

"FINE"

Cast: Narrator, William, and his Sponsor

Narrator is at podium. Narrator does sound effects throughout. Sponsor and Sponsee, William, enter; each with a telephone.

Narrator: Welcome to one week in the life of William, his sponsor, and their phones. We begin on Tuesday, 8:15 PM. (William dials his phone.) RING RING.

Sponsor: (picks up receiver) Hello?

William: Is this the FINEST lil' ol' sponsor in the whole wide world?

Sponsor: William! I'm so glad you called. How are you?

William: Fine! I'm just FINE!

Sponsor: Well.... that's good to hear. How's that gratitude list coming?

William: Oh....Fine.....uh, just FINE. But umm, I should work on it some more so I better get right to that, so we'll talk later, ok?

Sponsor: Well, okay, if you think –

William: You're the best! Bye! (hangs up)

Narrator: Wednesday, 6:20 PM. (Sponsor turns back to audience, silently "talking on the phone")

(William dials) (Narrator makes busy signal)

William: Oh well! (hangs up)

Narrator: Thursday, 7:19 PM (William dials) RING RING RING

Sponsor: Hello?

William: Is this the FINEST lil' ol' sponsor in the whole wide world?

Sponsor: Hey there William, I was wondering how you were.

William: You were? Well gosh, I've been calling and calling, but got a busy signal every time I called!

Sponsor: You did? I know I'm on the phone sometimes, but don't think –

William: That's okay! Really that's FINE! And if you're busy right now...

Sponsor: Oh no, of course not. So tell me, how is your gratitude list coming along?

William: Oh its FINE. You know what I'm grateful for right now?

Sponsor: No, what?

William: Brownies! But umm, I have a batch in the oven and I think I hear the oven buzzing now! (he lowers phone and looks at Narrator, waiting for a sound effect.)

Sponsor: Really? I don't hear anything...

(William pleads with Narrator but Narrator shakes his head NO)

William: Oh, well, darn that oven the buzzer is broken again, but let me get those brownies and I'll call you right back! Bye! (hangs up)

Narrator: Thursday, 7:45 PM

(Sponsor waits by his phone. William clicks an imaginary remote toward his TV)

Narrator: "Come on down! You're the next contestant on The Price is right!" (William changes channels with his remote) "— apply directly to the forehead! Head on! Apply directly to the —" (changes channel).. "do you suffer from erectile disfunction? Then.." (changes channel) " ...and a possible side effect is an oily discharge..." (William clicks remote off)

(William picks up phone, starts to dial, and hangs up)

Narrator: Thursday, 9:45 PM. (William dials phone)

William: Hello, Dominoes? This is William, I just called in an order? Listen I want extra mushrooms on that pizza, OK?. 30 minutes or its free, right? I'm timing you! Ok, bye! (he hangs up)

Narrator: Friday, 3:15 AM

(William and sponsor slump over, both snoring...)

Narrator: Oh. Wrong time. Hold on... Two days later, Sunday, 3;15 PM

(William dials phone) RING, RING.

Sponsor: Hello?

William: Is this the FINEST lil' ol' sponsor in the whole wide world?

Sponsor: William! Good to hear from you, I have to admit I've been a little worried.

William: Worried? Gosh, it seems like we talk ALL the TIME! And everything is FINE.

Sponsor: Okay, well tell me about your gratitude list... what have you written down so far?

William: Well.... I haven't actually written DOWN anything.... But I've been THINKING about all the FINE things in my life since I came into AA. Like.... like YOU! You are a very FINE sponsor!

Sponsor: Well, thanks... but uh... back to that list. You haven't written down ANYTHING?

William: Well, actually, it's been a little hard to hold a pencil what with the bandages and all.

Sponsor: BANDAGES? Did you hurt yourself?

William: Oh, no..... I'm FINE..... really -- Fine. The firemen said my hands were barely singed...so I'm fine.

Sponsor: FIREMEN? You had a FIRE?

William: Well... there was really a lot more SMOKE than actual FLAMES, But I put it out, so I'm fine. The Police said I was REALLY lucky.

Sponsor: The POLICE?

William: Yeah, they chased me all the way from the Bottoms, and they NEVER would have caught me-- But I couldn't get the garage door closed fast enough.

Sponsor: You outran the Police? Then you tried to hide in your garage?

William: Well.... I couldn't really HIDE.... 'cause I was going so fast, I missed the garage and crashed into the front of the house. But don't worry, it's FINE.

Sponsor: You crashed your car into your own house?

William: Yeah. (duh.) THAT'S how the FIRE started!!! But I'm FINE... REALLY... FINE.

Sponsor: Listen, William, I can't believe you're really FINE if you've been putting out fires,,, crashing cars... and RUNNING FROM THE POLICE!!!!

William: Oh, did I say POLICE? I think they were actually FEDERAL agents.

Sponsor: Whatever! We REALLY need to talk, and you need to start telling me the TRUTH. Stay right there; I'm coming over and we're gonna have a FINE little conversation.

William: That sounds fine!! But I don't think it's gonna be possible right NOW.

Sponsor: Why not?

William: Well.... they said I could only have ONE phone call ... and I probably won't get to have visitors for a while.

Sponsor: Oh my, that *is* terrible.

William: Well, it *has* given me some time to think. I was wondering if maybe we could get back to some of that step work some time?

Sponsor: Well yes! Of course. That would be fine. Really! Fine!

(end)