

101

reasons

not to do

ANYTHING

A COLLECTION OF CYNICAL & DEFEATIST QUOTATIONS

SUMMERSDALE

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Cynical & Defeatist
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Introduction

According to Oscar Wilde, a cynic is ‘A man who knows the price of everything and the value of nothing’, which is a refreshing antidote to the feel-good, be calm, de-stress and motivational trends that have crept into our society in recent years.

It wasn't always like this. In past centuries people would look at the world through grey-tinted spectacles. So what better way to combat the nicey nicey nineties than with this treasure trove of the world's finest cynical and defeatest quotations?

↔ A Collection of Cynical & Defeatist Quotations ↔

If you live long enough, you'll see that
every victory turns into a defeat.

Simone de Beavoir

Touts les hommes sont mortels

↔ 101 Reasons Not To Do Anything ↔

I want to be bored to death,
as good a way to go as any.

Peter De Vries
Comfort me with Apples

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Other people are quite dreadful.
The only possible society is oneself.

Oscar Wilde
An Ideal Husband

I get my exercise acting as a pall bearer
to my friends who exercise.

Chauncey Depew

↔ A Collection of Cynical & Defeatist Quotations ↔

Happy is the man with a wife to tell him
what to do and a secretary to do it.

Lord Mancroft

Observer, "Sayings of the Week" 18 Dec 1966

↔ 101 Reasons Not To Do Anything ↔

Alas! The hours we waste in work
and similar inconsequence,
Friends, I beg you do not shirk
Your daily task of indolence.

Don Marquis
The Almost Perfect State

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It is better to have loafed and lost
than never to have loafed at all.

James Thurber

Fables for Our Time, "The Courtship of All"