**Paradoxes of Oscar Wilde**

1. The most terrible thing about it is not that it breaks one’s heart—hearts are made to be broken—but that it turns one’s heart to stone.
2. I can resist anything but temptation.
3. I am not young enough to know everything.
4. I have the simplest tastes. I am always satisfied with the best.
5. To love oneself is the beginning of a lifelong romance.
6. I never put off till tomorrow what I can possibly do — the day after.
7. I like talking to a brick wall- it’s the only thing in the world that never contradicts me!
8. It is awfully hard work doing nothing.
9. Work is the refuge of people who have nothing better to do.
10. If you want to tell people the truth, make them laugh, otherwise they’ll kill you.
11. Man is least himself when he talks in his own person. Give him a mask, and he will tell you the truth.
12. One can always be kind to people about whom one cares nothing.
13. Selfishness is not living as one wishes to live, it is asking others to live as one wishes to live.
14. Some things are more precious because they don’t last long.
15. It is so easy to convince others; it is so difficult to convince oneself.
16. Anybody can sympathize with the sufferings of a friend, but it requires a very fine nature to sympathize with a friend’s success.
17. I don’t want to go to heaven. None of my friends are there.
18. The only thing worse than being talked about is not being talked about.
19. The public is wonderfully tolerant. It forgives everything except genuis.
20. Questions are never indiscreet, answers sometimes are.
21. Life is a nightmare that prevents one from sleeping.
22. I beg your pardon I didn’t recognise you — I’ve changed a lot.
23. There are only two tragedies in life: one is not getting what one wants, and the other is getting it.
24. To be natural is such a very difficult pose to keep up.
25. Be yourself; everyone else is already taken.
26. Time is a waste of money.
27. Always forgive your enemies, nothing annoys them so much.
28. Children begin by loving their parents; as they grow older they judge them; sometimes they forgive them.
29. Fashion is a form of ugliness so intolerable that we have to alter it every six months.
30. Education is an admirable thing. But it is well to remember from time to time that nothing that is worth knowing can be taught.
31. Life is too much important a thing ever to talk seriously about it.
32. Ordinary riches can be stolen, real riches cannot. In your soul are infinitely precious things that cannot be taken from you.
33. What is a cynic? A man who knows the price of everything and the value of nothing.
34. A little sincerity is a dangerous thing, and a great deal of it is absolutely fatal.
35. The books that the world calls immoral are the books that show the world its own shame.
36. There is no such thing as a moral or an immoral book. Books are well written or badly written.
37. Ah! Don't say you agree with me. When people agree with me I always feel that I must be wrong.
38. It is only the unimaginative who ever invents. The true artist is known by the use he makes of what he annexes.
39. There is no sin except stupidity.
40. Whenever a man does a thoroughly stupid thing, it is always from the noblest motives.
41. A man's face is his autobiography. A woman's face is her work of fiction.
42. An excellent man; he has no enemies; and none of his friends like him.
43. Every saint has a past and every sinner has a future.
44. Anybody can sympathise with the sufferings of a friend, but it requires a very fine nature to sympathise with a friend's success.
45. Arguments are to be avoided; they are always vulgar and often convincing.
46. Genius is born--not paid.
47. I love acting. It is so much more real than life.
48. Illusion is the first of all pleasures.
49. It is always a silly thing to give advice, but to give good advice is fatal.
50. Life is far too important a thing ever to talk seriously about.
51. My own business always bores me to death; I prefer other people's.
52. Seriousness is the only refuge of the shallow.
53. The aim of life is self-development. To realize one's nature perfectly - that is what each of us is here for.
54. The secret of life is to appreciate the pleasure of being terribly, terribly deceived.
55. There are many things that we would throw away if we were not afraid that others might pick them up.
56. There are only two kinds of people who are really fascinating: people who know absolutely everything, and people who know absolutely nothing.
57. To get back my youth I would do anything in the world, except take exercise, get up early, or be respectable.
58. We have really everything in common with America nowadays except, of course, language.
59. When the gods wish to punish us, they answer our prayers.
60. Whenever a man does a thoroughly stupid thing, it is always from the noblest motives.
61. What a pity that in life we only get our lessons when they are of no use to us!
62. It is absurd to divide people into good or bad. People are either charming or tedious.
63. Whenever people agree with me, I always feel I must be wrong.
64. We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars.
65. Experience is the name everyone gives to their mistakes.
66. Laughter is not at all a bad beginning for a friendship, and is far the best ending for one.
67. Nothing is so dangerous as being too modern. One is apt to grow old-fashioned quite suddenly.
68. The old believe everything: the middle-aged suspect everything: the young know everything.
69. Only the shallow know themselves.
70. In examinations the foolish ask questions that the wise cannot answer.