

From Binge to Blackout is the story of Toren Volkmann and his mother, Chris. Throughout his college years, Toren Volkmann partied like there was no tomorrow, having what was supposed to be the time of his life. At first this drinking didn't prove to be a problem. Unfortunately, by the time he graduated, Toren realized that he had become a full-blown alcoholic. This book, written from the viewpoints of both mother and son, is a riveting account of the dangers of alcohol abuse.

You are required to read two of the chapters written by Toren; *Chapter Six: You're All in Denial* and *Chapter Nineteen: Nothing Social About It*, and write a paper responding to the following questions.

- Papers must be at least 500 words in length, typed using 12-point Times New Roman font, and double-spaced with standard one inch margins all around.
- Please write your responses in the form of a narrative. Do not answer each question individually. This paper should utilize appropriate language, grammar, and spelling.
- Papers must be **emailed as a Word attachment NO LATER** than one week (7 days) after receiving the assignment.
- If the paper does not meet the above requirements it may be returned for revisions.

Questions:

1. Do you think Toren's experiences were typical of most first year college students?
2. What happened when Toren tried to stop drinking on his own? What are the differences between social drinking and addictive drinking? Are there any, or is it just a matter of degree?
3. Would you be concerned for a friend who was drinking to this degree?
4. How might have Toren's college experience been different if he didn't drink?
5. Was there anything about Toren's personal accounts that stood out for you?