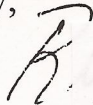


8-11-'06

Bridgett,

Last night when I told you that you are largely responsible for me getting a 90-day chip, you said that you were not, and that it was much bigger than you. In my case that simply isn't true. Please don't get me wrong here; I do understand the enormous power that the fellowship of AA has, and by no means do I underestimate all of the good that it has done for so many people. I have been struggling to get and stay sober for almost a decade now, and everything I've tried has failed. I went to The \_\_\_\_\_ House for 75 days and attended 225 meetings while I was there. The second time I was there I stayed for 83 days and attended 249 meetings. I completed the 28 day program at GRAN last fall, and attended yet another 100 meetings. Over the years none of this did me any good. I always relapsed, and ended up in the hospital worse than I was the time before. I know that this sounds very "text book", and I'm sure that it is. The fact is that I never honestly *wanted* to quit. Everybody else wanted me to quit, and my attitude towards them was "\_\_\_\_\_ you, I'll quit if and when *I* want to quit". I went through all those programs to please somebody else, not me. But something very different than what I'm accustomed to has happened in my life. You have placed your faith in me when everyone else has written me off. I can't begin to explain to you just how deeply that has really touched my heart. The fact that somebody *believes* in me has drastically altered the way that I actually think. You have given me the opportunity to get my life together the way it belongs, and you have given me faith in myself. What you have really given me Bridgett is a spiritual experience that I simply cannot explain. I honestly don't want to drink anymore. I don't even think about it. This is nothing short of a spiritual experience, and I have you and your faith in me, not the program of AA to thank for this gift.

Sincerely,

 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_