

## Literature Written By an NA Home Group in 1973

*Day by Day* was written by members of the Denver Young People's Group, which was formed as an AA group in the winter of 1962. In the spring of 1970, several of its addict/alcoholic<sup>1</sup> members began what is believed to be the first NA meeting in Colorado at a halfway house they founded and operated named, The Hand of Hope. According to a founding member (Shelly M.), the meeting ran for seven years.

In 1973, those same members wrote *Day by Day*, which was intended to be all inclusive, for use by addicts and alcoholics alike. It was written entirely by a group of young people who attended both AA and NA. It was their intention to write Twelve Step literature for the young addicts and alcoholics that were coming into the rooms in massive numbers during the era. Remember, this was a time when a lot of addicts were getting booted right out the door of AA meetings.

They donated the manuscript to Hazelden, who then published it as written. Despite its bearing the Hazelden logo, *Day by Day* came straight out of an NA meeting, and was written by fellowship members.

The only named fellowship in the book is the figurative Milk Drinkers Anonymous. Shelly M., who was the driving force behind the book and its main author, explained, "I made a conscious decision not to use AA or NA so that people could not make any part of the book exclusionary like some people were doing [in AA] — in other words, members might pounce on the words to exclude others and the whole point of the book was to include all addictions."

Rather ironically, because the book goes out of its way not to mention either AA or NA, neither fellowship will officially touch it. Written specifically for those who were being excluded, *Day by Day* itself is now largely excluded.

*The following is from page 16 of, History of Narcotics Anonymous – Pennsylvania and Philadelphia by Danny M.: November 2, 1975 Inter-group <snip> Discussion about selling Day-by-Day books at Mtgs. because they are not inter-group approved. \*\*Motion made to accept Day by Day as inter-group approved. Passed. <snip>*

*The following is from the Harrisburg Area of Narcotics Anonymous: July 31, 1981 <snip> Rick P. has Day by Day books.*

February 23, 2014:

Kim L. - I got mine in rehab.

Paula B. - I have one.

Dave F. – Now you have me going nuts trying to find mine.

Neil M. from the Lansdale, PA said regarding the 1975 Minutes, "That's true. Yes I read it every day as did many others in our area who are still clean. My Home Group sold it and it's still my Home Group. My Home Group is Unconditional Recovery in Lansdale. We are celebrating our 40 years of NA in Lansdale in July 2014. The group was started by two young girls Vicki Malander who died of lung cancer 6 months ago and MaryAnn G. who lives in Washington State.

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<sup>1</sup> The term addict / alcoholic was used by addicts during this period and continued to be accepted by the Narcotics Anonymous Fellowship until the mid-1980's.

**DAY BY DAY**

## DAY BY DAY

Published by  
**Hazelden**  
P.O. Box 176  
Center City, Minnesota 55012

*Best - you are  
the best - Thank you  
for the work you do...*

*Shelly M  
6.6.69 - 10.20.13*

# DAY BY DAY

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*Handwritten notes:*  
I'm very grateful to you for this book. It's a great help. I'm glad you're doing this. I'm glad you're doing this. I'm glad you're doing this.

## PREFACE

A key fact about this book is that it was written by The Young People's Group in Denver, Colorado. *Day By Day* is the product of their effort to speak directly to young alcoholics and addicts. The result is an eloquent message about living one day at a time which speaks in a very meaningful way to all generations. It contains a helpful lesson for living every day of the year. It is a book which deals in a profound, yet simple, way with getting to know our Creator, sharing ourselves fully with one another, and the difficult but rewarding process of growing as a person.

Hazelden is proud to present *Day By Day* as a worthy companion to its *Twenty-Four Hours A Day*. The two books augment and reinforce one another in their inspirational thoughts and meditations designed to aid alcoholics and addicts everywhere in coping with life's problems. And just as *Twenty-Four Hours A Day* has brought meaning and inspiration to the lives of many persons who do not suffer from chemical dependency, *Day By Day* carries a universal message for anyone concerned with putting the most life into today—and getting the most life out of it.

To the young people out in Denver we say "Shalom! God's Peace Be With You!", and thank you for sharing yourselves with us.

Hazelden  
May 1, 1974

Gerald J. LeNoble  
Editor

Portion of the 1971 Narcotics Anonymous GSO Income Sheet

N.A. G.S.O. INCOME - CONT,				4-	
<u>M Egs., - Books Only</u>				<u>Other Groups</u>	
El Monte	7-21	10.00	12.00	Georgia 7-21	6.00
	9-15	2.00		Las Vegas 8-6	10.00
N.P.P.	7-21	11.00	33.00	<u>Denver 10-15</u>	<u>5.00</u>
	9-10	7.00		Reno 11-7	5.00
	10-15	15.00		Haley, Idaho 11-7	10.00
Hermosa Beach	7-21	2.00	2.00	Covina Schools 7-8	63.00
Cry Help	10-20	5.00	5.00		
Pasadena Proj.	10-20	5.00	5.00		
			<u>Total</u>		<u>Total</u>
			57.00		99.00