

I was thinking a lot about what I wanted to write about this week and I thought I would take a break from the usual 'pep talks' and have a little fun.

What makes good dialog? I mean what truly separates memorable movie quotes from just average sayings. Well, there's a lot that goes into it. The reason a line of dialog is memorable could be out of the context it's used, out of pure strangeness of the line, performance or just because it becomes a cultural phenomenon. Who didn't have that one friend that would not fucking stop saying "It's nice!" after Borat came out? I did and I wanted to kill him as much as you probably wanted to kill yours.

(AUTHOR'S NOTE: It's because of this that I'm skipping any quote directly related to a Mike Meyers "Do I make you Horny, Baby" movie or a Jim Carrey, "Well Alll-riiighty then" movie. Bad imitations are for bad comics...we don't want to encourage those people. Oh yes, THOSE people.)

Anyway, so what do you say we take a look at some memorable moments in movie history?

First, let's look at the majors. In 2005, the AFI released their "100 years, 100 movie quotes" list and, you have to admit, there are not too many surprises. Here's a little sampling of the list with the number where they fall on the list:

- 1 Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn. - GONE WITH THE WIND
- 2 I'm going to make him an offer he can't refuse. - GODFATHER, THE
- 4 Toto, I've got a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore. - WIZARD OF OZ, THE
- 5 Here's looking at you, kid. - CASABLANCA
- 6 Go ahead, make my day. - SUDDEN IMPACT
- 8 May the Force be with you. - STAR WARS
- 10 You talking to me? - TAXI DRIVER
- 11 What we've got here is failure to communicate. - COOL HAND LUKE
- 12 I love the smell of napalm in the morning. APOCALYPSE NOW
- 16 They call me Mister Tibbs! - IN THE HEAT OF THE NIGHT
- 19 I'm as mad as hell, and I'm not going to take this anymore! - NETWORK
- 22 Bond. James Bond. - DR. NO
- 25 Show me the money! - JERRY MAGUIRE
- 26 Why don't you come up sometime and see me? - SHE DONE HIM WRONG
- 29 You can't handle the truth! - FEW GOOD MEN, A

35 You're gonna need a bigger boat. - JAWS

37 I'll be back. - TERMINATOR, THE

39 If you build it, he will come. - FIELD OF DREAMS

42 Plastics. - GRADUATE, THE

44 I see dead people. - SIXTH SENSE, THE

49 It's alive! It's alive! - FRANKENSTEIN

52 You had me at "hello." - JERRY MAGUIRE

54 There's no crying in baseball! - A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN

57 Greed, for lack of a better word, is good. - WALL STREET

58 Keep your friends close, but your enemies closer. - GODFATHER II, THE

61 Say "hello" to my little friend! - SCARFACE

64 Gentlemen, you can't fight in here! This is the War Room! - DR. STRANGELOVE

66 Get your stinking paws off me, you damned dirty ape. - PLANET OF THE APES

68 Here's Johnny! - SHINING, THE

72 No wire hangers, ever! - MOMMIE DEAREST

75 I have always depended on the kindness of strangers. - STREETCAR NAMED

76 Hasta la vista, baby. - TERMINATOR 2: JUDGMENT DAY

79 I am serious...and don't call me Shirley. - AIRPLANE!

84 Oh, no, it wasn't the airplanes. It was Beauty killed the Beast. - KING KONG

85 My precious. - LORD OF THE RINGS: TWO TOWERS, THE

90 A martini. Shaken, not stirred. GOLDFINGER

92 It's in the hole! It's in the hole! It's in the hole! - CADDYSHACK

98 Nobody puts Baby in a corner. - DIRTY DANCING

100 I'm king of the world! - TITANIC

Again, not too many surprises...but of course, there are a LOT missing...so let's take a look at a lot of other favorites that get quoted a lot (and yes, I've heard all of these or have used them before)...

How about such lines like:

Yippee-ki-yay, mother fucker. - Die Hard

Blow off some steam, Bennet - Commando

I'm too old for this shit. - Lethal Weapon

He slimed me. - Ghostbusters

Roads? Where we're going we don't need...roads! - Back to the Future

I'm not even supposed to be here today! - Clerks

You got knocked the fuck out! - Friday

You make me want to be a better man. - As Good as it Gets

Define 'irony'. A bunch of idiots dancing on a plane to a song made famous by a band that died in a plane crash. - Con Air

I wish I knew how to quit you. - Brokeback Mountain

Are you not entertained! Are you not entertained! Is this not why you are here! - Gladiator

I - drink - your - milkshake! (slurping sounds) I drink it up! - There Will Be Blood

Why so serious? - The Dark Knight

That's cause you went full retard. You never go full retard. - Tropic Thunder

Then you have your uber-geek quotes. Shit that usually gets said by guys that still live in their parents' basement and dress up to go to comic cons. They're usually meant to be jokes, but aren't ever really used in a context that works. (FYI: most of the quotes come from movies with "star" in the title).

They include...

Resistance is Futile.

These are not the droids you're looking for.

Dammit Jim, I'm a doctor.

This is Red number 5, I'm going in.

I'm givin' ya all she's got, Captain!

Use the Force.

Help Me Obi-Wan Kenobi, you're my only hope.

There is... another...

It's clearly the logical choice.

And of course...one of my favorites:

KHHHHHAAAANNNNN!

Ahh, fucking good stuff. But you know, all of those are great, but for me, what makes a line memorable is its ability to use it in everyday conversation. To quote a movie without really quoting it.

I was reading an article a couple of weeks ago in Empire magazine and they listed their top twenty-five movie quotes. I assumed that I would end up seeing a shortened list of the ones mentioned above, but what they actually did is list the top quotes used over and over in the office and the context they used them in. That got me thinking about the lines me and my friends use all the time. So here, in my mind, is what makes a great bit of dialog:

Whenever asks me if I did something that I never wanted to do: "Yeah, I was going to do that, and then I just went on livin'" Russell Brand from Sarah Marshall

Also from Forgetting, whenever I come across anyone with a British accent, it takes every ounce to not scream "You sound like you're from LONDON!"

Any Matt Damon movie, no matter what it is: "You know, I always thought Matt Damon was like a Streisand, but he's rocking the shit in this one!" From 40 Year Old Virgin.

Whenever someone tries to make excuses NOT to go out: "It's Friday... you ain't got no job... you ain't got SHIT TO DO!" doesn't matter if they A) have a job or B) it's not Friday.

Whenever someone asks what we should do, not matter what the situation: "You need to get your ass to Mars." from Total Recall.

From South Park, whenever someone asks: What about so and so? I always throw out "Fuck Gregory, fuck him right in the ear!" Even if the person is not named Gregory.

From the TV show, whenever anyone says something completely stupid, I respond with a "Thanks Towelie."

My friend and I always drop, from Family Guy, "Roadhouse!" whenever one of us does something spectacular.

This is kind of a dark one, but whenever anyone is talking about their Grandma, I find a way to drop, from Annie Hall, "My grammie was too busy getting raped by Kossacks." Movie lovers laugh out loud, those who don't know the line...well, it makes ME crack up.

Also from Annie Hall, when someone asks me if I've done something that they said they'd do too, I drop a "No, Jew?"

From Bad Boys, whenever someone is bugging me, I give them a "Mike please, go downstairs and have a Coke and a smile."

Caddyshack, whenever someone asks me how my day was and it was pure shit, I tell them about my day then finish with: "...but when I die I'll receive total consciousness. So I got that goin' for me, which is nice."

So what about you, the readers? What do YOU deem a worthy piece of dialog? I know I barely scratched the surface. Send your favorite quotes or the quotes you and your friends use over and over to [weekendread@gmail.com](mailto:weekendread@gmail.com). I'll share some of the funnier ones in next week's column.

Till then...