FORTUNE COOKIE FORTUNES

DAVE MORICE
Iowa City, Iowa

I’ve written fortune cookie fortunes for a long time, but I haven’t sold any of them. I do it just in case I run across a fortune cookie publisher who needs a few gems of wisdom for that thin piece of paper that is to a fortune cookie what the cream filling is to a Hostess Cupcake. Here are some of my fortune cookie fortunes—all guaranteed true:

- Don’t try to predict the past—it will never happen.
- You swim through life as easily as a freshwater fish in the ocean.
- Pay attention to cardiologists in matters of the heart. Pay attention to shoestore personnel in matters of the sole.
- Beware of landslides and waterfalls. If they mix, beware of mud.
- Lady Luck rewards those who write “Wash Me” on the back of dirty cars.

Your life was once an open book, but an old love slammed it shut. Don’t worry—a librarian will shelve it for you.

Someone will give you a piece of their mind. It won’t be a big piece, but you will enjoy it and ask for seconds.

You are graced with luck. A tornado will come and carry you away, but it will leave your house and car untouched.

Never bathe in a tub of molasses without pancake make-up on.

Your wealth is excessive. Your joy is repulsive. Your success is obnoxious. You are blest indeed.

You are one of the wisest people in the world, but your wisdom prevents you from making foolish choices that would earn you the respect of others.

A meter maid will advise you on how to be happy for the rest of your mortal days. She will also give you a ticket.

Strangers will follow you down a dark alley. Take the opportunity to make new friends.

Introduce yourself.

Beware of geeks bearing chickens.

Your best friend will soon be your chauffeur.

Don’t play with fire unless you are a fireman. Don’t play with snow unless you are a snowman.

Wake up and smell the alarm clock!

Peas are your least-favorite vegetable. By coincidence, you are peas’ least favorite human.

Life maintains its eternal balance once again.

If you meet a man with a fishing rod but no fish in a department store with no departments looking for a cashier with no cash, he will tell you how to achieve enlightenment without light.
To impress one person, smile. To impress many people, smile and honk as you drive through a hospital zone.

Life is like a bag of fortune cookies. Some are too good to be true, and others are too true to be good. A used-car dealer will reveal an age-old truth to you, but since he is a used-car dealer you will believe it to be an age-old lie. What you do with your life is your own business, unless you own a business, and then it’s everybody’s business. Your spouse is cheating on you. Your future looks bright!

You are like an ear of corn. You stand tall, have a shock of green hair at the top of your head, and wear hundreds of yellow buttons.

Six words will make you happy. There is a tree with your name on it, if your name is Elmo. Don’t jump on a pogo stick during an earthquake. You are Bill Gates. You don’t need a fortune cookie. Look all three ways before crossing a street. Something might be dropping from above.

Do not believe lies. Remember, only the truth is free. You are more than a person. To germs you are a planet. “Yes” is merely “No” misspelled. The world is full of stop signs. You will invent the go sign. The world is your banana peel.

Rejoice! You have nothing to fear but war, famine, pestilence, plague and the ravages of time. A million flakes of happiness will fall upon you. Others will perceive them as flakes of snow. That is why they are unhappy. It is vanity to own a van, but it is carnivorous to own a car.

Why is it that there is never any trash in your neighbor’s yard?

When the spirit is willing, the flesh will be appropriately weak. You are a clone. Your parents are clones, too. Don’t goose the goose that lays the golden egg. A banana a day keeps the dentist away. Don’t, unless you already did.

You can read minds, but you quickly tire of turning the pages. You will have a flat tire on your unicycle in a bad neighborhood. Be sure to carry a spare. You are the be-all and the end-all, the person on whom the sun rises and sets, the most powerful titan that the world has ever seen, the greatest sentient being in the entire universe. You have the intelligence of a thousand enlightened beings, the wisdom of two thousand, and the knowledge of four thousand. No creature in this or any other reality can surpass you in your supreme and immortal godhood. You believe in the everlasting truth found in fortune cookies.