

definite thing that makes them drifters. Do you see how I work?

*Q* And very clever work it is. You lure people on through their natural desires, but you slip your deadly poison into the object of those desires wherever you can.

*A* Now you are catching on. You see, I play both ends against the middle, so to speak.

*Q* From all you say I infer that you cannot induce a non-drifter to help you gain control of his mind by baiting him with your bribes. Is that correct?

*A* That is exactly correct. I can—and I do—interest non-drifters in my bribes, because I use for the purpose of bribery the things all people naturally desire, but the non-drifter resembles a fish that steals the bait from your hook but refuses to take the hook.

The non-drifter takes from life whatever he wants, but he takes it on his own terms. The drifter takes whatever he can get, but he takes what he gets on my terms.

Stating the matter in another way, the non-drifter borrows money from a legitimate banker, if he wants it, and pays a legitimate rate of interest. The drifter goes to the pawn shop, hocks his watch, and pays a suicidal rate of interest for his loan.

*Q* So I draw from your claims the conclusion that your hand is mixed up somehow in all of people's troubles and miseries, even though your presence may not be visible?

*A* My unwilling workers are often my best workers. You see, my unwilling workers are those whom I cannot control with