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## Trust and control

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Where human relationships are concerned, issues of trust and control go together. Where professional relationships are concerned, these issues require special attention.

I will let you take control, give me orders, make directions and offer advice – if I trust you.

I will let you take control, give me orders, make directions and offer advice to the extent that I trust you. The level of my trust may fluctuate. You are wise to pay attention to this. When I trust you absolutely, you may do with me as you will.

It may be best when there is mutual trust. Control may then be shared. Sometimes I will make decisions affecting us both. Sometimes you will make such decisions. Sometimes we will make them together.

When I want to take control, to make decisions and see them carried through, I will endeavour to gain and retain your confidence, hence your respect and esteem. (Only later perhaps, when trust is assured, will I hope for and anticipate your affection.)

I will endeavour to be trustworthy. This involves keeping you informed and telling you no lies. I will hope for the same honesty and trustworthiness from you.

I recognise how difficult it is to provide these conditions. I will strive towards patience, tolerance, understanding and forgiveness in our dealings. I will hope for the same patience, tolerance, understanding and forgiveness from you.

Where human failings arise, I will endeavour to put my trust in a just and benevolent universe. If I go about my business faithfully, may I confidently anticipate the rewards of my trust, faith and fidelity? On the deepest and most earnest reflection, I do not doubt this so far... and give thanks.

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