

## Quotable Click and Clack

"It's only a car." — Ray

"No matter what it is, it's gonna cost you \$200, if that's what it is." — Tom

"If you left work any earlier, you'd pass yourself coming in." — Ray to Tom

"Do it while you're young. You may never have another chance to do anything this stupid again!" — Tom on the impracticality of following your heart.

"Happiness equals reality minus expectations." — Tom

"Would you rather be right? Or would you rather be happy?" — Tom on arguing with your spouse.

"We're out to have a good time and if, by accident, we happen to help someone, so be it." — Ray

"How do you know if you've got a good mechanic? By the size of his boat." — Tom on *60 Minutes*

"The reason you listen to me is that even though I'm wrong most of the time, I'm right more often than you are, because you're wrong all of the time." — Ray

"Every jalopy runs beautifully on a sunny day. On a sunny day all's right with the world. Why, even the ants on your picnic blanket don't bother you." — Tom

"*Male Answer Syndrome* — the need by many men to provide an authoritative-sounding answer despite the fact that they have no idea what they're talking about. My brother and I both have it." — Tom

"You should never let a car interfere with your happiness." — Ray

"You learn a lot about human nature when you give someone a \$700 repair bill." — Ray

"If money can fix it, it's not a problem." — Tom

"It is better to travel in hope than arrive in despair." — Ray

“When I become Philosopher King of the United States, I’m going to make the speed limit 35 miles an hour — seven times faster than you can walk. Nothing should be allowed to go any faster. No vehicles, including space shuttles. Not bullets, even.” — Tom

“Never buy a car as an investment. Buy a car to drive. That way, you’ll limit your disappointment to only one area.” — Ray

“Our humility is what makes us great.” — Tom

RAY: “98% of all misinformation about cars and driving is passed on by fathers.”  
TOM: “The other two percent is passed on by us.”

“Just turn up the radio and that noise’ll go away.” — Ray

“Well, it sounds like a clear choice between a new wife and a new car. And frankly, since you’ve held tight to this piece of junk for over 130,000 miles, I’m a little worried about which way you’re going to go.” — Tom on choosing between a spouse or the car

“I strongly believe that one should not believe in anything too strongly.” — Ray

“We realized a long time ago it wouldn’t make any difference if we knew what the questions were. We don’t even know what the answers are.” — Ray

“It is extremely liberating having a shitbox.” — Ray

“If you retired, how would you know?” — Ray to Tom

“Reality often astonishes theory.” — Tom

TOM: “If we weren’t mechanics, you know what we’d be?”

RAY: “Inmates?”

“Life is too short to own a German car.” — Tom

“Evidence? We don’t need no stinkin’ evidence.” — Tom

“It’s the stingy man who spends the most.” — Ray

“They’re just machines. This is not brain surgery. It falls apart, you get another one.” — Ray

“Kids: get away from the cell phones, get away from the computers, and mail someone a fish before it’s too late.” — Ray

“Go to the auto parts store and buy anything that says ‘miracle’ on the can!”  
— Tom

“The best way to clean your windshield is with a rock!” — Tom

“I think all cars should come pre-damaged. If your car looked like it had been in a hail storm, would you care if someone dinged your door in a parking lot, or your kid’s bicycle scratched the paint? It would be very liberating.” — Tom

“Nobody imitates the French, and the French imitate nobody.” — Tom

“If you rebuild a carburetor enough times eventually you’ll have two.” — Ray

“If you’re afraid of everything, you might as well lie down and start throwing dirt on your face.” — Tom

“Time is more important than money. You can always acquire more money.”  
— Ray

“*Non Impediti Ratione Cogitationis*—Unencumbered by the Thought Process.” — Tom’s self-proclaimed motto.

“Don’t be afraid of work. Make work afraid of you. I did such a fabulous job of making work afraid of me that it has avoided me my whole life so far.” — Tom

“It could be nothing, or it could be a brain tumor.” — Ray on the uncertainties of life.

“I had everything a kid could want: two square meals a day, a basket to sleep in and an imaginary dog.” — Ray

“The overhead projector has done more to destroy learning than any other thing I can think of.” — Tom

“‘*In Dentus Veritas*’ — In Dents There Is Truth.” — Tom on the idea that you should dent your car to see how your partner reacts to it in order to discover his or her true personality.

“Keep kicking it, it’ll keep working.” — Ray

“I like to drive with the windows open. I mean, before you know it, you’re going to

spend plenty of time sealed up in a box anyway, right?" — Tom

RAY: "This will cost pennies to fix."

TOM: "Thousands of pennies!"

RAY: "Wheelbarrows full of pennies!"

"If you have a limited amount of money, and you have a choice between spending it on a car or going to Honolulu, go to Honolulu." — Tom

"The proper brownie-to-mechanic ratio is probably two-to-one." — Ray on how to get good service at a repair shop.

"Bo-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-gus!" — Tom's frequent refrain to Ray's diagnoses.

RAY: "Don't drive like my brother."

TOM: "Don't drive like *my* brother."

— Tom and Ray's weekly sign-off.