

033 FULTON

Well, Lord. Here we are. My new chapel. An Archbishop without a diocese. At home in New York City, but I am not the man who once lived here. People do not know me anymore. They do not hear me on their television screens. I am but one of many. And two words entangle themselves in my heart: failure and *finished*. Are you finished with me, Lord?

A LONG SILENCE.

034 FULTON (CONT'D)

What was it all about? Where do I possibly go from here?

(then)

I should have borne it better.

HE EXHALES DEEPLY.

035 FULTON (CONT'D)

Lord, look on me while I am succumbing... For your look will set me right again.

9 EXT. NEW YORK CITY STREET - A FEW DAYS LATER

SHEEN WALKS. CARS WHIZ BY. THE LOUD BUSTLE OF NEW YORK CITY STREETS. A GRUFF VOICE CALLS OUT:

036 GRUFF VOICE

Hey you!

037 FULTON

Who me?

038 GRUFF VOICE

Yeah, move it, pal. You're blocking the sidewalk.

039 FULTON

Oh, I'm sorry, I-

Another voice calls out.

040 CLARENCE

Bishop Sheen, is that you?

041 FULTON

Huh, who's that?

START >>>

FULTON TURNS AROUND.

042 CLARENCE

Bishop Sheen, it's me, Clarence!
From the show!

043 FULTON

Oh, Clarence. Can it truly be you?
How many years has it been?

044 CLARENCE

Far too many, Bishop! But what are
you doing here? I thought you were
upstate? Was it Buffalo? Syracuse?

045 FULTON

Rochester. And I... I am back.

046 CLARENCE

Oh, that's amazing news! Although,
I bet Rochester will miss you
dearly. I still can't believe you
were sent there...

047 FULTON

You haven't heard?

048 CLARENCE

Heard what?

049 FULTON

I... I could have done better in
Rochester-

050 CLARENCE

We don't get much Rochester news
here in the Big Apple, Bishop.
Wait, so you're back? Long term?

051 FULTON

So it would seem.

052 CLARENCE

Oh, that's swell! Are you gonna do
another show? You could totally do
it again, Bishop!

053 FULTON

Ha, Perhaps I could. But the
question is whether or not I
should...

054 CLARENCE

I don't understand.

055 FULTON

I've found of late that the outer world can become so full of limelight as to make us forget the light within. And praise often creates in us a false impression that we *deserve* it.

A PAUSE.

056 FULTON (CONT'D)

Clarence, when does a man know he is finished?

CLARENCE THINKS ON IT.

057 CLARENCE

I... I don't know, Bishop. But I have a hard time ever imagining you being truly finished.

◀◀◀ **END**

CITY SOUNDS RISE AND FADE. MUSIC TRANSITIONS TO:

10

INT. SHEEN'S CHAPEL - A LITTLE LATER

A SOFT SCORE. SHEEN LIGHTS ANOTHER CANDLE AND KNEELS ON THE CREAKY PEW.

058 FULTON

But Lord, when *does* a man know he is finished?

SHEEN GETS UP. HE PACES. HE SPEAKS AS THOUGH GOD IS IN THE ROOM WITH HIM.

059 FULTON (CONT'D)

Is it when the crowds disappear? Is it when the work no longer bears fruit?

A PAUSE.

060 FULTON (CONT'D)

I am tired, Lord. More tired than I have ever been. I thought Rochester was punishment. And I tried to turn it into an opportunity. For You.

A PAUSE. HE CHECKS HIMSELF.

061 FULTON (CONT'D)

But am I lying to myself even now? Am I lying to You, even now?