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*To my loving family, especially my mom, who always encouraged me to write and to chase my dreams. To all of my awesome friends: Lisa, Veronica, Gloria, Joe, Bruce, and many more,*

*thanks for reading my work and cheering me on.  
Not to mention the writing supplies! This book  
would not have been possible without all of you.  
Thank you, thank you, thank you.*

**The**

**Little Book**

**Of**

**BIG  
QUOTES**

**Volume I**

*Carlos Salinas*

## **Foreword from the Author**

I have composed these words in moments lost deep in thought, others after reflecting on conversations with other people, and yet others that have quickly appeared to me clearly in the ocean that is the human mind.

You may have noticed that there is no order or cataloging of the subject matter of the quotes. I did this for several reasons. First, I would like for each quote to take the reader by complete surprise. Second, there is no organization in life; one does not learn about love first, about pain second, and death third. So is the order of the quotes in this book.

I hope that as the reader you read these words with an open mind. Please understand that it is not my intention to change your way of thinking if it already works for you. I firmly believe what Socrates said, "I cannot teach anyone anything, I can only make them think." It is with this very spirit that I humbly present these words to your mind and hope that you do with them as you wish. Use what you can, disregard what you can't. I truly hope that you enjoy this book.

See you on page one,

Carlos Salinas

# **The**

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**Volume I**

Be carefree, not careless.

Through every turn in life, through every little twist of fate, there is an opportunity to take a step back, find and reinvent yourself, and come back a bigger, stronger, better you.

The difference between those that can and those that can't is attitude.

The taller you stand, the more possibilities you see.

It becomes a lot easier to understand people when you realize that not everyone wants or is after the same thing.

Late night conversations are ridiculously silly or ridiculously meaningful; but if you're lucky, they are both.

The best part of taking the high road is that you never have to ask for directions.

Amazing adventures lie at the threshold of the unknown.

A philosopher argues to prove himself right; a *true* philosopher discusses, hoping to be proven wrong.

Yes. You. Can.

There ain't nothing more dangerous than a nerd with street cred.

There is nothing more annoying than arrogance but there is nothing more attractive than confidence.

"Write me" whispered the story.

"Guide me" answered the writer.

A cat does not need to be told or reminded that it is a cat. It would also never be confused for a dog or any other animal. Be like a cat.

The best people to love are the ones that you don't have to try to love.

The writer and reader enter a dance; where the writer leads but the reader chooses the music.

The best question a writer can ask himself is:

"What if?"

They told me that I was an idealist.

I told them that they were awesome.

Parsimony: a complex word for a simple thought!

Expect nothing.

Appreciate everything.

Don't teach by talking. Lead by example.

Let your life be like a revolving door; people are free to go, come, and stay as they please.

Your imagination: where Narnia, Neverland, Wonderland, Hogwarts, and every other place you've read about exists.

Free-time is the greatest gift for the creative soul.

Life is meant to be full of Wow's not Meh's.

Let the cards fall where they may;  
I've made up my mind,  
I'm going to play.

Mind, body, spirit, and heart; never forget to exercise all four.

Normal: boring.  
Weird: where all the fun is had!

Listen to what people say, but more importantly, take note of what they do.

You can't write and not read.

You can't read and not write.

Love is:  
Bringing a blanket when someone's asleep;  
Giving the last piece of food to the other person;  
Staying awake to listen to them when you are dead tired;  
And hugging them tightly when they need it the most.

Replace 'I want to' with 'I will' and see how awesome your life becomes.

Be grateful for everyone in your life; some show you how you want to be, the others show you how you don't.

Be the light for yourself; never let another person be your light. They may shine *with* you, but should never be the only source of light for you.

We are the poets; we are the dreamers; whether they are the sweetest dreams, or nightmares; we paint them in words.

Life was never meant to only be lived on the weekends.

Sometimes you meet the greatest people in not-so-great circumstances

Don't stay where you are a beggar; go where you are king.

Never take anyone for granted because one day, either by destiny or by choice, they will be gone.

Even if love doesn't stay, be thankful for the visit.

Why should you write? The best answer I can give is because there is no one that has your exact same opinions, experiences, and perspective on things. You can write a great

many things through your own lens and voice for the world.

The Goal:

To reach the highest human potential.

Remember, the sea is FULL of starfish.

Are there problems, or just opportunities to find creative solutions?

I know exactly where I'm going, if you want to join me, great. If not, I'll still make it just fine on my own.

All things, positive and negative, come from the self. Choose wisely.

If you are defeated in your mind, nothing can help you. If you are victorious in your heart, nothing can stop you.

Each day we are given 24 precious hours that we cannot get back. Who are you spending yours with and what are you doing with this gift?

True peace is not in knowing all of the possible outcomes but in knowing that you will be fine through any of them.

As a person, you must be prepared to stand alone with your principles or stand in a group, alienated.

Just as a painter can paint a more perfect picture with the more colors he has, so can a

writer describe a more perfect picture with a better vocabulary.

In love, 100 pennies do not equal a dollar.

Saying silly things just to hear her laugh. :D

A wise man knows how much he has learned.  
A *truly* wise man sees how much he may still learn.

Always march to the beat of your own drum...because someone out there somewhere is marching to the same beat and it's only a matter of time until your paths cross.

When I die, don't mourn my death, but celebrate my life.

Many things are deemed impossible...until they are done.

That feeling when she asks for nothing and you want to give her everything.

I'm sorry if I'm hard to console, I really am... but I cannot bend the truth to make myself feel better.

At times all we can do is pick up the pieces and hope for a better tomorrow. A better day is never too far away.



Seems to me that truly confident people don't have to go around saying or showing how confident they are. Same thing about people that say they don't care about something.

The more special and unique you are, the more difficult it will be to find someone that truly deserves you. Never –NEVER– settle for less than that type of person.

There is a *BIG* difference between being:

Confident and Arrogant,

Outspoken and Rude,

Independent and Isolated,

Strong and Insensitive,

and

Kind and Weak.

Unless it's a soul-nourishing and breath-taking love, the kind that makes you wonder how you got along without them before you met them and makes you be a better, happier person, it is a waste of time. If the person cannot make you smile simply by thinking of them, they're not the one.

It's called 'falling in love' for a reason: it does not have to be forced and cannot be planned. It just happens naturally, and if you're lucky, it takes you by surprise.



There's nothing like seeking greener pastures...and finding them.



Sow the seeds of kindness and reap the sweet fruits of friendships.

It just takes that one special person to make the bad seem less bad, the good even better, and everything else around you make sense.

You don't get rained on if you rise above the storm clouds.



The worst thing anyone can do to themselves is settle for less than what they deserve in any aspect of their life.

What you do in your moments of weakness is who you really are.

You are the sculptor of your life; working on your masterpiece a little more every day.

I remember the first time I heard 'I love you'. It was in Spanish

—'Te amo'—

and it made it that much more special.

It seems to me that this world would be a much better place if people stopped asking themselves, "*What can they do for me?*" and instead asked themselves, "*What can I do for them?*"

Why write?

Because I have something to say.

The shortest distance between you and a goal is a PLAN.

Reading takes the reader to faraway lands, new cultures, new and exciting adventures; you meet new friends and enemies; it takes the reader from the heights of the imagination to the depths of human emotions; all without taking a single step.

That feeling when you realize you have two more bars left to turn up on your music's volume.



One of the hardest things in life to realize is that the person you love could never love you like you love them.

Look around you; nothing will ever be exactly the same as it is in this very moment. This is why you should live in it and enjoy it to the fullest.

Your SELF is the deciding factor in how you see things and what you do. You were born with

everything you need; nothing less and no one else. Now put them to good use!

The world can be a bad place if we let it. The keyword being *can*. Let's not let it.

All great writers started off as great readers.

The goofiest smiles are often the most sincere and most beautiful.

It's possible —and that's good enough for me.

Don't be like everyone else, step out of the box. One gets stronger swimming against the river's current, not with it.

Being single means that you haven't found someone special to be with; that you don't need someone to validate your existence, and that your time is far too valuable to spend with a plastic spoon when you are looking for a silver one.



For you, the world.

It's a shame that when it comes to love, or at least dating, most people follow their pride instead of their heart; they're more concerned with not wanting to appear desperate or 'needy'—not allowing themselves to feel the most natural of human emotions. To miss a person you like and to let them know is natural. They do not allow themselves to be vulnerable with another person for fear of getting hurt. To

not experience the closeness that vulnerability can create between two people is a greater loss than any pain that may come after being vulnerable.

The sweetest sound a human make is laughter.

To catch a truly beautiful butterfly, you must not think about 'catching' it at all. You must allow it to come to you.

They say I am living in a world of illusion, but I think I am just refusing to live in *their* world of illusion.

I can promise you that if he should build you a house, I will build you a castle; if he should fight a beast for you, I will fight a thousand more; if he should bring you a flower, I will bring you a garden; if he should promise you a star, I promise you all the heavens above.

-From the short story, "The Little Messenger" by Carlos Salinas

Love is not about chasing someone; it's not about being chased or being the one chasing. It's about chasing after dreams and if in that pursuit someone runs parallel to you, that is love.

The word 'friend' is one letter away from the word 'fiend'.

Just because we will never be perfect does not mean we should ever stop improving ourselves.

Poetry to me is taking any idea; love or hate, joy or sorrow, life or death, good or bad and making it an event that involves every one of our senses. This only begins to describe what poetry is.

Words are powerful; they can destroy, humiliate, and hurt but they can also create, encourage, and be kind. Once said they can never be unsaid; once heard they can never be unheard. Therefore, choose your words carefully.

To be a writer of fiction is truly a challenging thing; you have to be the hero *and* the villain; you have to be the lover *and* the unloved; you have to rejoice *and* sorrow; you have to be the wise man *and* the fool; I would not have it any other way.

Each person's heartbeat has a different rhythm and when we find someone whose rhythm complements ours, the harmony will be so delightful that it will be impossible to ignore.

I came to life when I met her and I began to breathe when I kissed her.

Your sword may be sharp, but my tongue is much sharper.

Everyone wants a guardian angel but very few ever think about being the guardian angel for someone else.

Control your desires and you control your happiness.

To become a mean and cold person after dealing with a mean and cold person is easy. If you change because of that person, then they've won and you may someday change another person just as you were changed; but to keep being the warm and kind person you were before –that is the true test of strength.

The only people worth impressing are those that aren't looking to be impressed.

To the people that claim to hate LOVE:  
Remember that the thing that hurt you was a person, not love. If it had been love, they would not have hurt you. Beware that many things masquerade as love: obsession, jealousy, control, and loneliness are just a few. LOVE is the greatest thing on Earth, along with her sister, HOPE.

The truth is no one knows if they will succeed but you will never know unless you try. Success comes to those that never give up and failure thrives on those that do.

In life, don't be sad when something good or beautiful leaves you. Just like in the sea, another beautiful wave will always come; you just have to be ready to see it.

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About the Author

*From his website (CarlosSalinasWriting.com):*

If you are a new reader or have been following me since I started publishing my writing waaaaay back in the fall of 2012, I am happy and grateful that you are here.

I always wanted to write. I remember reading great stories in all sorts of books and my imagination went off on tangents for my own creations. I also remember very interesting stories that I would hear people tell. We are all natural story-lovers, especially when there is a personal connection with the story teller, a character, or element in the story. I wanted to write stories.

My purpose for writing is to spread a positive, hopeful, inspirational, motivational, and insightful message through words; in stories, quotes, and rhymes. At times when looking for new books, I couldn't find the books with the message that seemed so clear to me: about love, knowledge, truth, perspective, and clear thinking. I remembered reading somewhere that if you can't find the book you're looking for, you should write it. So I did. The feedback I have received for my writing has ranged from: "I have always felt that...but was afraid to say it or couldn't put it into words," to "It made me think, and I don't agree with it but it really made me think." That was my goal all along. To help people discover themselves, their beliefs, and their voices.

As I always say, "A writer is nothing without his readers." And you guys are the absolute best. Feel free to reach out to me on here, Facebook, or any other social media. I always love talking to you.

See you on page one,

Carlos :)

This collection of quotes is the first book published by Carlos Salinas. His writing consists of quotes, fiction, and poetry. He currently resides in San Antonio, T.X.

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