## All Acquaintances Are Not Allies

A true friend is more than someone who loves to hang out with you. A true friend is someone who will encourage you to pursue your goals and handle your responsibilities even if that cuts into some of your hangout sessions together.

A true friend doesn't just want your time. A true friend respects your time.

A true friend isn't just someone who accepts you for who you are. A true friend is someone who challenges you to step up your game, shun complacency, and seize the opportunities to become who you can really be.

A true friend doesn't just love your personality. A true friend loves your potential.

A true friend doesn't just give you compliments for the things you do well. A true friend gives you criticism for the things you need to do better.

A true friend doesn't just praise you for being cool. A true friend pushes you to build character.

A true friend doesn't just party with you when times are good. A true friend can put up with you when times are bad.

Having friends is not always the same as having fun. Some people are great for grabbing a beer with, but they're horrible for going to battle with. Know the difference.

Wise are the eyes that can distinguish acquaintances from allies.