

Trust

I rather trust several people. This trust springs from my confidence both in these individuals, and in my judgment of them. I would count on these people not to spread secrets I share with them, not to take my money, not to require coaxing when I am in serious need of support. But my trust in these people only goes so far. Total trust in a person involves a more comprehensive relationship, than is implied by these examples. I would only trust someone totally if they did not simply reassure me in the regards just mentioned, but went beyond details into the positive territory of friendship (or is it love?) I would trust my lawyer, my doctor, but this trust might well be simply 'professional,' and not include the element of friendship (or is it love?)

1

I most trust my wife. I trust her because we have so intertwined our commitments to one another—that neither of us could profit without the other profiting. I trust her because I assume that for her, as for me, undermining the other's good name and achievement could only mean undermining her own. I trust her because through being twenty years together she has learned, as I have, that our skills are complementary and in each case indispensable to the other.

2

I trusted my dog Biscuits. When I came downstairs in the morning she always jumped up and kissed me, then followed me around the house. This habit held until her last days, in which she was very ill. When she could not rise from her bed she wagged her tail, and made eye contact. When she was well she never decided to modify her routine. She was never in a bad mood. She was never prey to sudden fits of anger, except when tormented—and that was never by me. I could count on her more fully than I can count on myself.