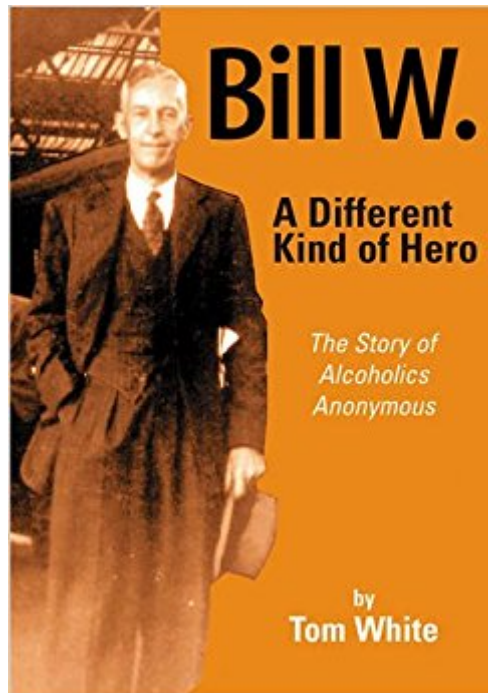




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Bill W. A Different Kind Of Hero



Synopsis

Boyds Mills Press publishes a wide range of high-quality fiction and nonfiction picture books, chapter books, novels, and nonfiction

Book Information

Hardcover: 32 pages

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Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: 5 and up

Customer Reviews

Grade 5-10-An interesting introduction to one of the founders of AA who also helped to build the organization into a worldwide movement. The book starts with a dedication to readers, and may encourage those dealing with their own struggles. Insights into Wilson's feelings and thoughts are based on extensive research at the Stepping Stones Foundation, archives at AA Headquarters, Wilson House, and interviews with Bill's secretary and many AA members. White chronicles his subject's life from his birth in 1895 through his longtime marriage to Lois Burnham, the cofounder of Al-Anon, to his death in 1971. The author portrays him as a sometimes troubled man who made many mistakes but who was able to rise above his defects and serve others. The volume is illustrated with black-and-white photos. Two lists, "The Twelve Steps-" and "The Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous," are included. This well-researched biography conveys Bill W.'s energy and strength. Debbie Stewart, Grand Rapids Public Library, MI Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Gr. 4-7. Bill Wilson, one of the cofounders of Alcoholics Anonymous and a revered figure in 12-step communities worldwide, is the subject of this hopeful biography. After discussing Wilson's troubled family life and his service in World War I, White explores his decades-long battle with liquor.

Wilson's endless failures at being a "big shot" led him to drink more and more frequently, and each time he had one drink, he found himself unable to stop. His salvation came in the form of faith in a "Higher Power" and fellowship with other alcoholics, which became the foundation of Alcoholics Anonymous. Readers will wish for more about Wilson's youth--both because they'll identify more with Wilson the child than Wilson the alcoholic, and because the information would help them better understand the reasons for his drinking. Still, for kids with parents in recovery, this will be a valuable resource, indeed--a readable story that introduces the pain of alcoholism as well as the possibility of recovery through one man's heroic story. John Green

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In the book, Bill W. A Different Kind Of Hero, Bill W. fight with one of the most commons issues in the world, the alcoholism. He started fighting against this because he became an alcoholism person, than when he beat this issue he start thinking that he can help others people too, in the beginning was hard, but he made it and created the Alcoholic Anonymous, a program that helps millions of people to get over the alcoholism. A thing that inspired Bill to fight against the alcoholism is that he is an ex-alcoholic, so he knows what the people suffer with this hard problem, he know all the issues and how hard it is to be a winner in this fight against yourself. My reaction reading this book, and with this wonderful work that he did is that I am really happy that in our World there are people that came here for more than just live, that came here to help the others and made others life better, this thrills me a lot. I am certain that his work impacted positively in a lot of people lives, I support all his decisions, because it are legitimates. Bill W. had to confront the problems of an alcoholic person, he didn't wanted to stop drinking and all the emotional confrontations, I don't know if I could do what he did, you need to be a really special person to do what this man did, he is a hero. I am going to strongly recommend this book, it is a really good written book, and the history is amazing, this book will inspire all kind of readers, everyone should take some time to read this book and learn with this amazing person that Bill W. was. Da Costa, Thiago " 10/26/14

It is amazing how much valuable information the author has packed into this short 64pp volume. And the pictures, many of which have not appeared elsewhere in the hagiography of Bill Wilson, make this volume one of a kind. Although the publisher indicates that it is directed to the Ala-Teen

and Ala-Tot audiences, those 10 to 14, this 71+ multi-diagnosed addict and alcoholic recommends it to those with the diseases of addiction and alcoholism, as well as those surrounding we chosen ones. ["I am grateful that God chose me to be an alcoholic and an addict."]I was particularly gratified when the author correctly states how the name "Alcoholics Anonymous" came to be identified with Bill W.'s organization; e.g. Cleveland, the "Brewmaster", adopted the name from the book, and the larger organization took the name from Cleveland. White also gives Bill's drinking buddy and sponsor, Ebby Thatcher, proper credit for Bill's last drink. White also points out that Bob Smith did not recover on-the-spot from talking with Bill Wilson, but instead went directly to a bender. White does shy away from diagnosing Bill's bi-polar disorder, but does not omit the symptoms. This reader hopes that the author will turn his eye, and add succinct biographies of Mrs. Marty Mann and Lois Wilson to what promises to be a most worthwhile series. [Mann, who like Clarence Snyder eschewed anonymity, was responsible for more persons coming to AA than the Saturday Evening Post article.]I will use this volume in the future with my more recalcitrant pigeons.

Short, but very good. I highly recommend this for fellowship historians...In fact, for anyone.

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