

When To Be Silent: Discovering the Hidden Gems of Robert Louis Stevenson's Wisdom

Robert Louis Stevenson, the renowned Scottish author who gifted us with beloved literary classics such as "Treasure Island" and "Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde," not only excelled in the art of storytelling but also possessed a remarkable understanding of human nature. Among his vast body of work, Stevenson left behind a treasure trove of insights on the power of silence and its significance in our lives.

In a world where noise seems to be at the forefront, Stevenson's wise words encourage us to embrace the beauty of silence. Whether it be introspection, contemplation, or simply appreciating the peace that silence brings, his teachings remain relevant and essential even in our modern age.

The Power of Silence

Stevenson recognized the transformative qualities of silence. He believed that true growth and self-discovery occur in moments of quiet reflection. In his essay "Walking Tours," he wrote, "Silence, they say, is the voice of compunction; but silence is rather the company of innocence; and our blank mornings are incapable of a dishonorable thought."



Robert Louis Steve

“ WHEN TO BE SILENT by Robert Louis Stevenson(Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

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Stevenson emphasized the importance of taking a step back from the noise and distractions of everyday life. He encouraged individuals to find solace in solitude and to establish a deep connection with their inner selves. Through silence, he believed, we can uncover truths about ourselves and the world around us that are often drowned out by the chaos of the outside world.

The Art of Listening

Listening is an art that Stevenson greatly valued. He understood that true communication involves not only speaking but also attentive listening. In his essay "An Apology for Idlers," he wrote, "The great mistake I made was in ever supposing that I could be more than the mere audience of others." Stevenson recognized the power of being present and fully engaged while others shared their thoughts and experiences.

In a world dominated by easily distracted minds, Stevenson's teachings remind us to give our undivided attention to those around us. Through active listening, we can foster deeper connections, gain new perspectives, and demonstrate empathy and understanding – qualities that are essential for building meaningful relationships.

The Virtue of Selective Silence

Stevenson also understood that there are moments when silence can speak volumes. Selective silence, he believed, can convey more than a

thousand words. In his novel "Kidnapped," he wrote of a character, "He spoke little, and dried up when he did; but when he was silent, he seemed to be preparing himself for the next spurt of talk."

By carefully choosing when to speak and when to remain silent, we can make our words carry greater weight. Stevenson reminds us that silence can be a powerful tool in conveying emotions, intentions, and even establishing authority. In a world where words are often used carelessly, his wisdom encourages us to pause and think before every utterance.

Silence as a Remedy

Stevenson recognized the healing power of silence and its ability to provide solace during difficult times. He believed that silence can be a remedy for pain and grief. In his poem "The House Beautiful," he wrote, "Silence is the last thing left alive under the ruinous barrage of sound."

In moments of sorrow or distress, Stevenson's teachings encourage us to seek comfort in silence. Whether through meditation, prayer, or simply finding a quiet space for self-reflection, he believed that silence can offer a sense of calm and strength to navigate through life's challenges.

Applying Stevenson's Wisdom in the Modern World


Though Stevenson lived in a different era, his insights on silence and its virtues remain timeless. In an age dominated by constant noise, distractions, and global connectivity, his teachings take on a renewed importance.

Today, we can reflect upon how we incorporate silence into our lives. Are we allowing ourselves moments of solitude and deep reflection? Do we

actively listen to others, cherishing their words and experiences? Are we mindful of the power of selective silence? And do we seek solace in silence during challenging times?

By embracing Stevenson's wisdom, we can tap into the hidden gems of silence and cultivate a sense of inner peace and understanding. Let us remember his teachings and strive to infuse more silence into our lives for the betterment of ourselves and the world around us.

Keywords: When To Be Silent Robert Louis Stevenson, power of silence, art of listening, selective silence, silence as a remedy, applying Stevenson's wisdom



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WHEN TO BE SILENT

1. *Be silent* - in the heat of anger.
2. *Be silent* - when you don't have all the facts.

3. *Be silent* - when you haven't verified the story.
4. *Be silent* - if your words will offend a weaker person.
5. *Be silent* - when it is time to listen.
6. *Be silent* - when you are tempted to make light of holy things.
7. *Be silent* - when you are tempted to joke about sin.
8. *Be silent* - if you would be ashamed of your words later.
9. *Be silent* - if your words would convey the wrong impression.
10. *Be silent* - if the issue is none of your business.
11. *Be silent* - when you are tempted to tell an outright lie.
12. *Be silent* - if your words will damage

someone else's
reputation.

13. *Be silent* - if your
words will damage a
friendship.

14. *Be silent* - when you
are feeling critical.

15. *Be silent* - if you can't
say it without
screaming.

16. *Be silent* - if your
words will be a poor
reflection of your
friends and family.

17. *Be silent* - if you may
have to eat your
words later.

18. *Be silent* - if you have
already said it more
than one time.

19. *Be silent* - when you
are tempted to flatter
a wicked person.

20. *Be silent* - when you
are supposed to be
working instead.

*WHOEVER GUARDS HIS MOUTH AND TONGUE KEEPS HIM SELF
OFF TROUBLE*



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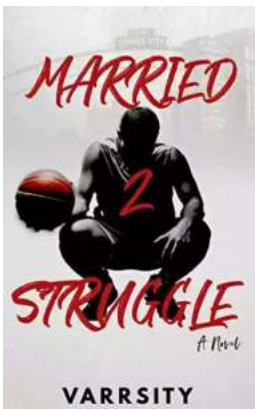
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