

In the midst of great joy, do not promise anyone anything. In the midst of great anger, do not answer anyone's letter.

—Chinese Proverb

How helpless we are, like netted birds, when we are caught by desire!

—Belva Plain

The heart has its reasons that reason does not understand.

—Blaise Pascal

Man is a rational animal who always loses his temper when he is called upon to act in accordance with the dictates of reason.

—Oscar Wilde

No passion so effectually robs the mind of all its powers of acting and reasoning as fear.

—Edmund Burke

LOVE, n. A temporary insanity curable by marriage or by removal of the patient from the influences under which he incurred the disorder... It is sometimes fatal, but more frequently to the physician than to the patient.

—Ambrose Bierce, *The Devil's Dictionary*, 1911

Do you love me because I'm beautiful, or am I beautiful because you love me?

—Oscar Hammerstein

It is remarkable how similar the pattern of love is to the pattern of insanity.

—film *The Matrix–Revolutions*, character Merovingian

We all suffer from the preoccupation that there exists ... in the loved one, perfection.

—Sidney Poitier

The brain is a wonderful organ; it starts working the moment you get up in the morning and does not stop until you get into the office.

—Robert Frost

The mind is a wonderful thing. It starts working the moment you're born and never stops—until you get up to speak in public.

—Anonymous adaptation of above

Anger blows out the lamp of the mind.

—Robert Green Ingersoll

Men often make up in wrath what they want in reason.

—William Rounseville Alger

Anger is a momentary madness, so control your passion or it will control you.

—Horace

When a man is wrong and won't admit it, he always gets angry.  
—Haliburton

Speak when you are angry—and you will make the best speech you'll ever regret.  
—attributed to both Laurence J. Peter and Ambrose Bierce. Bartlett's Quotations online was no help in clearing this up.

The heart is forever making the head its fool.  
—François de La Rochefoucauld

The logic of the heart is absurd.  
—Julie de Lespinasse

Passion makes idiots of the cleverest men, and makes the biggest idiots clever.  
—François de La Rochefoucauld

The heart will commonly govern the head; and any strong passion, set the wrong way, will soon infatuate even the wisest of men; therefore the first part of wisdom is to watch the affections.  
—Waterland

When a man loves a woman  
Can't keep his mind on nothin' else

...

If she is bad, he can't see it  
She can do no wrong  
Turn his back on his best friend  
If he puts her down.

—lyrics from “When a Man Loves a Woman” by Percy Sledge (covered by Michael Bolton)

The emotions aren't always immediately subject to reason, but they are always immediately subject to action.  
—William James

Let's not forget that the little emotions are the great captains of our lives and we obey them without realizing it.  
—Vincent van Gogh

No man can think clearly when his fists are clenched.  
—George Jean Nathan

Anger and folly walk cheek by jowl.  
—Benjamin Franklin

Laughter and tears are both responses to frustration and exhaustion. I myself prefer to laugh, since there is less cleaning up to do afterward.  
—Kurt Vonnegut

Fear is static that prevents me from hearing myself.  
—Samuel Butler

Love—a wildly misunderstood although highly desirable malfunction of the heart which weakens the brain, causes eyes to sparkle, cheeks to glow, blood pressure to rise and the lips to pucker.  
—Author Unknown

He spoke without thinking.

(idiomatic) I put my foot in my mouth.

Her mouth moved before her brain could catch up.

He/she/I was...

...speechless with anger

...speechless with shock

...frozen with shock

...struck speechless by her beauty

...so nervous he was shaking

...so nervous I forgot what I had to say

...so excited to be graduating that, when her name was called, she could barely see to cross the stage and could hear nothing for the next half-minute

...berserk with pain/rage/jealousy/outrage

...so overwrought that she began to laugh and cry together

...so scared his eyes wouldn't focus

...so frustrated she lashed out without thinking

...so worried she couldn't focus

...so excited she forgot her coat

...so miserable he forgot to eat

...so mad he punched a brick wall

...too happy to speak

...so distressed she forgot his name