**Flattery**

**Ruthie: “You're so sweet; you're so pretty! Come here, bunny, bunny, bunny. Look, Grandpa, the bunny likes me!” Grandpa: “That's because you're speaking the international language, Ruthie.” Ruthie: “Bunny talk?” Grandpa: “Flattery.” *(Rick Detorie, in One Big Happy comic strip)***

**You can buy flattery, but envy must be earned. *(Quoted in Philips Calendar)***

**Flattery is like chewing gum. Enjoy it but don't swallow it. *(Hank Ketcham, cartoonist)***

**Flattery is counterfeit money, but for vanity, would have no circulation. *(La Rochefoucauld)***

**A THOUGHT TO REMEMBER: People do not live by bread alone . . . they need buttering up once in a while. *(Reminisce Extra magazine)***

**Flatterers look like friends, as wolves like dogs. (*George Chapman)***

**Many people know how to flatter, but few of us know how to praise. *(Ruth Brown)***

**There is more to a compliment than flattery, however. An insecure compliment sweetens the tongue, but sours the stomach. And the flowery phrase is usually unnecessary. The simplest compliment can be the most profound. (Mark R. Littleton, in Reader’s Digest)**

**The philosopher Diogenes was washing lentils to make soup. He was noticed by the philosopher Aristippus, who had acquired a comfortable living by paying court to the king. Aristippus sneered: "If you would only learn to flatter the king, you would not have to live on such poor food as lentils." "If you had learned to live on such food as lentils," retorted Diogenes just as disdainfully, "you would not have to flatter the king." (James Alexander Thom, on flattery, in Nuggets)**

**Flattery: the power to describe others as they see themselves. (The Farmer-Stockman of the Midwest)**

**What really flatters a man is that you think him worth flattering. (George Bernard Shaw)**

**We tend to forget that criticism sometimes expresses greater respect than praise. It is surely more of an honor than flattery. As a professor, you challenge a student because you consider her capable of learning. You question her premises because you think she’s game enough to re-examine them. *(Wendy Kaminer, in The Atlantic Monthly)***

**When we are put in charge of others the worst adviser we can have is a flatterer. *(Bits & Pieces)***

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