

SECOND TRADITION SKIT

NARRATOR:

Welcome to the presentation of our skit on Al-Anon's Second Tradition. I am (say your name), and I'd like to introduce you to our cast.

1. AUDREY AUTHORITY
2. BOSSY BERTHA
3. PARTY PAT
4. COUROUS CONNER
5. WANNA BE WINNIE
6. BIG SPENDER SALLY
7. FIRST TIME FREDA
8. NEW IDEA NELL
9. D R DOTTIE
10. LONG TIME LILIE

NARRATOR:

Our skit opens with an Al-Anon meeting in progress

AUDREY AUTHORITY:

I'm Audrey Authority and I'm the Chairman of this Group. I'm also the Group Representative (GR), Secretary-Treasurer and the Information Service Representative (ISR). This means I'm in charge and tell you what to do. First, you will all tell who you are and what you are doing here.

BOSSY BERTHA:

I'm Bossy Bertha and I'm here so you can tell me how to take control at home. When I tell him to go to work, he goes back to bed. When I tell him to wear a dress suit, he wears jeans. And when I tell him not to drink anymore, he heads for the liquor store. The harder I try, the worse it gets.

AUDREY AUTHORITY:

Well, don't give up. You have to say what you mean and mean what you say. I know everything there is to know about asserting authority. Just watch how I handle this group.

PARTY PAT:

I'm Party Pat and I'm here to have a good time. When does the fun start?

AUDREY AUTHORITY:

You'll have fun as soon as I say so. Just be quiet for now.

CURIOUS CONNER:

I'm Curious Conner and I'm here to find out how to get a Sponsor and what a Sponsor does. I have a lot of questions, I'm just curious about everything.

AUDREY AUTHORITY:

I'm everybody's sponsor. Call me every day at the time I tell you and I'll give you your instructions for the day.

WANNA BE WINNIE:

I'm Wanna Be Winnie and I want to be elected Group Representative (GR). I'd like to go to district meetings and Area Assembly so I could vote for what I'd like this group to do. I'd give you all reports on what I think is interesting. I heard you say you're the Group Representative too. Couldn't you let somebody else have one job? I just want to be something.

AUDREY AUTHORITY:

READ MY LIPS!!! I've been doing everything for this group for 14 years. This group couldn't make it without me.

BIG SPENDER SALLY:

I'm Big Spender Sally and I'd like to be the Secretary-Treasurer. I'd like to take all the money out of the basket each week and decide what to do with it. They don't call me Big Spender Sally for nothing.

AUDREY AUTHORITY:

The only reason this group has \$14,000 is because I keep the money.

FIRST TIME FREDA:

I'm First Time Freda and this is my first Al-Anon meeting. Is it all right if I talk?

AUDREY AUTHORITY:

Since this is your first meeting, I don't know if you will fit in with us or not. I'll need to investigate your background, education, religion, age, and politics. Until then, I don't want to hear a sound out of you.

NEW IDEA NELL:

I'm New Idea Nell and I went to another meeting last week. All their members seem to be involved in helping the group. One person doesn't do it all. I would like to be the Information Service Representative (ISR) for this group. I'd bring us new ideas and suggestions from the Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) meetings.

AUDREY AUTHORITY:

Just forget that! I may not have time to go to all those service meetings, but I give you all the ideas and suggestions you need. We seem to have a newcomer to our group. I've never seen you before. Who are you?

D R DOTTIE:

I am D R Dottie and I'm your District Representative (DR). I send you a letter every three months asking for a representative from your group to go to the district meeting. The meeting was last night and we talked about the Second Tradition.

LONG TIME LILLIE:

I'm Long Time Lillie and I've been coming to this group a long time, but I've never heard about the Second Tradition. I'd like to hear more.

PARTY PAT:

I hope those Traditions are about partying. I'm still waiting for the fun. I don't know why you are all wanting to work. I say, let her do all the work. The rest of us can play.

AUDREY AUTHORITY:

I decide what we talk about in the meetings. I'm doing fine. Forget those Traditions.

D R DOTTIE:

I don't want to cause trouble, but our Traditions are important. Perhaps we could have a group conscience vote on discussing the Traditions.

LONG TIME LILLIE:

I've been here a long time, but I never remember us ever voting on anything. Audrey just tells us what to do.

BOSSY BERTHA:

I'd like to hear about those Traditions. Maybe they will teach me how to control better.

CURIOUS CONNER:

I must admit to being very curious about the Traditions.

WANNA BE WINNIE:

If we can vote on what to talk about, maybe someday we can vote to let me be something.

BIG SPENDER SALLY:

I'm tired of Audrey running everything. I'll vote for anything that she's against.

FIRST TIME FREDA:

I know she said I couldn't talk, but can I have a vote?

NEW IDEA NELL:

If those Traditions have some new ideas in them, I want to hear about them.

BOSSY BERTHA:

I say, let's vote! All in favor of the Traditions raise your hand.

ALL EXCEPT AUDREY AUTHORITY RAISE THEIR HANDS

PARTY PAT:

That was fun! Now what do we do?

LONG TIME LILLIE:

D R Dottie, will you tell us about this Tradition Two?

D R DOTTIE:

I'll be glad to, but first let me read it to you.

FOR OUR GROUP PURPOSE THERE IS BUT ONE AUTHORITY—A LOVING GOD AS HE MAY EXPRESS HIMSELF IN OUR GROUP CONSCIENCE. OUR LEADERS ARE BUT TRUSTED SERVANTS—THEY DO NOT GOVERN.

BOSSY BERTHA:

Well, I know one thing, this group's one authority has been Audrey, but she doesn't fit my picture of a loving God.

CURIOUS CONNIE:

I guess the group conscience was what we listened to when we voted a few minutes ago.

D R DOTTIE:

In Al-Anon, we are a fellowship where we share as equals, regardless of education, background, religion, politics, color, race, or age. Al-Anon is made up of all types of people, each unique in their own way. No one is better than another. We are equal. Each of us has our own concept of a Higher Power and that is the only authority—our Higher Power.

BIG SPENDER SALLY:

But surely, the members with the most money have more authority than the poor ones. And the Group Secretary should have the authority to do whatever she wants with the group's money.

FIRST TIME FREDA:

If we are all supposed to be equal. I guess I can talk. This is sounding better all the time. I love to talk.

WANNA BE WINNIE:

If nobody has authority, I don't know if I even want to be the Group Representative what good would it do to be the GR if I couldn't tell everybody what to do?

D R DOTTIE:

The last part of Tradition Two says our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern.

NEW IDEA NELL:

I didn't come to Al-Anon to be a servant. After years of living with an alcoholic. I've been somebody's servant for too long.

CURIOUS CONNIE:

One day I got curious about the word, "trusted" and looked it up in the dictionary. If you trust somebody, you have confidence and faith in them. Before Al-Anon, I didn't trust in anything or anybody. I stayed so confused that I couldn't be trusted either. When we live with the disease of alcoholism, we even lose trust in a Higher Power.

D R DOTTIE:

Most of us are so grateful for what Al-Anon has done for us that we are willing to serve the program. This doesn't mean we wait on people. Being a trusted servant of Al-Anon is our way of helping to keep the fellowship on the right track and growing. I want Al-Anon to be here for everyone who wants our help.

AUDREY AUTHORITY:

I really hate to admit being wrong, but I haven't been a trusted servant of Al-Anon. I've done everything for this group for so long that I seem to have lost track of what Al-Anon is all about. I really have been governing. It's time for the rest of you to get involved. I want to thank D R Dottie for sharing Tradition Two with us tonight. Let's have an

election next week and elect a new Chairman, Group Representative, Information Service Representative and Secretary-Treasurer. All in favor raise their hands.

ALL RAISE THEIR HANDS

NARRATOR:

Well, the study of the Traditions has come through again. If your group is having problems with leaders who govern, perhaps a meeting on Tradition Two might be the answer. When any group has problems, the Twelve Traditions have the answer.