

CHARLIE SIDE 3

JOANNA

What are you thinking about?

CHARLIE

What'd you finally run out of alcohol?

JOANNA

Never.

CHARLIE

(Lightly)

Woman you've got a problem.

JOANNA

Maybe.

CHARLIE

Really?

JOANNA

No.

CHARLIE

I actually don't believe in it.

JOANNA

Problems? That's an attractive sort of denial.

CHARLIE

Nah. I mean I had some bum uncle who went to all these AA meetings. Like that was his problem.

JOANNA

Wasn't it?

CHARLIE

No. I mean we're not talking about some guy who's shooting up meth—

JOANNA

You don't usually shoot up meth—

CHARLIE

Speaking from experience?

JOANNA

Maybe.

CHARLIE

(Beat)

But yeah. No. He wasn't like majorly addicted, you know? If you threw out all his six packs he wouldn't like convulse and puke his guts out. He was just a shitty--a bad guy with no ambition who would rather be drunk than do anything productive. He didn't need twelve steps. He just needed to get his life together.

JOANNA

You really think that?

CHARLIE

Yeah. You don't?

JOANNA

I don't know. It's in the diagnostic and statistic manual for mental disorders. Alcohol abuse plus alcohol dependence.

CHARLIE

I used to stay up all night taking personality quizzes. What mental illness do I have. And they'd come back saying I had depression, and anxiety, and mania, and paranoia, and quite possibly a few phobias, and honestly just cut my brain in half already. What you call abnormal, I call variation.

JOANNA

So it's a myth then? Alcoholics? That's a fun word right. Alcoholic. Ic. Ic. Ic. All the fun people are ics. Alcoholics. Workaholics. Hypochondriacs. Alcoholic. Rhyme that.

CHARLIE

Supersonic.

JOANNA

Melancholic.

CHARLIE

Diabolic.

JOANNA

Rageaholic.

CHARLIE
Rageaholic?

JOANNA
Your turn.

CHARLIE
I got nothing.

JOANNA
Drink.

CHARLIE
Fine. But water. I need water.
(He goes to leave)
What's a rageaholic?

JOANNA
A very angry person. A person addicted to rage.

CHARLIE
I think that's everyone. A little bit.