Fools

Who is more foolish, the child afraid of the dark or the man afraid of the light? *(Maurice Freehill)*

You can fool all the people all of the time if the advertising is right and the budget is big enough. *(Joseph E., Levine, Hollywood producer)*

Only a fool argues with a skunk, a mule or a cook. *(Harry Oliver, in Thousand Palms, California , Desert Rat Scrap Book)*

There is a foolish corner in the brain of the wisest man. *(Aristotle)*

That, of course, is the great secret of the successful fool -- that he is no fool at all. *(Isaac Asimov)*

If you wish to avoid seeing a fool, you must first break your mirror. *(Francois Rabelais)*

What the wise do in the beginning, fools do in the end. *(Warren Buffett)*

The great pleasure of a dog is that you may make a fool of yourself with him and not only will he not scold you, but he will make a fool of himself, too. *(Samuel Butler)*

You can’t fool all the people all the time – some of them are busy fooling you. *(Bits & Pieces)*

Any fool can criticize, condemn and complain – and most fools do. *(Dale Carnegie, in How to Win Friends and Influence People)*

When you’re certain you cannot be fooled, you become easy to fool. *(Edward Teller)*

**A wise man changes his mind; a fool never will. *(Spanish proverb)***

Failure is unimportant. It takes courage to make a fool of yourself. *(Charlie Chaplin)*

A man and a woman cannot live together without having against each other a kind of everlasting joke. Each has discovered that the other is a fool, but a great fool. *(G. K. Chesterton)*

The greatest lesson in life is to know that even fools are right sometimes. *(Winston Churchill)*

The ancient Greeks sent their infirmed to a “Home of Comedians” to be healed, and monarchs sent their “fools” or court jesters as ambassadors to other kingdoms to build goodwill and help defuse conflicts. Many Native Americans are very attuned to the Divine Wisdom of humor. Some have clown doctors who perform antics to cure the sick. (Terry Braverman, in New Thought magazine)

A fellow who is always declaring he’s no fool usually has his suspicions. (Wilson Mizner, playwright)

A common mistake that people make when trying to design something completely foolproof is to underestimate the ingenuity of complete fools. (Douglas Adams, novelist)

On the edge of a precipice, only a fool does cartwheels*. (James DePreist, in Portland Oregonian)*

Embrace the fool within and reap some very positive rewards. The fool can jump outside the constraints of normal convention and shed new light. In Shakespeare’s Mid-Summer Night’s Dream and King Lear, the fool saw beneath the surface to the truth in every situation. In tarot cards, too, the fool is the first card of the deck. According to the Encyclopedia of Tarot by Stuart R. Kaplan, it can signify a new adventure, enthusiasm, initiative, spontaneity, new opportunities, unlimited possibilities, and pleasure. *(Terry Braverman, in New Thought magazine)*

Politeness was invented by wise men to keep fools at a distance. (Ralph Waldo Emerson)

My father always told me that a fool at 40 is a fool for life. (Idris Elba, actor)

**The primary block to developing a humorous perspective is our fear of looking foolish, being disapproved of, and ultimately being rejected. These fears were instilled with messages we received in childhood: “Wipe that stupid smile off your face!” (smiling is stupid); “Grow up and get serious!” (growing up is serious business). The average four year old laughs about every ten minutes. How many times a day do we laugh now? We have been trained to sacrifice our sense of joy for the sake of “growing up.” *(Terry Braverman, in New Thought magazine)***

**The first principle is that you must not fool yourself, and you are the easiest person to fool*. (Richard Feynman)***

Ain’t nothing in this world for free, and it blows my mind how so many fools just don’t get that. *(Jamie Foxx, in USA Weekend)*

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Any fool can criticize, condemn, and complain -- and most fools do. *(Benjamin Franklin)*

Experience keeps a dear school, but fools will learn in no other. *(Benjamin Franklin)*

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A fool’s paradise is a wise man’s hell. *(Thomas Fuller)*

He that has no fools, knaves nor beggars in his family was begot by a flash of lightning. *(Thomas Fuller)*

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**It takes a genius to play a fool. (Michael Rapaport)**

**We all know a fool when we see one -- but not when we are one. (Arnold H. Glasow, in The Wall Street Journal)**

**Everyone is a damn fool for at least five minutes every day. Wisdom consists in not exceeding that limit. *(Elbert Hubbard, writer)***

**You are not a fool just because you have done something foolish -- only if the folly of it escapes you. *(Jim Fiebig, NANA)***

Who is the more foolish – the fool, or the fool who follows him? *(Obi-wan Kenobi)*

Living in a fool's paradise is great fun until the rent comes due. *(Good Reading)*

Anyone can make a mistake. A fool insists on repeating it. *(Robertine Maynard)*

A fool and his money will soon be partying. *(Ellis J. Biderson, in The Saturday Evening Post)*

It is wise to remember that you are one of those who can be fooled some of the time. *(Laurence J. Peter, in Peter's Almanac)*

Prophecy is the wit of a fool. *(Vladimir Nabokov)*

When a fool is told a proverb, it has to be explained to him. *(Ashanti proverb)*

The wise make proverbs and fools repeat them. *(Isaac D’Israeli, English author)*

The main purpose of the stock market is to make fools of as many men as possible. *(Bernard Baruch, businessman)*

The wise person questions himself, the fool others. *(Henri Arnold, Chicago-Tribune-New York News Syndicate)*

A fine quotation is a diamond on the finger of a man of wit, and a pebble in the hand of a fool. *(Joseph Roux, cartographer)*

Fools live to regret their words, wise men to regret their silence. *(Will Henry, Chicago Tribune-New York News Syndicate)*

Any fool can count the seeds in an apple. Only God can count all the apples in one seed. *(Robert H. Schuller Tells You How to Be an Extraordinary Person in an Ordinary World, edited by Robert A. Schuller)*

Playwright Bernard Shaw was so painfully shy that he would sometimes walk up and down the Thames embankment for 20 minutes or more trying to gather the courage to walk up to a friend’s door and knock. Asked how he acquired the courage and ability to speak publicly despite his timidity, he replied: “The same way I learned to skate – by doggedly making a fool of myself until I got used to it.” *(E. F. Wells, in Success Unlimited)*

It sometimes seems foolish for folks to be spending so much time trying to love their enemies when they could be treating their friends a little better. *(Garth Henrichs)*

Only a fool tests the depth of the water with both feet. *(African proverb)*

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He who asks is a fool for five minutes, but he who does not ask remains a fool forever. *(Mark Twain)*

I am a great and sublime fool. But then I am God’s fool, and all His work must b contemplated with respect. *(Mark Twain)*

Let us be thankful for the fools. But for them the rest of us could not succeed. *(Mark Twain)*

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