**Pretending**

**This leads to a point that is interestingly made in a story that comes out of the lore of the Island of Java. A young man spied a beautiful girl on the high road and followed her for a mile. Finally she turned and demanded, “Why do you dog my footsteps?” He declared feverishly, “Because you are the loveliest thing I have ever seen and I have fallen madly in love with you at sight. Be mine!” The girl replied, “But you have merely to look behind you to see my young sister who is ten times more beautiful than I am.” The gallant swain wheeled about and his gaze fell on as homely a girl as could be found in Java. “What mockery is this?” he demanded of the girl. “You lied to me!” “So did you,” she replied. “If you were so madly in love with me, why did you turn around?” *(Eric Butterworth, in Discover The Power Within You, p. 125)***

**When one is pretending the entire body revolts. *(Anais Nin)***

**Many years ago, people did not wear hats. They wore hoods. I imagine that some of you have hoods on your jackets to cover your head. Back then people wore different colors of hoods. The color of hood you wore told your occupation. For example, if you were a minister, you wore one color hood. If you were a doctor, you wore another color of hood. You could tell the occupation of a person, therefore, by the color of hood that he wore. The problem with that, of course, was that some people tried to pass themselves off as somebody they were not. So they wore a false hood. That is where we get the word “falsehood.” What is a falsehood? That’s right, it is something that is not true. *(Dynamic Preaching)***

**What is it in us that makes us feel the need to keep pretending ... we gotta let ourselves be. *(Christina Aguilera)***

**Good week for: Snarling at your co-workers, after a Michigan State University study found that employees who force a smile to please clients or colleagues actually worsen their own moods. *(The Week magazine, March 11, 2011)***

**Politeness: The most acceptable hypocrisy. *(Ambrose Bierce)***

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