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Big Book

MY FIRST introduction to the importance of the Big Book came to me in the local coffee shop after a noontime meeting. It came by way of an old-timer on the AA program who told me of various things: "guideposts" and "musts"; learning to read, in order to read to learn; and learning to understand, in order to understand to learn. Needless to say, I thought the chap was a bit daffy. But, wanting desperately to hold on to my newfound sobriety, I trudged off home to read the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*. Little did I know that I was entering into a journey that would lift the compulsion to drink and would restore some order and sanity to my life.

Today, through reading the Big Book, I have found three excellent reasons to continue doing so. On page 20, the book states: "If you are an alcoholic who wants to get over it, you may already be asking—'What

do I have to do?' It is the purpose of this book to answer such questions specifically."

Not bad for starters, but let's continue to page 29, where it says: "Further on, clear-cut directions are given showing how we recovered." The book not only answers my questions specifically, but also gives me clear-cut directions.

Finally, on page 45: "Lack of power, that was our dilemma. We had to find a power by which we could live, and it had to be a *Power greater than ourselves*. Obviously. But where and how were we to find this Power? Well, that's exactly what this book is about. Its main objective is to enable you to find a Power greater than yourself which will solve your problem."

The Big Book states three powerful reasons why I should continue to read and reread its important pages.

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