



# Living Clean The Journey Continues

*We are  
recovering in the  
here and now  
and the future  
becomes an  
exciting journey.*

Basic Text

<http://www.naws.org/survey/index.php?sid=69453&lang=en>

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“More Will Be Revealed,” the Basic Text tells us – and more *has* been revealed in the lives of countless addicts around the world in the twenty-five years since our text was published. “Hopeless living problems have become joyously changed. Our disease has been arrested, and now anything is possible,” it goes on. Inspiring words, to be sure, but what exactly does that mean for you? This is the question with which we begin our newest literature project, *Living Clean – The Journey Continues*.

As we live the program we find that dreams really do come true. We also find that we struggle sometimes with real-life problems we may never have expected. Who among us expected to get old? (For that matter, many of us never meant to grow up at all.) How have we dealt with a loved one struggling with addiction? How have we dealt with material or financial success (or ruin)? We could go on and on. You know the particular challenges you’ve grown through – and we want to hear about them.

The same principles that got us clean continue to be the tools that help us live happy, productive lives as we stay clean through all kinds of life events. But we may struggle sometimes in knowing how to apply those tools, or even in believing that they are still relevant to us.

Our vision for *Living Clean – The Journey Continues* is that it will be a book for all of us as we grow in recovery. We want to collect our experience as a fellowship in dealing with the very human challenges that make up our lives, and the very particular ways our addiction – and our recovery – lead us to respond and grow.

To realize this vision, we need you. We invite you to share your experience in recovery. Tell us about the times when life threw you a curve – good or bad – and NA gave you the tools to respond to it. Tell us about finding the passion – or being graced with it – to make NA a way of life for you. Tell us about the night the newcomer in your home group said the words that changed your recovery. We want to hear about it.

In the twenty-five years since the Basic Text came out, without question, More Has Been Revealed. Miracles have happened in all our lives. We have grown. And we have learned. Please join us in bringing together our collective experience and wisdom, so we can learn from each other and share what we’ve learned with the members we haven’t met yet.

We’ve included some questions to get you started. You can answer them online at <http://www.naws.org/survey/index.php?sid=69453&lang=en>, email your responses to [worldboard@na.org](mailto:worldboard@na.org), or you can write down your answers and send them to us (NAWS, Living Clean; PO Box 9999; Van Nuys, CA 91409 USA). You can answer the questions alone or with your home group, friends, committee, or sponsees. Interview an oldtimer. Ask the guys smoking outside

the NA dance to tell you the best thing they've heard at a meeting. But please – take some time to tell us what rocks your recovery.

Pass this on. If you got this as an email, please forward it. If you received a paper copy of this announcement, make more copies. Announce it at meetings. Take it to area. Tell your friends. Pass the word – and send it in. We're waiting to hear from you.

The questions that follow are a guide to get you started, but don't let them limit you – if you have a story you want to tell us, or a great line you want to share, by all means include it. You can answer these directly at <http://www.naws.org/survey/index.php?sid=69453&lang=en> or use them as a guide – whatever feels right to you.

### **Turning points**

Think about a time when it didn't seem to make sense to stay in NA.

What made you re-commit? What did someone say that clicked? What happened that made going to meetings, or working a program, feel meaningful again? How did another addict get in when your walls were up?

### **Overcoming obstacles**

What obstacles along the path have you overcome? What warnings would you caution others about in recovery? What was the closest call to a relapse you encountered?

### **Growing in recovery**

Tell us about the things you've heard, or experiences you've had, that have stuck with you throughout your recovery.

What are the experiences that deepened your recovery? What gems have you heard shared that made an old message seem new? What lessons have you learned in recovery that changed your perspective and caused you to appreciate your recovery on a deeper level?