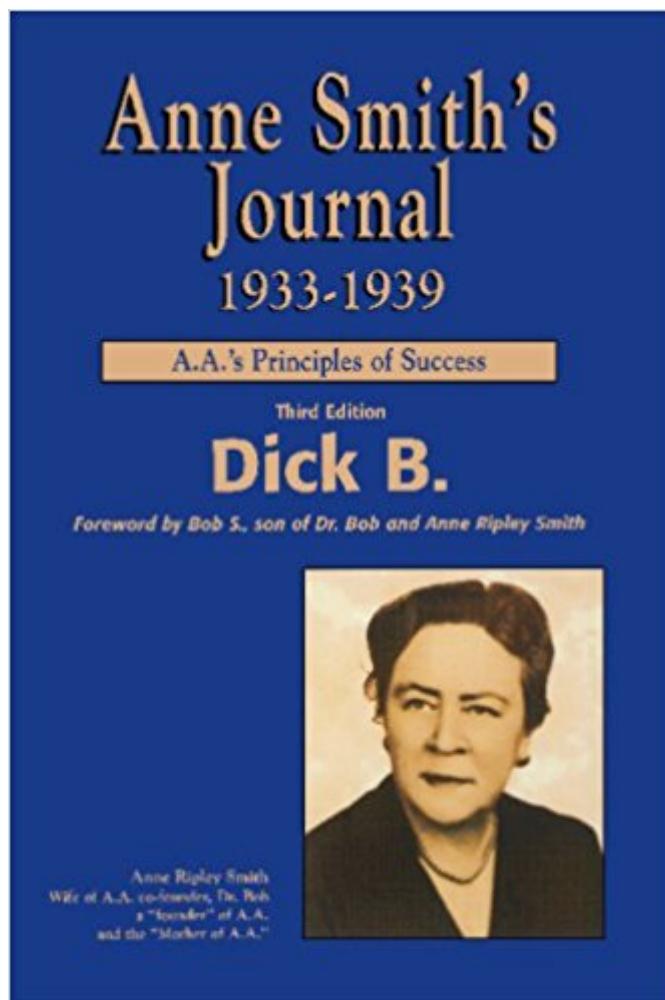


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# Anne Smith's Journal, 1933-1939: A.A.'s Principles Of Success



## **Synopsis**

Anne Ripley Smith was the wife of A.A. co-founder Dr. Bob. She compiled and shared with early AAs and their families the materials comprising early A.A.'s spiritual program--the Bible, Quiet Time, the teachings of Sam Shoemaker, the principles of the Oxford Group, and Christian literature of the day. This priceless source of information about where A.A. came from, what it did in the early days, and what its ideas mean has been presented concisely and thoroughly by author Dick B. This is the third edition.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This book was well written and documented. It has much historical and spiritual value. My disappointment in the book was that it did not contain the contents of Anne Smith's Journal as a whole. It is an editorialized document written about Anne Smith's Journal, much in the form of a term paper. I did enjoy reading the excerpts from her journal and would have liked to read it for myself. One gets the sense of who and what Anne Smith was from this book, however the total effect is broken up by the many outside points and notations. I would like to see a copy of the original journal as a part of this book. I think that this would complete the work. I understand that the journal by itself is not a complete document. The combination of the two would be a excellant resource for spiritual growth and AA history.

Dick B. here presents part of his ten years of research on early A.A. history. But the Anne Smith

contribution is tops because the material is unavailable elsewhere. The original copy was obtained from A.A. with support of Dr. Bob's daughter and consent of Trustees. But it can't be seen or republished. That's the top value of this history. On careful reading, I found that the order of presentation is that of the relation of the Twelve Steps to Anne's writing in her journal as the early years moved on. It's been a lost treasure. Dick was the historian who brought it to light as a real resource for understanding the Alcoholics Anonymous roots. Good for reading. Good for understanding. Good for Christians like me.

The late Dick B. and I are at opposite ends of AA's range of spirituality, but I respect his research and his fondness for AA. Anne's Smith's Journal reflects her deeply held Christianity, and somewhat bemoans AA's general detachment from its Christian roots. Christian members will like this better than heathens. bob kAuthor - KEY PLAYERS IN AA HISTORY

Referenced to the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous, Dick B clearly shows Anne Smith's influence thorough her knowledge and practice of both Christian and Oxford principles. She deservedly was called "the Mother of AA" by Bill Wilson. Organized by themes and the steps, very clear written, many footnotes and sources of documentation.

Amazing journal of an amazing woman. A woman who wasn't an alcoholic helped alcoholics find a solution. God love Anne for all the lives she has saved!

For those who might share interest, this book sheds light on the early years of AA's transition from The Oxford Group into a world wide spiritual movement of its own.

haven't had the priviledge of reading it yet, but i'm sure it explains the other side of aa in a great way!!!

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