

CAREERS IN ALCOHOLISM

Sean Sullivan

INT. GUIDANCE COUNSELORS OFFICE

COUNSELOR stands behind his desk STUDENT comes in and sits down

STUDENT

I'm here for you to go over my  
career aptitude test with me?

COUNSELOR

Reilly, these tests are very  
interesting. The tests indicate  
that you would make a great..  
Alcoholic.

STUDENT

What? Give me that, it cant say  
that.

COUNSELOR

I'm a trained professional, I am  
can to read between the lines, and  
you are a natural.

STUDENT

I can't believe this; now I do want  
a drink.

COUNSELOR

This is what I mean, you need to  
lean into your passions and turn  
them into careers.

STUDENT

How could I be an alcoholic? I get  
good grades, I do alright...

COUNSELOR

That's exactly it! You are the  
classic middle child, unable to  
ever earn the love of parents that  
look to their other children for  
the real talent.

Student stands up and knocks the papers off the desk but the  
remarks are clearly hit a little close to home.

STUDENT

Shut up! The radio was right,  
adults just don't understand!

COUNSELOR

You don't have to hide from me. You  
could be one of the greats:  
Hemmingway, Grant, Churchill, some  
of the greatest people were some of  
the drunkest. Its all about the  
tenacity that you show.

COUNSELOR brings out a bottle of whiskey and puts it on the  
desk.

COUNSELOR (CONT'D)

You just need to embrace who you  
are.

STUDENT

Pff. Whatever. I got places to  
loiter.

STUDENT turns to leave.

COUNSELOR

Sit down Reily.

STUDENT SITS as COUNSELOR stands up and stares out the  
window.

COUNCELOR

You have potential. I wish someone  
told me that. Told me that all I  
had to do to find my dreams was  
look at the bottom of a bottle of  
wild turkey. I've got mortgages,  
and court mandated urine tests but  
you're young, young enough to  
dream, and to get onto the liver  
donor lists. Don't waste this.

STUDENT sits down in chair, slouching.

STUDENT

(Sarcastically) Maybe I'll just be  
addicted to pills.

COUNCELOR sits with a sigh

COUNSELOR

I know you are being sarcastic,  
Reily, but nobody takes pills  
seriously. Its the Model UN club of  
addictions.

STUDENT

I'm not going to end up a stupid  
drunk. I'm going to write a novel  
or sell my sketches.

COUNSELOR

That's the spirit! These are  
perfect careers for an alchoholic!  
Here, read these.

COUNSELOR hands STUDENT several pamphlets

STUDENT

'My hopeless artistic endeavors and  
alchahol'? 'A brief history of  
boozery'? This one is just a  
picture labeled 'Beer'

COUNSELOR

I zeroxed that one myself when I  
saw your test.

STUDENT

Can I go now?

COUNSELOR

No. I thought you might need some  
help building your career, so I  
brought In a successful alcoholic  
to just give you ideas.

STUDENT

Who? The Hobo that lives under the  
bridge?

COUNSELOR

Oh! So you know Twinkles. Well,  
lets bring him and he can tell us  
what he thinks.

TWINKLES, a hobo, comes in

TWINKLES

Did someone say drinks?

COUNSELOR

In a minute Twinkles. This was the  
student I was telling you about.

TWINKLES  
Why hey there Roxy.

STUDENT  
Reily.

TWINKLES  
Sorry, wrong room. I'm pretty  
wasted right now.

TWINKLES leaves

COUNSELOR  
Not everyday you met a man that  
self actualized.

STUDENT  
Yeah. I feel like I learned a lot  
about that thing you were trying to  
teach. I won't forget it.

COUNSELOR  
Well, Reily. I just want you to  
think of me as a friend. If there  
is anything you need...

STUDENT  
How about a fake id? ...For self  
actualizing?

COUNSELOR  
Of course! I know just the guy to  
help us out. Twinkles!