

1

This insert consists of 2 printed pages.

Passage 1: Mark Twain comments about on the deterioration of the art of lying.

- 1 Observe, I do not mean to suggest that the *custom* of lying has suffered any decay or interruption – no, for the Lie, as a Virtue, aA Principle, is eternal; the Lie, as a recreation, a solace, a refuge in time of need, man's best and surest friend, is immortal, and cannot perish from the earth. My complaint simply concerns the decay of the *art* of lying. No high-minded man, no man of right feeling, can contemplate the lumbering and slovenly lying of the present day without grieving to see a noble art so prostituted.
- 2 No fact is more firmly established than that lying is a necessity of our circumstances – the deduction that it is then a Virtue goes without saying. No virtue can reach its highest usefulness without careful and diligent cultivation, cultivation; therefore, it goes without saying that this one ought to be taught in the public schools, even in the newspapers. What chance has the ignorant uncultivated liar against the educated expert? What chance have I against a lawyer? *Judicious* lying is what the world needs. I sometimes think it were even better and safer not to lie at all than to lie injudiciously. An awkward, unscientific lie is often as ineffectual as the truth.
- 3 Note that venerable proverb: Children and fools *always* speak the truth. The deduction about adults and wise persons is plain. Francis Parkman, the historian, says, "The principle of truth may itself be carried into an absurdity." It is strong language, but true. None of us could *live* with a habitual truth-teller; but thank goodness none of us has to. A habitual truth-teller is simply an impossible creature; he does not exist; he never has existed. Of course there are people who *think* they never lie, but it is not so, and this ignorance is one of the very things that shame our so-called civilization. Everybody lies – every day; every hour; awake; asleep; in his dreams; in his joy; in his mourning; if he keeps his tongue still, his hands, his feet, his eyes, his attitude, will convey deception – and purposely. Even in sermons, but that is a platitude.
- 4 I think that courteous lying is a sweet and loving art, and should be cultivated. What I bemoan is the growing prevalence of the brutal truth. Let us do what we can to eradicate it. An injurious truth has no merit over an injurious lie. Neither should ever be uttered. –An injurious lie is an uncommendable thing; and so, also, and in the same degree, is an injurious truth – a fact that is recognized by the law of libel.
- 5 Among other common lies, we have the *silent* lie – the deception which one conveys by simply keeping still and concealing the truth. Many obstinate truth-mongers indulge in this dissipation, imagining that if they *speak* no lie, they lie not at all.
- 6 Lying is universal – we *all* do it. Therefore, the wise thing is for us to diligently train ourselves to lie thoughtfully, judiciously; to lie for others' advantage, and not our own; to lie healingly, charitably, humanely, not cruelly, hurtfully, maliciously; to lie gracefully and graciously, not awkwardly and clumsily; to lie firmly, frankly, squarely, with head erect, not haltingly, tortuously, with hesitatingly, as being if ashamed of our high calling.

Formatted: Font: 10 pt

Formatted: Font: 10 pt

Formatted: Font: 10 pt

Formatted: Top: 1", Bottom: 1", Header distance from edge: 0.49", Footer distance from edge: 0.49"

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold

Formatted: Body Text, Left

Formatted: Justified

Formatted: Right

Formatted Table

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Tab stops: Not at 4.9"

2

Formatted: Font: 10 pt

Formatted: Justified

Passage 2: Clive Thompson ~~talks about~~ points out how why it is increasingly difficult to lie.

1 The Internet makes us more truthful. Wasn't cyberspace supposed to be the scary zone where you could not trust anyone? Back when the Internet first came about, pundits worried that the digital age would open the floodgates of deception. Since anyone could hide behind an anonymous Hotmail address or chat-room moniker, Net users, we were warned, would be free to lie with impunity. Parents panicked and frantically cordoned off cyberspace from their children, under the assumption that anyone lurking out there in the ether was a creep until proven otherwise. And to a certain extent, the fear seemed justified. According to Psych 101, we are more likely to lie to people when there is distance between us – and you cannot get much more distant than a cyber-chat buddy in Siberia who calls himself Ominous-1.

5

Formatted: Font color: Auto

Formatted: Right

Formatted Table

Formatted: Font color: Auto

2 Why were those fears unfounded? What is it about online life that makes us more truthful? It is simple: We are worried about being caught. In "real" life, after all, it is actually pretty easy to get away with spin. If you tell a lie to someone at a cocktail party or on the phone, you can always backtrack later and claim you said no such thing.

10

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Font color: Auto

Formatted: Right

3 On the Internet, though, your words often come back to haunt you. The digital age is tough on its liars, as a seemingly endless parade of executives are learning to their chagrin. Today's titans of industry are laid low not by ruthless competitors but by prosecutors gleefully waving transcripts of old e-mail, filled with suggestions of subterfuge. Even Microsoft was tripped up by old e-mail messages, and you would figure its employees would know better. Indeed, the axiom that machines never forget is built into the very format of e-mail – consider that many e-mail programmes automatically "quote" your words when someone replies to your message. Every time I finish an e-mail message, I pause for a few seconds to reread it before I hit "send".

15

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Font color: Auto

4 Still, it is not only the fear of electronic exposure that drives us to tell the truth. There is something about the apparent harmlessness of the Internet that encourages us to bare our souls, often in rather outrageous ways. Psychologists have noticed for years that going online seems to have a catalytic effect on people's personalities. The most quiet and reserved people may become deranged loudmouths when they sit behind the keyboard, staying up until dawn and conducting angry debates on discussion boards with total strangers. You can usually spot the newbies in any discussion group because they are the ones WRITING IN ALL CAPS – they are tripped out on the Internet's heady combination of geographic distance and pseudo-invisibility.

25

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Font color: Auto

5 Heated arguments are far more common in online discussion boards than in comparable face-to-face communication. When people communicate online with invisible listeners, they are more likely to offer up personal details about themselves without any prompting. The psychologically comforting effect of the Net makes people willing to talk about anything – 'disinhibited' as the mental-health profession would say. The Net was supposed to be a military tool. Instead, it has become a vast arena for collective therapy – for a mass outpouring of what we are thinking and feeling. Stripped of our bodies, it seems, we become creatures of pure opinion.

35

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Font color: Auto

6 As more and more of our daily life moves online, we could find ourselves living in an increasingly honest world, or at least one in which lies have ever more serious consequences. With its unforgiving machine memory, the Internet might turn out to be the unlikely conscience of the world.

40

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Font color: Auto

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Right

4

Formatted: Font: 10 pt

Formatted: Right

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Body Text