from Georg Simmel, in On Women, Sexuality, and Love:

Consider the charms of the simultaneous
For and Against, the Perhaps,
the protracted reservation of the decision
which permits a foretaste of the enjoyment
of both its aspects
which in their realization
are mutually exclusive.

(the original does not appear structured thus, but as a straightforward sentence)

And famously:

Flirtation also does no more than *play* with reality, yet it is still *reality* with which it plays.