

10 quotes to recharge your batteries

Everybody knows that leaders are optimists.

Here are nine quotations and a little story for when your glass drops to the halfway mark.

1. "The optimist sees the rose and not its thorns; the pessimist stares at the thorns, oblivious of the rose." — *Kahlil Gibran*

2. "The real man smiles in trouble, gathers strength from distress and grows brave by reflection." — *Thomas Paine*

3. "A pessimist sees only the dark side of the clouds and mopes. A philosopher sees both sides, and shrugs. An optimist doesn't see the clouds at all—he's walking on them." — *Leonard Louis Levinson*

4. "The optimist proclaims that we live in the best of all possible worlds, and the pessimist fears this is true." — *James Branch Cabell*

5. "Optimism is the foundation of courage." — *Nicholas Murray Butler*

6. "A pessimist is one who makes difficulties of his opportunities and an optimist is one who makes opportunities of his difficulties." — *Harry Truman*

7. "Perpetual optimism is a force multiplier." — *Colin Powell*

8. "For myself I am an optimist—it does not seem to be much use being anything else." — *Winston Churchill*

9. "You see things and you say 'Why?' But I dream of things that never were and I say 'Why not?'" — *George Bernard Shaw*

10. Two boys come across an empty barn smelling of manure. The first boy says, "Let's get out of here. This stinks." The second says, "Wow! There must be horses around."

— Adapted from "My 10 Favorite 'Half-Full' Quotes (Reprised)," Terry Starbucker, www.terrystarbucker.com.