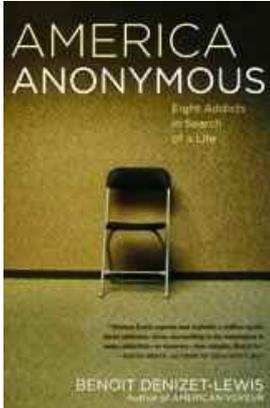


(Free pdf) *America Anonymous: Eight Addicts in Search of a Life*

America Anonymous: Eight Addicts in Search of a Life



America Anonymous: Eight Addicts in Search of a Life

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3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. If you need inspiration to come out of the church basements and break the shackles of shame read "America Anonymous" now!By Barbara S. ReevesIn 1956, the American Medical Association declared alcoholism to be a disease. But today, most Americans still disagree with that classification. And what's an even bigger stretch for them is to believe that sex, overeating, and even shoplifting addictions are diseases also. But that's the point Benoit Denizet-Lewis makes in "America Anonymous: Eight Addicts in Search of a Life". "America Anonymous" follows the lives of eight people in and out of recovery from various addictions over a three year period. Previously, I had no problem believing that alcohol and drug addiction is a disease. I mean, who am I to argue with the AMA, the American Psychological Association, the American Psychiatric Association, the American Society of Addiction Medicine, and the World Health Organization? But shoplifting? I do believe that alcohol and drug use is only a symptom of the disease. But if it can manifest itself in that fashion, then why not in other destructive behaviors such as gambling, sex, and overeating? Denizet-Lewis also points out, as I have experienced, how abstaining from one addictive behavior, without treatment, can cause an addict to switch addictions. It's like a rug with a wrinkle in it. If you push the wrinkle down, it just pops up somewhere else. I've witnessed this in prison numerous times. The addicts become addicted to religion, exercise, or anything that allows them to escape and avoid the painful and uncomfortable feelings that are only amplified in prison. "America Anonymous" examines addiction from many perspectives and dispels many myths along the way. It's a call to arms for recovering addicts to step out of the shadows and demand better and more readily available treatment for the still sick and suffering. If you need some inspiration to come out of the church basements and break the shackles of shame and stigma, then read "America Anonymous" now.David Allan ReevesAuthor of "Running

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