

THE COMMITTEE INSIDE BOB'S HEAD April 1, 2006

Cast of Characters

Control Issues

Anger

Fear

Depression

Lust

Insecurity

Denial

Mr. Alcoholism

Serenity

(committee members are sitting in chairs in a semi circle)

CONTROL ISSUES: Alright, everybody's here, let's start this meeting.

ANGER: Hey! What are you tryin' to pull? I thought we agreed last week to rotate the leadership of this meeting!

CONTROL ISSUES: We did, but I thought about it later and decided that it was a stupid idea. Now, shut up and let's get started.

ANGER: *(making a fist)* One of these, days, Control Issues...

CONTROL ISSUES: You don't scare me Anger. All right, the weekly meeting of The Committee Inside Bob's Head is now officially opened. For the record we need to go around the room and call the role.

ANGER: That is such a freakin' waste of time!

CONTROL ISSUES: Shut up! Now, I'm Control Issues, that's the way we've always done it, and that's the way it's gonna be. When I call your name sound off loud and clear! Anger!

ANGER: You know I'm here, moron!

CONTROL ISSUES: Just sound off!

ANGER: HERE!

CONTROL ISSUES: That's more like it!

ANGER: Idiot!

CONTROL ISSUES: Depression!

DEPRESSION: What's the point of acknowledging I'm here? Eventually I won't be! None of us will be! WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE!

CONTROL ISSUES: I'm only gonna say this one more time: when I call your name just respond "here" or "present". I don't wanna hear anything else comin' outta your miserable pie holes! Now...Depression!

DEPRESSION: Here!

CONTROL ISSUES: Lust!

LUST: *(in a sexy, breathy voice)* Right here, baby.

CONTROL ISSUES: Fear! *(no response, he waits a beat and repeats)* Fear!

FEAR: *(timidly)* Present. Can you please stop shouting? You're scaring me.

CONTROL ISSUES: Oh, for the love of Pete...where am I? Insecurity?

INSECURITY: Uh...yeah, Control Issues...I mean Mr. Control Issues...I uh...I guess I'm here. I mean, if it doesn't bother anybody else. I don't have to be here. Should I leave? I'll just leave! *(starts to get up)*

CONTROL ISSUES: Sit down, Insecurity. Last but not least, Denial? *(no answer, waits a beat then glares at Denial)* Hello? Denial? Are you here?

DENIAL: No.

CONTROL ISSUES: What do you mean "no"? I'm looking right at you!

DENIAL: I'm not here.

CONTROL ISSUES: Yes you are!

DENIAL: No I'm not!

CONTROL ISSUES: Yes you are!

DENIAL: No I'm not!

ANGER: I'm getting' pissed off here!!! Let's get on with it!

CONTROL ISSUES: Anger's right, we need to move on because we have a full agenda today. For the record, though, Denial *is* here.

DENIAL: (*under his breath*) No I'm not.

CONTROL ISSUES: Whatever. The first order of business is going over last week's minutes. Did everyone get a copy?

DEPRESSION: I didn't get a copy. I never get what everyone else has!
(*shouts*) I'M GONNA KILL MYSELF!

CONTROL ISSUES: Depression, calm down! (*gives Depression a copy of the minutes*) Here! Now does anybody else need one?

DENIAL: I don't have one.

CONTROL ISSUES: I'm not gonna play this game with you, Denial. You're holding the minutes in your hand.

DENIAL: No I'm not.

ANGER: (*lunges at Denial—Control Issues restrains him*) I'M GONNA RIP HIS FREAKIN' HEAD OFF!

FEAR: I was afraid this would happen!

CONTROL ISSUES: Everybody just chillax! We need to get through this meeting! Now, are there any corrections to the minutes? (*Lust raises her hand*) Yes, Lust, do you have a correction?

LUST: (*writhing sexily in her chair*) Well, actually, baby I don't but I just wanted to let you know that reading these minutes makes me *hot!*

CONTROL ISSUES: Thanks for sharing that Lust. So, there are no corrections?

DEPRESSION: I have one.

CONTROL ISSUES: What is it, Depression?

DEPRESSION: Right here, at the top where it says "the meeting was held in Sub Conscious Conference Room B" it should read it was held in Sub Conscious Conference Room C like we always do.

CONTROL ISSUES: Actually it's correct because remember last month we had to let the Confusion subcommittee use that room for a special meeting.

DEPRESSION: That's right! I forgot! How could I be so stupid! I DON'T DESERVE TO LIVE!

CONTROL ISSUES: Okay, since no one has any corrections, we'll accept the minutes as submitted. I will call your attention to row 16, item 4 however. As you all know, this is the bottom line for us. We have not been doing so good lately.

ANGER: Why don't you stop trying to sugar-coat it, Control Issues? We have let *him* grow stronger and stronger. If we keep it up S---

CONTROL ISSUES: (*cutting him off*) DON'T YOU DARE SPEAK HIS NAME! Anger, you know better than that! In here we call our sworn enemy, "You-Know-Who" or "He-Who-Must-Never-Be-Named !"

ANGER: All right, all right! Don't get your panties in a bunch! Whatever we call him; "You-Know-Who" is growing bigger everyday! At this rate, we'll all be out of a job soon!

INSECURITY: It's all my fault, isn't it? I haven't pulled my weight. I'm sorry. I'm so sorry.

CONTROL ISSUES: It's everyone's fault, Insecurity. We need to maximize our efforts. Bob has gone beyond just sitting in the back of the room at meetings and is starting to get involved in AA. The days of us just relying on Denial is over.

DENIAL: You never relied on me.

CONTROL ISSUES: Ya know, it's probably better if I just ignore everything you say. Anyway, we need to mobilize our forces or Bob will soon be completely taken over by "You-Know-Who".

(suddenly there are three loud knocks on the door)

ANGER: Who the heck is that?

FEAR: Omigod! It's "He-Who-Must-Never-Be-Named !" I'm scared to death!

DEPRESSION: WE'RE ALL DOOMED!

CONTROL ISSUES: It's not our enemy, calm down. It's the boss. He wanted to say a few words to us.

INSECURITY: I...I...didn't know the boss was coming! I look terrible!

ANGER: Why weren't we told about this? I hate surprises!

CONTROL ISSUES: Oh, you hate everything, Anger. Now everyone just take a deep breath and relax. The boss is here to rally us, not fire us. I'm gonna let him in. *(walks over to door and opens it)* Hi Boss!

(Mr. Alcoholism enters)

MR. ALCOHOLISM: Hi Control Issues *(shakes his hand)*. Good morning everyone!

ALL: Good morning, Mr. Alcoholism!

MR. ALCOHOLISM: I have been CEO of The Committee Inside Bob's Head for a long time now and I have to be honest, we are in dire straits now. Since Bob quit drinking seven months ago we have been able to keep him on the outskirts of the fellowship. Sitting in the back of the room, leaving early without talking to anybody, and basically staying stark raving sober. The handsome bonuses that Denial earned during that period were well deserved.

DENIAL: What bonuses? I didn't get any bonuses?

CONTROL ISSUES: Knock it off Denial!

MR. ALCOHOLISM: Anyway, the days of this committee just coasting along are over. "You-Know-Who" has made significant inroads into Bob's head in the past month and this must be stopped. I met with Control Issues two days ago and he presented me with a two part plan to do just that. If we work together, we can defeat this vile enemy and once again take over our rightful places of prominence in Bob's head. Thank you for your support.

ALL: Thank you, Mr. Alcoholism!

MR. ALCOHOLISM: Before I go let me hear you repeat my favorite Anti-AA slogan.

ALL: Keep it Complicated!

MR. ALCOHOLISM: Very good! Carry on!

(Mr. Alcoholism exits)

LUST: Is it just me, or was Mr. Alcoholism slowly undressing me with his eyes?

ALL: It's just you!

CONTROL ISSUES: Now listen up everyone and I'll explain the two part plan I came up with to fight "You-Know-Who". It's called "Operation Mind Warp".

DEPRESSION: Oh, what's the use? Bob's sober now and we're all gonna be collecting unemployment soon! (*shouts*) LIFE SUCKS!

FEAR: I'm afraid Depression's right. This AA program is too powerful when someone starts to show even a little bit of willingness.

ANGER: How did I ever end up on such a wimpy committee! You all make me wanna puke! I say we fight! Tell us your plan, Control Issues.

CONTROL ISSUES: Okay, here's the deal. The two pronged approach we will adopt consists of each one of using their unique talents both individually and then pooling them at appropriate times. Here's how it breaks down: I will work on Bob's ego when he is trying to work the steps with his sponsor. I'll fill his head with thoughts about how he knows better than his sponsor. Insecurity, Bob recently took on the coffee commitment for the group. I need you to fill his head with thoughts that his coffee is nasty and that the group hates him for it.

INSECURITY: I...I...don't know if I can do that.

CONTROL ISSUES: You can and you will. Fear, since Bob is still unemployed, your job will be to fill him with a nagging dread that he will never find a job. Depression, you can help with that two and also keep in the forefront of his mind all those fines he still has to pay for his DUI.

FEAR: I'll try, but I'm afraid it won't work!

DEPRESSION: It won't work! This is all futile! Life is futile! KILL ME NOW!

ANGER: I'll be glad to!

CONTROL ISSUES: You guys will be just fine, Fear and Depression. I have every confidence in you. Next up is you, Lust. Bob has a thing for the Wednesday night secretary. Fill his thoughts with the most x-rated, perverse, pornographic thoughts about her as you can.

LUST: You mean like the ones I'm having about you right now?

CONTROL ISSUES: Uh...yeah, whatever. Now, Denial you will permeate the whole operation and keep that little thought alive that maybe, just maybe Bob is not an alcoholic. I need you to go down to Memory Room 14 and dig up those times when he had a great time drinking like at his brother's wedding last year.

DENIAL: Nice plan, boss man, but it was coming home from his brother's wedding that he got arrested. How is that a memory of a great time drinking?

CONTROL ISSUES: Way ahead of you. I've already talked to Deceit in the Selective Memory Department and she said they are working on editing that part out. So, that's part one of Operation Mind Warp: the individual efforts; now comes part two where we pool our talents.

INSECURITY: Hey, no way! I...I can't get in a pool with you people. I need to lose at least fifteen more pounds before I can look good in my bikini.

LUST: Who needs a bikini? I'll swim in my birthday suit!

FEAR: I'm afraid Anger would pee in the pool!

ANGER: You bet your scared little butt I would!

CONTROL ISSUES: Knock it off! Not that kind of pool! Sheesh! I meant we will *unite* our efforts at the most crucial time: when Bob is in an AA meeting and trying to listen. Everybody knows their lines don't they?

ANGER: We just went over this last week, do you think we're stupid?

CONTROL ISSUES: Nonetheless I want to hear everyone say their lines after I call your name. Anger!

ANGER: I'm pissed off!

CONTROL ISSUES: Depression!

DEPRESSION: Woe is me!

CONTROL ISSUES: Fear!

FEAR: Be afraid!

CONTROL ISSUES: Lust!

LUST: Sex, sex, sex!

CONTROL ISSUES: Insecurity!

INSECURITY: I can't do it!

CONTROL ISSUES: Denial!

DENIAL: Not me!

CONTROL ISSUES: Great job, everybody. And mine, of course is "I'm in charge!" Now, here's the plan: let Bob listen to the preamble and the readings and the group announcements, but once the chairperson starts to share, we all start saying our lines over and over again. The committee will be in full effect and there's no way Bob can focus on the meeting. So, let's practice. Ready? One, two, three!

(they all say their respective lines at the same time over and over with different vocal stresses and tones)

CONTROL ISSUES: Excellent! I think we're ready to do battle! "You-Know-Who" is in serious trouble now!

(suddenly there are three loud knocks on the door)

CONTROL ISSUES: That must be Mr. Alcoholism with some more words of encouragement. *(he goes to open the door)* It...it...can't be!

(Serenity enters)

ANGER: It's "He-Who-Must-Never-Be-Named"! I'm furious!

CONTROL ISSUES: Quickly everyone! Say your lines!

(they start saying their lines frantically)

SERENITY: QUIET! *(they all stop)* You can stop your silly babbling. This committee has been disbanded.

CONTROL ISSUES: We don't work for you! We work for Mr. Alcoholism!

SERENITY: Not anymore. You see, while you were all in here working on, whatever it was you were working on, Bob was busy working his fifth Step.

FEAR: Oh no!

SERENITY: Oh yes. And so now I am running this place. You're all fired! And you can stop calling me "He-Who-Must-Never-Be-Named" or "You-Know-Who" and use my name.

CONTROL ISSUES: You mean...

SERENITY: That's right, Control Issues. Say my name!

CONTROL ISSUES: No!

SERENITY: Say it!

CONTROL ISSUES: All right I'll say it! But I vow we will be back to fight you someday!

SERENITY: And I'll be ready. Now say my name.

CONTROL ISSUES: SERENITY!

ALL: No! *(they all flee holding their ears at the sound of his name except for Lust)*

LUST: You know, for a sworn enemy you're kinda sexy!

SERENITY: Get out of here!

LUST: Why?

SERENITY: Because the skit is over!

(Denial runs back in)

DENIAL: No it's not.

SERENITY: Yes it is!

DENIAL: No it's not!

SERENITY: Yes it is...

THE END