

It is not the critic who counts -

not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled  
or where the doer of deeds could have done better.

The credit belongs to the man

who is actually in the arena,  
whose face is marred by the dust and sweat and blood,  
who strives valiantly,  
who errs and comes short again and again,  
who knows the great enthusiasm, the great devotion  
and spends himself in a worthy cause.

Who at best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement,

And who at the worst, if he fails,

At least fails while daring greatly,

So that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls

Who know neither victory nor defeat.

--- Theodore Roosevelt