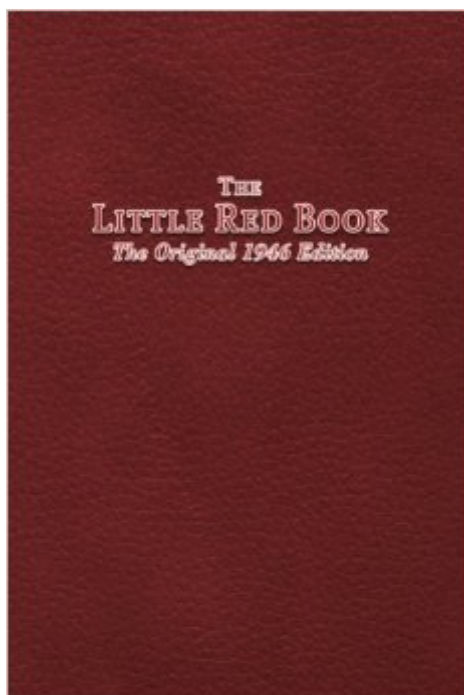


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The Little Red Book: The Original 1946 Edition



Synopsis

• - The A.A. Grapevine, August 1946 In 1942, Ed W. began teaching the • Twelve Step Study• classes that helped the Minneapolis Group achieve their 75% recovery rate. Then in 1946, he and Barry C. (The first sober A.A. in the state) published the lectures used for these classes as a book. Initially titled The Twelve Steps, it was affectionately nicknamed • the little red book. • Back in print for the first time in more than 65 years, the original 1946 edition reveals firsthand how some of A.A.'s earliest members made the program their way of life. Everyone from newcomers to oldtimers will find a wealth of practical experience in this comprehensive guide to the Twelve Steps. Praise for the 1946 edition of The Little Red Book: • I have enjoyed your little book very much & know that it will prove to be of a lot of help to many. • - Dr. Bob, co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous From a letter to Ed W., dated December 29th, 1946 • Everybody who has read it seems to like it very much • " which of course was to be expected! • - Bill W., co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous From a letter to Ed W., dated November 14th, 1946 In order to facilitate study by the broadest possible audience, all references to Alcoholics Anonymous have been altered to correspond to the Fourth Edition. No other changes have been made to the original text. Don't be misled: Look for "The Original 1946 Edition" on the cover before purchasing. This is the only accurate reprint of the text as it was originally written.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is really a handy, well-done facsimile of the original printing of the book that became Alcoholics Anonymous' Little Red Book. The rare original, if you can find one, will usually bring around \$1,000,

but this one is three bucks and change. You go right back to the beginners' classes in Minnesota in the forties. I randomly checked pages of it against my original and can't find any differences. The pagination, line breaks, even the hand-corrected P. O. Box number and rubber-stamped international copyright are duplicated. The font used is very close to the original. About all that is missing is the yellowed pages and hard binding. The people that put this together went to a lot of effort and it shows.

A friend in my home group has an edition printed in the early 50's handed down to him from another member, and he brought it with him a couple times to a Step meeting to expound on what we were reading in the 12x12 and Big Book. I was impressed by the practical clarity and spiritual magnification of each Step without merely repeating what is already presented in the other two books. Nevertheless, don't let the original printing date of 1946 fool you into thinking this publication is even remotely out-dated. Everything I have read and identified with pertains to alcoholics in 2014 as it did in 1946. In fact, the publisher did make one change to the original content- all Big Book page references correspond to the current 4th Edition, making this an economical, practical, and almost necessary addendum for anyone (like myself) approaching the 12 Steps for the first time... or even the 10th time. I warmly thank Full Length History Press for making this publication available at printing cost.

This is a great little book if you want or need some help in understanding the steps of a 12-step program. I recommend it to anyone who is looking for a little more insight in a less complicated script.

The Little Red Book (not its original title) is the closest we have to Dr. Robert Smith's thoughts in print. He gave the author extensive feed back, often in the margins of manuscripts, at every stage of the book's creation, all of which suggestions were included in later editions. God Bless Bill Wilson but the fact remains the man was a long winded bloviator in love with his own voice. If you listen to a recording of him, he will remind you of W. C. Fields. Dr. Bob's last words to Bill were to "Keep it simple, Bill.". By that he did NOT mean dumb it down but to simply speak in plain English.

This book is amazing. It offer and expansion of the AA Program through explanation and knowledge transfer. This book was endorsed by both Bill W. and Dr. Bob. They saw the usefulness of this book and suggested its use as a tool to sobriety. It is well written and direct. No mamby-pamby

softer-gentler AA. Straight talk, no BS, glitterdun:)For those of you who jump to the "its not conference approved" rejection.....stow that junk! There is no such rule, law, suggestion, indication or any other possible twist of truth that says ONLY conference approved material can be used in AA. That is true ONLY if an individual group votes such a bylaw via THEIR group conscious. In fact, the GSO has issued a statement that SPECIFICALLY STATES that conference "approval" does not DISAPPROVE anything. If you disagree.....Google it and do a little reading....."There is a principle which is a bar against all information, which is proof against all arguments and which can not fail to keep a man in everlasting ignorance-that principle is contempt prior to investigation."

I really enjoy having this by my bedside to read from time to time to get an idea of how recovery was 2 years was after I was born to help me; now I am 69, and a friend of Bill W.'s, chairing meetings and sponsoring someone.

Excellent book and I love the fact that the language used in it is frank and to the point. However, I bought this to be used in a "Little Red Book" meeting that I attend... I brought this book to it and found that the meeting does not use the original '46 addition. So, following along was challenging. I truly love this edition, but had to buy the current printing to keep up with the meeting I attended. If it were up to me , I would use this edition... it is great.

I like this better than the 12x12, which unfortunately replaced in.Hell, I like this better than the Big Book. A MUST have for everybody serious about finding the 'original' and 'real' methodology of AA.

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