

*Q* How interesting. You are not trying to recapture me through flattery, are you?

*A* That would be the best bribe I could offer you. It is the bribe I used on you effectively before you got the upper hand of me.

*Q* With what did you flatter me?

*A* With many things, chief among them sex and the desire for self-expression.

*Q* What effect did your bribes have on me?

*A* They caused you to neglect your major purpose in life and started you to drifting.

*Q* Was that all you did to me through your bribes?

*A* That was plenty.

*Q* But I am back on the track and out of your reach now, am I not?

*A* Yes, you are temporarily out of my reach because you are not drifting.

*Q* What broke your spell over me and released me from the habit of drifting?

*A* My answer may humiliate you. Do you want to hear it?

*Q* Go ahead and give it to me, Your Majesty. I wish to learn how much truth I can stand.

*A* When you found a great love in the woman of your choice, I lost my grip on you.