



The Truth About A Lie

Wrote this with my dear friend Gene Nelson. We wrote it so quickly we had to laugh, as it seemed we both knew entirely too much about the art of the dodge.

They're here to stay until the day we die
So here's the truth about a lie

A lie's just like the truth – only different
See, one is always to be told
The other isn't
But just which one's a delicate decision
Since both can put you in,
Or keep you out of, prison

Now lying don't take a lot of lessons
It's something we do natural from conception
And backed into a corner under pressure
Is quite often when we come up
With our best ones:

The husband swearing up and down,
"Darling that wedding gown still fits"
The smoker takes another drag and says,
"After this I quit"
The fighter takes a fall
Though we all saw he wasn't hit
The Doc slaps on the rubber glove and says,
"This won't hurt a bit"

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Now some folks tell them
Like they're on a mission
Without the slightest touch of inhibition
It's become a tried and true tradition
Without which we would have no politicians

Now on Judgment Day
When where we goes depends on
When they ask us what we've done right
And what we've done wrong
And knowing it's our answers
We'll be judged on
How much you want to reckon
We might fudge on?

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We get so good telling them
They roll right off our tongue
We tell them 'cause we want to
We tell them just for fun
Except for me of course 'cause I ain't ever told a one
And there you have proof-positive
Just how easily it's done

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So here's the truth about a lie

Gene Nelson/Tony Arata

Tony Arata Music/Maycomb County Music
(ASCAP)/Hey Sailor Music/
Zavitson Music (SESAC)