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Quotes about Deception

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The great advantages of simulation and dissimulation are three. First to lay asleep opposition and to surprise. For where a man's intentions are published, it is an alarm to call up all that are against them. The second is to reserve a man's self a fair retreat: for if a man engage himself, by a manifest declaration, he must go through, or take a fall. The third is, the better to discover the mind of another. For to him that opens himself, men will hardly show themselves adverse; but will fair let him go on, and turn their freedom of speech to freedom of thought.

- Bacon, Francis

No man is happy without a delusion of some kind. Delusions are as necessary to our happiness as realities.

- Bovee, Christian Nevell

The easiest way to be cheated is to believe yourself to be more cunning than others.

- Charron, Pierre

Subtlety may deceive you; integrity never will.

- Cromwell, Oliver

Man's mind is so formed that it is far more susceptible to falsehood than to truth.

- Erasmus, Desiderius

Tricks and treachery are the practice of fools, that don't have brains enough to be honest.

- Franklin, Benjamin

Who had deceived thee so often as thyself?

- Franklin, Benjamin

Unlike grown ups, children have little need to deceive themselves.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

We are never deceived; we deceive ourselves.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

I became a virtuoso of deceit. It wasn't pleasure I was after, it was knowledge. I consulted the strictest moralists to learn how to appear, philosophers to find out what to think and novelists to see what I could get away with. And, in the end, I distilled everything down to one wonderfully simple principle: win or die.

- Hampton, Christopher

Life is the art of being well deceived.

- Hazlitt, William

Cunning is the art of concealing our own defects, and discovering the weaknesses of others.

- Hazlitt, William

The people of the world having once been deceived, suspect deceit in truth itself.

- Hitopadesa

Hateful to me as the gates of Hades is that man who hides one thing in his heart and speaks another.

- Homer

He who has made it a practice to lie and deceive his father, will be the most daring in deceiving others.

- Horace

To give up pretensions is as blessed a relief as to get them ratified.

- James, William

I have always considered it as treason against the great republic of human nature, to make any man's virtues the means of deceiving him.

- Johnson, Samuel

It is twice the pleasure to deceive the deceiver.

- La Fontaine, Jean De

The sure way to be cheated is to think one's self more cunning than others.

- La Rochefoucauld, Francois De

The craftiest trickery are too short and ragged a cloak to cover a bad heart.

- Lavater, Johann Kaspar

You can fool some of the people all the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all the time.

- Lincoln, Abraham

We like to be deceived.

- Pascal, Blaise

Whatever deceives men seems to produce a magical enchantment.

- Plato

Every cloud has a silver lining.

- Proverb

To know how to disguise is the knowledge of kings.

- Richelieu, Cardinal De

It seems to me that there are two kinds of trickery: the fronts people assume before one another's eyes, and the front a writer puts on the face of reality.

- Sagan, Françoise

Nothing is more common on earth than to deceive and be deceived.

- Seume, Johann G.

For I have sworn thee fair, and thought thee bright, who art as black as hell, as dark as night.

- Shakespeare, William

Whenever, therefore, people are deceived and form opinions wide of the truth, it is clear that the error has slid into their minds through the medium of certain resemblances to that truth.

- Socrates

All deception in the course of life is indeed nothing else but a lie reduced to practice, and falsehood passing from words into things.

- Southey, Robert

The crafty person is always in danger; and when they think they walk in the dark, all their pretenses are transparent.

- Tillotson, John

The art of using deceit and cunning grow continually weaker and less effective to the user.

- Tillotson, John

A deception that elevates us is dearer than a host of low truths.

- Tsvetaeva, Marina

When a person cannot deceive himself the chances are against his being able to deceive other people.

- Twain, Mark

Don't part with your illusions. When they are gone you may still exist, but you have ceased to live.

- Twain, Mark

Everyone is born sincere and die deceivers.

- Vauvenargues, Marquis De

The art of pleasing is the art of deception.

- Vauvenargues, Marquis De

They deceive themselves and thus us; merchants and tycoons of the world. Evil has gone

from bad to worse for a worthless reward.

- Dye, James



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