give me more money.

~Alan Alda

It makes it fun. When an actor plays a character, you want what that character wants. Otherwise it doesn't look authentic. So I really want to defeat Jimmy - I mean Jimmy as the character.

~Alan Alda

Be brave enough to live creatively . . . what you'll discover will be

wonderful: yourself.

~Alan Alda

What then are doing if not creating a better place together? I think, for me the key has to be, what do I want to create? What is it I want to leave behind?

~Alan Alda

Working on *The West Wing* was similar in many ways to my experience on *M*A*S*H*, because you had people willing to work late at night to get it just right.

~Alan Alda

Our lives depend on good communication. Good communication helps personal relationships, it helps bosses and employees get along better. We rely on it.

~Alan Alda

I have thought about punching people out. Sometimes, I've thought, 'Why don't I just act on that impulse?' But then, I've never hit anybody in anger. Hey! I've never hit anybody for fun.

~Alan Alda

Life is great-I wouldn't know what I'd do without it.

~Alan Alda

There's plenty of money to be had. But you also lose your soul.

~Alan Alda

Being mystified is a good beginning, because you won't do what you've done before.

~Alan Alda

I play tennis non-obsessively. I seem to beat people I play a lot or half

the time, so I guess I gravitate to people who are as bad as I am.

~Alan Alda

The one hour live debate in the West Wing that we did was one of the most exciting times for me on stage or on camera, because anything could go wrong.

~Alan Alda

Kids are natural scientists.

~Alan Alda

I wouldn't live in California. All that sun makes you sterile.

~Alan Alda

I'm in the real world, some people try to steal from me, and I stop them, frequently, take them to court. I love a good lawsuit. It's fun.

~Alan Alda

Awards can give you a tremendous amount of encouragement to keep getting better, no matter how young or old you are.

~Alan Alda

For me, I find that even though I've accomplished a few things in my life, looking back on accomplishments doesn't give me a sense of satisfaction.

~Alan Alda

I'm greedy for that satisfaction of doing something hard and knowing that, even though I was afraid I couldn't do it, that somehow I can deliver.

~Alan Alda

We're highly social animals - I'm told by scientists that what makes us different from other animals is an acute social awareness, which is what

has made us so successful.

~Alan Alda

Loneliness is everything it's cracked up to be.

~Alan Alda

And I think belief is one of those things that comes to people in their own way. And just because I believe in something doesn't mean I think that you should.

~Alan Alda

For humans, flying isn't magic, it's physics.

~Alan Alda

Some of the greatest things, as I understand, they have come about by serendipity, the greatest discoveries

~Alan Alda

War is war and Hell is hell, and if you ask me, War is a lot worse.

~Alan Alda

What I always wanted to get seen as was as a good actor, when it was the acting I was doing. When I'm writing, I want to try to be seen as a good writer.

~Alan Alda

As I am becoming older, the only thing that speeds up is time.

~Alan Alda

I'm in this wonderful position where I can do what interests me. And whatever comes along that interests me, I do. The rest of the time I bother scientists about communicating.

~Alan Alda

If you know what you're looking for, that's all you'll get - what's previously known. But when you're open to what's possible, you get something new - that's creativity.

~Alan Alda

I really don't like plays or movies that service propaganda.

~Alan Alda

I'm most at home on the stage. I was carried onstage for the first time when I was six months old.

~Alan Alda

Really top-notch directors, I've often worked with them just to see how they work.

~Alan Alda

You wouldn't want to be called a sell-out by selling a product. Selling out was frowned on, whereas now you can major in it at business school.

~Alan Alda

I had never really wanted to be famous. Everyone is supposed to want to be rich and famous, but as a boy I never knew what rich was, and the first view I had of famous made me leery.

~Alan Alda

I've played a murderer, so certainly I think I can play a Republican.

~Alan Alda

I find myself going to places where I really have no business, speaking to these people in a whole other field that I have no extensive knowledge of. But I do it very often because it scares me.

~Alan Alda

When your kids turn 13, an alien being invades their bodies and doesn't leave until they're 20.

~Alan Alda

I was always interested in figuring things out. I'd do experiments, like combining things I found around the house to see what would happen if I put them together.

~Alan Alda

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