

Snow White and the Seven Character Defects

A skit written by Gail La Croix, Akron Intergroup Archivist

This skit was originally written in 1990 and was first performed at Founders' Day. It was revised in 2000 to be performed at the NE Ohio Mini-Conference and Ohio State Convention.

The Cast (In order of appearance):

NARRATOR.....

WICKED QUEEN.....

MIRROR.....

WOODSMAN.....

SNOW WHITE.....

Animals

RABBIT.....(a.k.a. "Bunny")

RACCOON.....

Defects

PRIDE.....

FEAR.....

RESENTMENT.....

SLOTH.....

SELF-PITY.....

SLEAZY.....

GLUTTONY.....

PRINCE.....("The _____ formerly known as Prince")

Role embellishing, ham acting, and other outrageousness....are strongly encouraged!

Setup: junk on table, pills in defects pockets (except sleazy), CD player cued for rock music, Tape for "Some Day my Prince will come"

SCENE ONE (~~Curtain Opens, the stage is a castle setting. One light shines on Snow White off to one side of the stage~~)

NARRATOR: This play was originally written to be performed in a theater where they had real scenes, stage lighting, and sound effects. In our revised version today we have some user-friendly graphics and we're asking YOU to supply some of the sound effects. *Holds up Chart 1: Castle Setting and says:* Picture a castle. Long ago, there lived a princess named Snow White who came from a very dysfunctional royal system. She was not actually as pure as many believed her to be. And like all princesses she lived in a fantasy - I mean fantastically beautiful Castle.

(~~Light shines on opposite side of stage on Queen~~)

NARRATOR: She lived with a wicked drunken Queen, who was Snow White's stepmother, who was having a relationship with a magic mirror. Everyday she obsessively looked into this mirror and vainly asked it the same thing.

QUEEN: Mirror, mirror on the wall. Who is the fairest one of all?

NARRATOR: The mirror, being a people-pleaser, always gave the same reply.

MIRROR: OH, Queen, YOU are the fairest one of all.

NARRATOR: But one day the mirror became rigorously honest and risked telling the truth.

MIRROR: Snow White is the fairest in the land.

QUEEN: (Very angry) But I want to be the fairest in the land. I must get control of this situation at any cost. Oh Woodie, Woodie get your buns in here on the double.

(Enter the Woodsman)

I want you to take Snow White away. She must never come back to the castle. You must kill her.

WOODSMAN: Thy will be done my wicked Queen.

SCENE TWO

NARRATOR: *holds up Chart 2: Forest Setting and says:* Picture a forest!

WOODSMAN: You must hide from the queen. She wants to kill you.

SNOW WHITE: Wants to kill me? Oh, but why me? Why would my stepmother want to kill me?

WOODSMAN: Why not you? Do you think you are special?

SNOW WHITE: But that's not fair. Sleeping Beauty's mother loved her.

WOODSMAN: Who said life was fair? Now run run for your life. You must survive!

(Dim stage lights and play soundtrack of strange forest sounds)

NARRATOR: *Holds up Chart 3: Make Animal Sounds*

SNOW WHITE: (Finally falls to the ground crying and cries herself to sleep.) Oh, I feel so cast out, so abandoned, so alone and unloved. What's to become of me? Is this all there is? Is this what life is about. I'm so tired of running. If only I had someone to take care of, or to take care of me, then I'd be happy.

NARRATOR: *holds up Chart 4: Say Aaaaw! Then flip to other side 'AAWS' and back.*

(Animals enter and gather around Snow White. Snow White awakens and looks around.)

NARRATOR: *holds up Chart 5: Wolf Whistles*

SNOW WHITE: Where am I and who are you?

RABBIT: I'm Rabbit, but some creatures call me Bunny, and this is Raccoon. You are lost deep in the dark forest we have come to lead you along the path. We know of a shelter nearby. Come follow us and we will guide you there.

SCENE THREE

NARRATOR: *holds up Chart 6: A Cottage and says:* The animals lead Snow White through the wood to a small cottage, where they find no one at home. We join them now inside the cottage.

SNOW WHITE: Is anyone home? What a strange little house. My goodness! Seven heathens must live here. I wonder where they are?

(Looking around she spots 3 bowls on the table. One large, one medium and one small)

She tries the first large bowl. Ouch! This porridge is much too hot! (She tries the medium bowl)

Eww! This porridge is much too cold. (She tries the third bowl) Mmm! Now this is more like it. This is just right.

What a dive! I think I'll clean this place up a little bit. It could use a woman's touch. Maybe if I do a good job they'll love me and want me to stay. (She proceeds to find beer cans, empty wine bottles, liquor bottles, empty cigarette packs, rock and roll posters and T-shirts, bags of snack foods.)

Oh my! I feel exhausted. I think I'll lie down and take a little nap.

RABBIT: *walks thru with chart 7: Whistle Hi Ho!*

DEFECTS: (Behind stage) Hi-ho! Hi-ho! Home from the bars we go! We drank a lot and now we're shot. (Whistle and repeat one more time) (~~Defects will be carrying bottles~~)

GLUTTONY: There's a light on in our house!

RESENTMENT: Somebody must be in there!

(Defects all bump into each other shaking in fright and stumble around a bit)

DEFECTS: (enter house)

RESENTMENT: Who's been eating my porridge?

GLUTTONY: Who's been eating my Twinkies?

SELF-PITY: Who's been eating my Twinks and eaten them all up!

RESENTMENT: Somebody's been messing with our mess! (All nod) (Defects begin looking around)

SLEAZY: Where's my *Playboys* and my poster of Pamela Anderson?

FEAR: I'm afraid my security blanket is missing. I can't sleep without it. It belonged to my Great Uncle Fuddy Dud and has been in the family for years.

SELF-PITY: My box of used Kleenex is gone. What if I have a self-centered attack of pity and can't dry my eyes.

SLOTH: You know, I had every intention of cleaning things up tomorrow. And now I don't have anything to put off.

RESENTMENT: My grudge list of people who've wronged me is missing and that really makes me mad! (Kicks the chair)

SNOW WHITE: (Hears noise and wakes up.) Oh my you are a strange bunch of characters.

GLUTTONY: That is right and who are you?

SNOW WHITE: My name is Snow White and my life is very unmanageable. Who are you?

FEAR: (Stuttering) I-I-I-I'm F-F-F-Fear.

PRIDE (Puffing him/herself up) Yo, Snow! I'm Pride and I'm proud of it.

RESENTMENT: I'm Resentment and, as soon as I find my list, I'm putting your name on it.

SLEAZY: Hello Baby! My name is Sleazy. You look mighty fine. I hope that you're easy.

SELF-PITY: How come I always have to be the last one to introduce myself. My name is Pity. Self-Pity that is!

RESENTMENT: Say what's the big idea cleaning up our house.

SNOW WHITE: Well, I love to work and I was hoping that my efforts would please you and you would let me stay. You see I have no home and nowhere to go. I am alone and lonely. I am frightened and confused and I can never go home again or I will be killed by my jealous stepmother. Who's that last little fellow over there?

SLOTH: Well I was going to get around to telling you tomorrow. But if you want to know right now, it's (yawning) Sloth.

SNOW WHITE: So nice to meet all of you. Does anyone have anything for a headache? I've been under so much stress lately.

(Immediately each defect reaches for the drug of their choice and hands it to Snow White)

PRIDE: Here! Try this!

FEAR: Try this!

RESENTMENT: This'll work!

GLUTTONY: Take one of these!

SLOTH: I was going to offer you some of my stash but I'm saving it for a rainy day!

SLEAZY: Hey honey! I've got something that'll take away your headache!

RESENTMENT: Leave her alone SLEAZY. After the way you behaved tonight at the tavern there isn't a fox this side of the forest that hasn't heard your rap.

PRIDE: I think this calls for a party. Snow White is our guest and we should show her a good time, help make her feel at home.

RESENTMENT: Well! I was just getting ready to say that.

FEAR: W-W-We won't disturb the forest will we?

PRIDE: They Wouldn't dare complain after all it's our house and we can do whatever we please.

RACCOON: *starts CD music softly then louder after next line for a minute then lets it fade down.*

SELF-PITY: (Walks away) They're having a party and didn't even ask my opinion. I wonder if I'm even invited. Well I'll have my own pity-party and invite myself.

(Defects start partying then get tired and lay down on floor)

SCENE FOUR (The next morning finds everyone passed out and the place is a mess again.)

RABBIT: *walks thru with Chart 8: Moan if you remember the morning after*

PRIDE: Well that was the best party bash I've been to in a long time if I do say so myself. Where's the aspirin? Boy, am I thirsty!

SELF-PITY: Ew! Ow! I feel awful. This is the worst hangover I've ever had. I wish I hadn't drunk so much. Why do I always have to feel so sick? Next time I won't start drinking until after 7:30.

RABBIT: *walks back with flip side of Chart 8: Bird Songs*

RESENTMENT: Is it time to get up? I hate mornings. Who ever invented mornings was never a partier. Tell those birds to shut up; they get on my nerves singing so early in the day. I knew I shouldn't have had that last double. That's the one that did it. Next time I'll quit after number 7. That'll be my lucky number.

SLOTH: (Giving a big yawn.) What day is it? Where am I? What time is it? Oh it's still early. I get up later.

FEAR: Uh-oh! Late again. I-I-I just know if I'm late for work one more time I'm going to get fired. My Boss doesn't like me. He thinks I'm restless, irritable, and discontented. So I step on a few toes and people wish to retaliate snatching all they can get. Why does he have to pick on me? So what if I drink a little now and than a lot of guys take a nip. I'm afraid if I don't do something about my drinking something terrible is going to happen.

SLEAZY: Wasn't that a party? Did I get lucky? Where's what's 'er name? She ask about me? How do I look? (Drops some drops into his eyes, sprays a little deodorant on, splashes on some cologne.) Showtime! I'm lookin' so fine I 'm going to make them all mine.

SNOW WHITE: Speaking of mines, you boys had better get going to work or you'll be late.

PRIDE: Hey Snow, you're the best thing that ever happened to us guys in a long time, if I do say so myself.

SLEAZY: You can say that again. (Making a pass).
(Snow White gives him a slap)

SELF-PITY: Yeah, we need you to take care of us, please stick around for a while.

FEAR: Yeah, but don't let anyone in while we're at work. The queen may be looking for you.

(Lights out)

Defects & Snowy leave. Queen comes on with mirror.

RABBIT: *Walks thru with Chart 9: Back at the castle*

SCENE FIVE (Queen is looking into her magic mirror-castle setting)

QUEEN: Mirror, mirror on the wall. Now who's the fairest one of all?

MIRROR: Are you sure you want to hear this?

QUEEN: Yes. I'm feeling rather confident now that I've taken care of a few minor obstacles in my path. So tell me mirror, mirror, gal in the glass. Who's the fairest one with the most class?

MIRROR: In a cottage in the forest she sleeps. She lives there with seven little creeps. Although she's surrounded with characters of defects big and small Snow White remains the fairest one of all

QUEEN: Snow White still lives? We'll see about that! I'll make a magic brew that'll fix that brat. *(She first takes a long drink from the bottle and pours a little into a big black pot.)* Jack Daniels, Johnnie Walker, and J.T.S. Brown. These are the guys that'll put Snow White down! *Then she pours in a little from 2 more bottles after first taking a good swig herself. As she drinks the alcohol begins to affect her speech and her personality and she transforms into a witch).*

QUEEN as WITCH *(Cackling)*: One taste of this and Snow White will be hooked forever. No human power on earth will be able to break this spell of addiction. I'll fix Snow White...and then I'll fix the Mirror!

SCENE SIX (back at the ranch)

RABBIT: *walks thru with Chart 10: Back at the ranch*

Snow enters

QUEEN: Care for a sip of my homemade wine cooler?

SNOW WHITE: I don't know. I don't think so.

QUEEN: But I made it 'specially for you. And you won't make me drink alone, will you? Please have a drink. Just one drink can't hurt you!

SNOW WHITE: *takes a sip...then a bigger sip...then chugs the bottle. Then she collapses.*

QUEEN: *skips off*

RABBIT: *Chart 11: Whistle Hi Ho*

DEFECTS: *enter singing*: Hi Ho Hi Ho Home from the bars we go. We had a drink and now we stink. Hi Ho! Hi Ho!

FEAR: Snow White, please wake up! I'm afraid she's dead.

RESENTMENT: No she's not! Man, she smells like she's been drinking.

SLOTH: We'll just have to let her sleep it off.

PRIDE: Let's put her in her bed.

SLEAZY: Even though she looks half dead, I'll help her get ready for bed!

SLEAZY & PRIDE help SNOW onto the table.

SELF-PITY: I'm sick and tired of being sick and tired and living the way we've been living

PRIDE: Yeah she's only been with us a short time and she's sick too.

RESENTMENT: Yeah, you know even I'm running out of people to blame my problems on. Do you think they could be of my own making?

SLEAZY: Ya know I don't know but some of the things I used to do for fun, just aren't as much fun as they used to be. I'm never satisfied. I think something's wrong and I need a change, not another woman.

GLUTTONY: I can't picture life without alcohol. I would like to quit drinking but would I be consigned to a life that is stupid, boring and glum, like some righteous people I see? I know I must get along without liquor, but how can I?

SLEAZY: *looks at RABBIT and says:* Have you a sufficient substitute?

RABBIT: *swings hips and says:* Yes, there is a substitute that is vastly more than that.

NARRATOR: *displays Chart 12: Naughty Thoughts?*

RABBIT: Oh no, it's not what you're thinking! It is a fellowship in Alcoholics Anonymous. There you will find release from care, boredom and worry.

FEAR: From care and worry?

SLOTH: From boredom?

RABBIT: Your imagination will be fired!

WOODSMAN: *enters and says:* Life will mean something at last.

SELF-PITY: It will?

WOODSMAN: The most satisfactory years of your existence lie ahead!

SLEAZY: They do? Any women in this?

PRIDE: I don't think I need any outside help?

GLUTTONY: What is Alcoholics Anonymous? Do they serve food?

RABBIT: Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they might recover from the disease of alcoholism.

RESENTMENT: How is this to come about? What about me?

FEAR: I'm afraid of change?

RABBIT: You are going to meet these new friends in your own community. Among them you will make lifelong friends. You will be bound to them with new and wonderful ties for you will escape disaster

together and you will commence shoulder to shoulder your common journey. Then you will know what it means to give of yourself that others may survive and rediscover life. You will learn the full meaning of unconditional love.

PRIDE: Did you say we can continue to walk shoulder to shoulder, but together in a new way?

WOODSMAN: Yes, follow me and I'll take you to your first meeting.

NARRATOR: *holds up chart 13: Whistle Hi Ho*

ALL except SNOW: (grab Big Books and march off following WOODSMAN singing) Hi-ho hi-ho. It's off to a meeting we go. We've had enough of that nasty stuff. Hi-ho hi-ho. (~~dim stage~~).

NARRATOR: The defects are off to a meeting and Snow White is left in a deep sleep. Now as we return we find a prince coming to visit Snow White. The defects met him at a meeting and told him where Snow White was.

RACCOON: *Plays Tape "Some Day my Prince will come"*

(ENTER THE PRINCE)

PRINCE: This looks like the place, and this must be Snow White. *Kisses her awake.* Hi, my name is Prince and I'm an alcoholic. You must be the princess the defects told me about. By the way, Sleazy sends his love. I've come to tell you that you are under a spell for which there is no human cure.

SNOW WHITE: Oh Prince, I'm so glad you've finally come. I've been waiting for you my whole life to come and save me and carry me off on your white horse.

PRINCE: Oh Ms. White I have not come to carry you off on my horse to live happily ever after. I only carry the message about a road to a happy destiny one day at a time. No rides on my white horse until you've taken some steps first. The real kingdom is within you and this book will help you find it. I've also listed a few numbers of some women who will be willing to love you until you can love yourself. Well I must go. My horse awaits me to ride off into the sunset. Remember no shortcuts. Good luck, hope to see you at a meeting.

SNOW WHITE. Oh well what do I have to lose? I guess my way doesn't work. My own family has disowned me and I'm lost in the forest living with seven neurotics. There must be a better way.

NARRATOR: *Again holds up Chart 13: Whistle Hi Ho*

(THE DEFECTS ENTER STAGE SINGING) Hi Ho...Hi Ho...home from King School we go. We'll think, think, think before we'll drink! ...

RESENTMENT: Look! Snow White is awake (they all run to her)

PRIDE: Hey Snow White what happened to you?

SLOTH: Yeah. You never drink.

SNOW WHITE: I know. But I was tempted by the witch. I took one drink, that's all it took. It was so cunning, baffling, and powerful. I found myself out of control.

PRIDE: We were just at a meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. They told us that there is a better way to live. They also said that it was the first drink not the 6th or 7th drink.

RESENTMENT: Yeah. They said resentments will kill you.

SLOTH: And to take things one day at a time. I'm going to start tomorrow.

PRIDE: There are twelve steps to work. I'm already on number ten. And next week I'm running for Alternate Delegate!

GLUTTONY: They had donuts and coffee. Here you want a donut? I brought home some extra.

SLEAZY: I'm sorry, Snow White, they said no relationships for about a year, so I won't be able to go steady with you. I know your heart is broken.

NARRATOR: Snow White and the seven defects continued to attend A.A. They became very active in the program. They now know a new happiness, and know what serenity is. They do not regret the past nor do they wish to shut the door on it. They intuitively know how to handle situations which used to baffle them. They are realizing that God is doing for them what they could not do for themselves. As they clear away the wreckage of their past and give freely of what they have, defects and all, they join you and I as we all trudge the road of happy destiny. May God bless you and keep you—until then.

All leave and reenter holding applause signs. When applause dies down GLUTTONY flips his to other side that says MORE!

After applause:

NARRATOR: *introduce cast*