Side 1 START >>>

CHARLES (CONT'D)

So I guess you could say I've been spendin' my nights here for the last forty years.

116 GUS

What was his name?

117 CHARLES

...William.

118 GUS

I'm sorry.

119 CHARLES

Yeah. So am I.

WALLA/SFX: CHARLES TAKES A SWIG OF A DRINK.

120 CHARLES (CONT'D)

You ever lost a child?

121 GUS

No. I lost my Dad in the war.

122 CHARLES

Half of Quincy lost their Dads in the war.

123 GUS

I'm sure it's not the same.

124 CHARLES

It ain't. Not even close.

WALLA/SFX: CHARLES TAKES A SWIG OF A DRINK.

125 CHARLES (CONT'D)

Can I buy you a round?

126 GUS

No, thanks.

127 CHARLES

Suit yourself.

128 GUS

You don't seem at all happy.

WALLA: CHARLES LAUGHS SARDONICALLY.

129 CHARLES

Hey half-wit, that's exactly why I'm here. You been listening?

130 GUS

I mean it doesn't seem like drinkin' yourself blind each night is helping.

131 CHARLES

It's not supposed to help, it's supposed to make me forget. (beat) Only problem is now I can't stop.

WALLA/SFX: CHARLES TAKES A SWIG OF A DRINK.

132 GUS

What if I could direct you somewhere that would help, actually help?

133 CHARLES

And where would that be?

134 GUS

I lead a temperance society over at Saint Patrick's.

135 CHARLES

I ain't a papist.

136 GUS

But you're not in good shape, either. That's all you need to qualify.

137 CHARLES

Clear off, will ya?

WALLA/SFX: CHARLES TAKES A SWIG OF A DRINK.

138 GUS

I didn't give you my name. I'm Gus.

139 CHARLES

Charles.

140 GUS

Charles, if you give it a chance, I promise that you'll not only get help with your drinking, you'll find some healing for your hurt, too.

141 CHARLES

I don't think so, Gus.

<<< END