



# You know you're a drunkard when...

*First I must explain that there is a difference between being a "drunkard" and being an "alcoholic". Drunkards are not required to attend meetings – so they have more time to spend slamming a few. The Alcoholic "rules" state that one of the primary signs of being an alcoholic is "Drinking Alone". If you drink alone, you're soon to need an "intervention"... Like O. Henry, Poe, Twain, Hemingway, Hunter S. Thompson, Lewis Carroll, and most other eminent writers, I always sip some type of intoxicating booze at my desk, while I am writing. It helps me create. It is the elixir that ignites the writer's inherent passions. At this very moment I am sipping a double shot of chilled Bombay Gin with a Rolling Rock Pale Ale backing it up. Unfortunately, in today's world, most of the greatest writers, editors, artists, and publishers would never pass the piss test. It makes me wonder how many truly talented people there are who will never be recognized, merely because they chose to explore their own minds. It also makes me wonder how many lame boring opportunistic schmucks are getting the best jobs because they would never think of doing something that required personal courage and initiative.*

*To me a drunkard is someone who is happy and successful and able to balance their lives. Someone who can take care of business, then unwind like a man or woman ought to do. I don't have fun every minute, but I do have fun every day. There is no shame in being a drunkard – if you can pull it off and remain witty and cordial, and pay your bills. It sure beats the hell out of sitting at home watching TV and trimming the rosebushes. When I get to that stage, please lay me on the ground, sprinkle some dirt on me, and pat me in the face with a shovel, 'cause I'm dead. I do not personally exhibit ALL of the tendencies listed here. But in my opinion, these are some of the primary signs to look for in a real drunkard:*

## **You MIGHT be a drunkard if...**

- ☐ Your blood will run a lawn mower.
- ☐ Future generations will call you an urban legend.
- ☐ Your bar tabs impact the international price of wheat and barley.
- ☐ You've heckled A.A. meetings.
- ☐ You can see your breath in July.
- ☐ You can't say the word sober without making air quotes.
- ☐ You're having a little trouble reading this because the bar's lighting sucks and you're kinda loaded.
- ☐ You seem to think you can restore that classic car in your garage by drinking beer while staring at it.
- ☐ If you died, went to Heaven and found out it was dry, you'd casually inquire: "So, what's the deal downstairs? They serving or what?"
- ☐ You have made cocktails with ice chiseled from the inner walls of your freezer.
- ☐ Crying in your beer increases its alcohol content.
- ☐ You complain to friends that you "got really sober last night."
- ☐ Your friends accuse you of "acting weird" whenever they meet you sober.
- ☐ You've never been out of the country, but you frequently visit Twevlepackistan.
- ☐ The bars send out a search party when you don't show up at opening time.
- ☐ You have a reserved parking space in front of the liquor store.
- ☐ Your birthday is a holiday in Scotland.
- ☐ You walk into a new bar and they already know what you drink.

- ☐ The cops set up a DUI checkpoint in your driveway.
- ☐ Your local liquor store lets you put bottles on layaway.
- ☐ Your last Breathalyzer reading was "No Fucking Way."
- ☐ Distilleries fight over the billboard space nearest to your home.
- ☐ Your name is local police jargon for Public Intoxication.
- ☐ TV beer ads have started addressing you by name.
- ☐ You know you can use Jagermeister as cough syrup. And visa versa.
- ☐ Your credit history is composed entirely of bar tabs.
- ☐ You think of drinking beer as "sobering up."
- ☐ You can order a drink in more than one language, but you can't understand "Last call" in English.
- ☐ You've been cut off during communion.
- ☐ You consider anything less than 80 proof a chaser.
- ☐ The monkey on your back is in rehab.
- ☐ You measure time by drinks, as in: "Hang on a beer or two, the game doesn't start for another six pack."
- ☐ You get cut off in absentia.
- ☐ You hate when your drinking buddies get so drunk you can barely see them.
- ☐ You've asked a bartender to "freshen up" your shot glass.
- ☐ People get drunk by shaking your hand.
- ☐ The glass isn't half empty or half full. It just needs to be topped off.
- ☐ You can get drunk on Scotch tape.
- ☐ Before you go out each night you consult a psychic hotline to determine which bartenders will be pouring strong.
- ☐ You've discovered that teaching your dog to shoplift from liquor stores was not nearly as hard as teaching him to distinguish Grey Goose from McCormick's.
- ☐ You drink to make other people appear cool enough to hang out with you.
- ☐ You always confuse the words picture and pitcher, especially when someone says, "Hey, take my picture."
- ☐ You need a co-signer to open a bar tab.
- ☐ You will eat a bug for a shot.
- ☐ You refer to your refrigerator as "the stand-up beer cooler."
- ☐ You give directions with liquor stores and bars as the major landmarks, i.e., "Come down past the San Leon Liquor store, Radio City and Waynos, till you get to the end, then turn right, go on past the Beach Pub, and you'll see a tree shaped like a giant hurricane glass..."

## **Attn: cheap bastards**

If you're too much of a cheapskate to pay your own way, but you still want to get snookered, here are some methods that have been known to work:

**Scavenge:** People abandon their drinks all the time in busy bars. These "orphans" provide a variety, some of which you may not like, but always free.

**Medication:** If it says "do not take alcohol with this drug" or "do not operate a motorized vehicle while under the influence of this drug", it must be good!

**Good ol' "OL":** Alcohol isn't the only intoxicant ending in the two magic letters "ol". Methanol, Butanol and Propanol are all fine safe intoxicants, often available at bargain prices. In fact, most substances that end in "ol" are effective and inexpensive (though often flammable). Be advised that there are a few misnomers to avoid. Stay away from aerosol, cholesterol, and drool.

*Hope that helps someone! Gator*