

The Tone of Voice

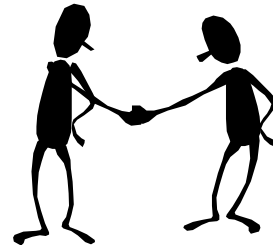
It's not so much what you say
As the manner in which you say it;
It's not so much the language you use
As the tone in which you convey it.

“Come here!” I sharply said,
As the child cowered and wept.
“Come here.” I said. He looked and smiled
And straight into my lap he crept.

Words may be mild and fair
But the tone may pierce like a dart;
Words may be soft as the summer air
But the tone may break my heart;
For words come from the mind, grow by study and art-
But the tone leaps from the inner self,
Revealing the state of the heart.

Whether you know it or not,
Whether you mean it, or care,
Gentleness, kindness, love and hate,
Envy, and anger are there.
Then would you quarrels avoid
And peace and love rejoice?
Keep anger not only out of your words-
Keep it out of your voice.

...Author Unknown



“We often refuse to accept an idea merely because the tone of voice in which it has been expressed is unsympathetic to us.” Friedrich Nietzsche