# Fortune Cookie Philosophy

**By:** Kenneth Leroy Busbee

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#### CONNEXIONS

Rice University, Houston, Texas

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## **Preface**<sup>1</sup>

Fortune Cookie Philosophy is written by Kenneth Leroy Busbee, a faculty member at Houston Community College in Houston, Texas.

Over 550 unique fortune cookies were acquired during dining experiences over a 20 year plus period. The fortunes were placed into 41 independent modules and they are organized into 9 sections/chapters. As they were categorized some fortunes were placed in more than one category; so occasionally you will be reading a repeat.

My personal favorite fortune was given to me by my son, Benjamin. It reads: "If you bite the hand that feeds you, it won't taste as good as the food you were fed".

As always, my gratitude to my wife, Carol, who helped acquire the fortunes and is always a supportive partner.

I hope you enjoy reading and pondering the wisdom and philosophy within.

 $<sup>^1{\</sup>rm This}\ {\rm content}\ {\rm is\ available\ online\ at\ <http://cnx.org/content/m31196/1.1/>.}$ 

Available for free at Connexions < http://cnx.org/content/col10914/1.3>

 $\mathbf{2}$ 

## Chapter 1

## People

#### 1.1 Family<sup>1</sup>

- Share your joys and sorrows with your family.
- A distant **relative** will phone you soon.
- One of life's greatest rewards is a smile from a **loved one**.
- Somebody loves you for who you are.
- Soon, someone will make you very proud.
- If you would be loved, love and be lovable.
- The way to love anything is to realize that it might be lost.
- Give your loved ones top-quality treatment. You'll be surprised.
- Forget the entanglement of love; forget not to practice charity.
- Love is the only medicine for a broken heart.
- The truth is always bearable when told with compassion.
- Love is the glue that holds together everything in the world.
- Somebody hopes you aren't in trouble.
- Good manners and soft words have brought many a difficult thing to pass.
- Sometimes it would be wise to add a little chlorine to the gene pool.
- Children will play an important role in your life.
- Traveling with your family can be a joyful enjoyment.
- You will inherit money and property.
- They will be grateful that you called.
- You will inherit a large sum of money.
- Appreciate the caring people who surround you.
- You will have no problems in your home.

#### **1.2** Friends<sup>2</sup>

- Your wealth is where your **friends** are.
- A friend is a present you give yourself.
- Seek friendship and you will find it.
- A cheerful message from a good friend is on its way to you.
- If you want people to like you, like yourself first.
- You will become better acquainted with a coworker.

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$ This content is available online at <http://cnx.org/content/m31119/1.1/>.

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$ This content is available online at < http://cnx.org/content/m31121/1.1/>.

- A tall stranger will soon enter your life.
- If you continually give, you will continually have.
- A good friendship is often more important than a passionate romance.
- You will win favors when you expand your social circle.
- The only rose without a thorn is friendship.
- Ask a friend to join you on your next voyage.
- The only way to have a friend is to be one.
- A friend in need is a friend indeed.
- Your life will be full of true friendships.
- You have a friendly heart and are well admired.
- It is time to help a friend in need.
- Compromise in a dispute between friends is rarely regretted.
- A good evening is one spent in good company.
- Getting together with old friends brings new adventures.
- Wise man is slow in choosing friends. Slower in changing.
- Not just live and let live... but live and HELP live.
- A phone call to a good friend will ease your mind and lift your spirits.
- You will be reunited with old friends.
- The truth is always bearable when told with compassion.
- Somebody hopes you aren't in trouble.
- Work on your diplomatic skills and avoid conflict at all costs.
- Good manners and soft words have brought many a difficult thing to pass.
- The best way to keep our friends is to never owe them anything, and never lend them anything.
- A real friend asks to spend time with you, not money.
- There is nothing better than the encouragement of a good friend.
- A lifetime friend shall soon be made.
- One old friend is better than two new ones.
- You are a true friend.
- A quiet evening with friends is the best tonic for a long day.
- They will be grateful that you called.
- Don't let a little dispute injure a great friendship.
- Buy a small gift for someone who did something thoughtful for you.
- You have a friendly heart and are well admired.
- Treat others as you would like to be treated.
- Everybody feels lucky for having you as a friend.
- A friend asks only for your time not your money.
- You will be called upon to help a friend in trouble.
- Participate in a neighborhood event.
- Good friends are good for your health.
- Spend your life lifting people up.

#### 1.3 Kindness<sup>3</sup>

- There is no wisdom greater than kindness.
- **Courtesy** is the password to safety.
- If a true sense of value is to be yours it must come thru **service**.
- A warm smile is testimony of a generous nature.
- Carve your name on your heart and not on marble.
- You are altruistic and will be involved in many humanitarian projects.

 $<sup>^{3}</sup>$ This content is available online at < http://cnx.org/content/m31122/1.2/>.

- You are courteous, diplomatic and affable and may find happiness in politics and public service.
- Forget the entanglement of love; forget not to practice charity.
- One who hurts another hurts oneself.
- It is better to lend a hand than to lend sympathy.
- Those who help are helped.
- You are kind and trustworthy by nature.
- Work on your diplomatic skills and avoid conflict at all costs.
- To give happiness is to deserve happiness.
- You have an uncanny willingness and ability to help others.
- There is no medicine to cure hatred.
- You are compassionate and fun-loving.
- Anger begins with folly, and ends in regret.
- When one is helping another, both are strong.
- Good manners and soft words have brought many a difficult thing to pass.
- You wear your heart on your sleeve.
- You are more likely to give than to give in.
- You should pay for this dinner. Be generous.
- A frivolous gift is a gift, nonetheless.

#### 1.4 Romance<sup>4</sup>

- A well fed **romance** nourishes the soul.
- True **love** is only found in the heart.
- The evening will bring romance.
- An agreeable romance might begin to take on the appearance.
- Stop searching forever; happiness is right next to you.
- A good friendship is often more important than a passionate romance.
- True love is like ghosts, which everyone talks about but few have seen.
- A friend's match-making sets your heart twittering.
- Love is the only medicine for a broken heart.
- Be most affectionate today.
- An admirer finds you charming.
- You shall soon make a long, overdue personal decision.
- It's time to bring out your dreamy, loving side.
- Take the plunge in a personal relationship.
- There's a good chance of a romantic encounter soon.
- Nothing in this world is accomplished without passion.
- To love and be loved are blessings.
- Next full moon brings an enchanting evening.
- Somebody is wishing that you noticed him/her.
- You will always have good luck in your personal affairs.
- Alas! You are the apple of my eye.
- The way to love anything is to realize that it might be lost.
- They will be grateful that you called.
- Love is a thing that sharpens all our wits.
- Hope keeps love alive.
- You are demonstrative with those you love.
- A romantic mystery will soon add interest to your life.
- Somebody wants to be with you.

 $<sup>^4</sup>$ This content is available online at <http://cnx.org/content/m31123/1.1/>.

- Love is the nicest gift of all.
- That special someone loves to see the light in your eyes.
- A new romance will occupy your thoughts.
- Someone is secretly in love with you.
- Buy someone a thoughtful gift of love.
- Absence sharpens love, but presence strengthens it.
- Today is a good day for being with a companion.
- Someone is interested in you. Keep your eyes open.
- A long time admirer thinks highly of you.

### Chapter 2

## The Individual

#### **2.1** Personality<sup>1</sup>

- You have a unique **personality**.
- Use your natural **talents** to obtain more.
- Simplicity of **character** is the natural result of profound thought.
- You have a sweet nature.
- Honesty and integrity are just some of your best attributes.
- Others are attracted to your lively and sociable personality.
- A warm smile is testimony of a generous nature.
- You will always get what you want through your charm and personality.
- You are a man of righteousness and integrity.
- Good manners and soft words have brought many a difficult thing to pass.
- To be beautiful externally is like a glass rose; one false move and it can crack.
- You are a great guy. Your work has had a positive effect on the lives of many.
- You have a flair for adding a fanciful dimension to any story.
- You are the center of every group's attention.
- You are always welcome in any gathering.
- Versatility is one of your outstanding traits.
- Your loyalty is a virtue, but not when it's wedded to blind stubbornness.
- You are talented in many ways.
- You have an unusually magnetic personality.
- You have an ambitious nature.
- You are never bitter, deceptive or petty.
- You have a friendly heart and are well admired.
- Treat others as you would like to be treated.
- Your talents shine through at work.
- You are sociable and entertaining.
- You are the center of every group's attention.
- Someone is looking up to you.
- Your talents are in fine shape; utilize them to their fullest.
- You are endowed with strength of purpose and energy of will.
- You love variety and have a warm heart.
- You are original and creative.
- You are a considerate and thoughtful person.
- You have the ability to be very persuasive.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>This content is available online at <http://cnx.org/content/m31125/1.1/>.

#### CHAPTER 2. THE INDIVIDUAL

- Patience is its own reward.
- Your emotional nature is strong and sensitive.
- You have a deep appreciation of the arts and music.
- You are more likely to give than to give in.
- Character is much easier kept than recovered.
- You have a keen sense of humor and love a good time.
- It is more difficult to judge oneself than to judge others.
- You have yearning for perfection.

#### 2.2 Skills<sup>2</sup>

- Try to enhance your communication skills.
- Compromise in a dispute between friends is rarely regretted.
- Concentrate on financial matters until the end of the month.
- Wit is the salt of the conversation, not the food.
- Work on your diplomatic skills and avoid conflict at all costs.
- Do it right the first time.
- You have every qualification for success.
- You would make a good lawyer for no detail escapes your attention.

#### 2.3 Leadership<sup>3</sup>

- Character matters; leadership descends from character.
- You'll be called to a post requiring high ability in handling groups of people.
- Your example will inspire others.
- The truth is always bearable when told with compassion.
- Have faith in the force of right and not in the right of force.
- Work on your diplomatic skills and avoid conflict at all costs.
- Your principles mean more to you than any money or success.
- Character is the cornerstone of success.
- You are never bitter, deceptive or petty.
- If a true sense of value is to be yours it must come thru service.
- You have executive ability.
- Your ability to juggle many tasks will take you far.

#### 2.4 Strength<sup>4</sup>

- If strength were all, tiger would not fear scorpion.
- Absence sharpens love, but presence strengthens it.
- Adversity is the test for strong men.
- Somebody admires your strength.
- Any one that dares to be can never be weak.

 $<sup>^2 \</sup>rm This \ content$  is available online at  $<\!\rm http://cnx.org/content/m31127/1.1/\!>$  .

 $<sup>\</sup>label{eq:asymptotic} {}^3 This \ content \ is \ available \ online \ at \ < http://cnx.org/content/m31128/1.1/>.$ 

 $<sup>^4</sup>$  This content is available online at < http://cnx.org/content/m31129/1.1/>.

#### 2.5 Respect<sup>5</sup>

- Your **respect** for others will be your ticket to success.
- You have a friendly heart and are well admired.
- You are a man of righteousness and integrity.
- Carve you name on your heart and not on marble.
- Do not do to others what you do not want done to yourself.
- You deserve respect and will eventually get it.
- Someone you respect will soon honor you.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>This content is available online at <http://cnx.org/content/m31130/1.1/>.

### Chapter 3

## Creative

#### **3.1** Ideas<sup>1</sup>

- Your original ideas will get you well-deserved recognition.
- Tomorrow your creative side will shine forth with exceptional ideas.
- All that we are is a result of what we have thought.
- Every production of genius must be the production of enthusiasm.
- Original ideas allow you to meet talented people.
- You have an active mind and a keen imagination.
- Keep your plans secret for now.
- You think too much. Today means action. Carry out your plan.
- A focused mind is one of the most powerful forces in the universe.
- Present your best ideas today to an eager and welcoming audience.
- You are bright and witty.
- You have an active mind and a keen imagination.
- Try a new system or different approach.
- Good things come in invisible packages. You will be delighted.
- Ideas are like children. Your's are always the best.
- Your critical insights can provide the stimulus for change.

#### 3.2 Creative<sup>2</sup>

- Tomorrow your **creative** side will shine forth with exceptional ideas.
- Grasp opportunities, you will win.
- Talent and creativity are yours to use and keep.
- Dispel negativity through creative activities.
- You are talented in many ways.
- Adversity reveals genius, prosperity conceals it.
- Everyone has his own light Don't hold yours back.
- You have a deep interest in all that is artistic.
- You are original and creative.
- You never hesitate to tackle the most difficult problems.

 $<sup>\</sup>label{eq:http://cnx.org/content/m31134/1.1/>.$ 

 $<sup>^2 \</sup>rm This \ content$  is available online at  $<\!\rm http://cnx.org/content/m31137/1.1/>.$ 

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