# IT'S ALWAYS SUNNY IN PHILADELPHIA: CHARLIE IS SUICIDAL

Written by

Matthew Blake Cardenas

mattbcardenas@yahoo.com

Frank and Charlie are sitting on the couch, passing a paper bag between them and huffing off of it. Charlie takes a hit and passes it to Frank, who grabs for it.

#### FRANK

Hurry up, don't be stingy.

# CHARLIE

(holding in hit) And so I just sit here and think and think and think, you know. I just wonder what everything is for. We're here and then one day I'll just be walking around and die, just drop dead when I'm reading the newspaper or something.

### FRANK

Charlie, you can't read and I told you- I'm sick of hearing this, it's depressing.

#### CHARLIE

Well soooory Frank, I need someone to talk to about this!

Frank gets up and walks towards the door.

FRANK I'm going Charlie, I can't take it anymore! You're seriously bumming me out, I'm going to go see what Dee is doing.

Frank walks out and closes the door behind him. Charlie stares at the door sadly.

# 2 INT. PADDY'S IRISH PUB - DAY

Slow day at the bar. Dennis is behind the bar reading a magazine. Charlie enters the bar looking glum.

#### CHARLIE

# Hey Dennis, how's it going?

Dennis looks at Charlie and registers that he's down.

#### DENNIS

Good, how are you dude?

# CHARLIE

Meh, I've just been a bit down lately, got no one to talk to. Frank doesn't seem to care.

### DENNIS

Why didn't you come to me bro? I actually minored in psychology in college.

# CHARLIE

I dunno, I just didn't want to bother anyone.

#### DENNIS

It's cool, it's always great to polish up the old skills. You know, I nearly made psychology my major.

CHARLIE Yeah, I think you've mentioned it before.

DENNIS Well sit down bro, tell me what's wrong.

Charlie sits down at the bar. Dennis leans on the counter across from him attentively.

# CHARLIE

Alright. Well, it's just that lately I've been wondering what the point of it all is.

### DENNIS

I see. Do ever have any thoughts about hurting yourself or others?

### CHARLIE

Well sometimes I think about taking out the waitress. But I don't think I could do that so lately I just think about maybe I dunno... killing myself.

DENNIS Oh, shit bro. Yeah.

DENNIS We gotta do something about this. We have to show you that you have something to live for.

CHARLIE

I know, it's just hard to think of anything sometimes.

DENNIS You've got lots of stuff going on, you have..

Dennis trails off with Charlie looking at him expectantly.

DENNIS (CONT'D) You know what dude? We should go out, get wasted, have a good time like the old days.

CHARLIE Well I guess we could try that.

DENNIS

Alright man, well let's go then, I can shut this place down for a bit, it's not like there's anyone here.

CHARLIE

Cool man! I think I'm actually starting to feel a bit better.

DENNIS

I'm actually pretty excited too, it's been a while since you and I have had some one-on-one time, you know?

The guys go to walk out of the bar when a beautiful woman, CARLY, walks in the bar accompanied by some less desirable women..

CHARLIE (to group) I'm sorry we're close-

DENNIS Alright Charlie, well I'll see you later, hope you have fun hanging out with Mac! DENNIS (smiling at Carly) Something suddenly came up.

3 INT. DEE'S HOUSE

3

There is a knock on the door. Dee walks over and opens the door. Frank walks in.

FRANK Dee, thank God you're here, Charlie was getting me really down.

DEE Uh hi, good to see you too.

### FRANK

You're the most upbeat one in the group, I gotta do something fun.

DEE

I'm glad you think I'm the most upbeat one, but I'm kind of busy right now Frank and I don't have any time.

#### FRANK

What is it, maybe I could help. You know, have some father/daughter bonding time.

DEE

Well I'm working on a scene for my acting class, maybe you could read through the other part?

FRANK

Is it a troll?

# DEE

No, it's

FRANK

I'm really more comfortable playing trolls.

DEE You told us you were in a few plays back in college! I did, and I played a troll every time. It's sort of a specialty.

DEE

I guess you do sort of have the build. OK, let's just try reading through a few lines anyway.

# INT. MAC AND DENNIS' PLACE

4

Mac opens the door and Charlie walks in.

# CHARLIE

Thanks for letting me come over bro. Frank ditched me then Dennis ditched me, I needed someone to hang out with.

MAC

Of course dude, what are bros for?

CHARLIE

Thanks man, sometimes it just seems like life is too much and I'm all alone with it, you know?

MAC Uh, sure dude. Uhh, do you want a beer or anything?

#### CHARLIE

Hey Mac, how did Dooly kill himself. Was it like pills or...

Mac pantomimes his story enthusiastically. as he tells it.

#### MAC

It was actually pretty badass. So he was in a bathtub full of water with a shotgun to his head and his finger on the trigger. He kicked a toaster into the toilet and being electrocuted jerked his finger, blowing his head off.

CHARLIE God dammit that is pretty awesome.

MAC I know, right? I wish we'd hung out with him more. (MORE)

MAC (CONT'D) After he started to get depressed he got kinda lame if you know what I mean.

CHARLIE Come on man, don't you ever get depressed or anything?

MAC No man, why would I? My life is totally badass.

Mac finally seems to notice Charlie's mood.

MAC (CONT'D) ..Oh, hey...man, are you depressed?

CHARLIE Urgh, maybe a little.

MAC Why man? You've got the greatest best friend in the world, you've got...the waitr...

There is a long pause. Awkward. Mac looks at the ground, not knowing what to day. After a few beats, he perks up.

MAC (CONT'D) You know what? We need to go out and do some baddass shit! I totally feel pumped after I make my Project Badass videos.

CHARLIE I don't know, that's what Dennis said too and then he just ditched me for some girl.

MAC Come on man you know I'm not like that. I would never put a ho before a bro, ever.

CHARLIE Well, alright.

MAC

Alright?

Charlie smiles slightly

CHARLIE Alright, let's do this! MAC Yeah! Let's tear this down in half!

They walk out the door enthusiastically.

5 INT. PADDY'S IRISH PUB

The bar has gotten a lot more busy. Dennis is working furiously behind the bar. Music is playing loudly and everyone is drinking and talking. Carly walks from her group to the bar.

# CARLY

Bartender-

Dennis smiles at her creepily.

DENNIS Call me Dennis.

CARLY Uh, right. Can we just get another round of shots for the table?

DENNIS Sure. You guys are getting pretty rowdy over there, having a party?

CARLY It's my best friend's bachelorette party. Look, can you just get the shots at the table when you can?

DENNIS Sure. Hey maybe I can give you a call somet-

She walks back to her table while Dennis is still talking. Dennis quickly gets the shots together and then walks over to the table that the party is at.

#### PARTY

W000000!

DENNIS

Woo!

Carly looks at him irritably.

DENNIS (CONT'D) Here's those shots you ordered.

Uh, thanks.

DENNIS

No prob.

Dennis stands around for a bit as Carly and the entire party stare at him silently. Why is he still standing here?

DENNIS (CONT'D) Well, I'll be right over there if you need anything. I mean if any of you need anything. I-

Dennis turns and walks off awkwardly.

CARLY (to party) Told you guys he was creeping on me. Why isn't it ever the attractive guys?

Dennis stares at the wall furiously.

INT. COMMUNITY COLLEGE

6

6

Dee and Frank are walking down a sparsely crowded hall. Both of them seem extremely anxious.

### FRANK

I don't get it, I thought I was just helping you rehearse, not perform in front of a bunch of people!

DEE I told you a hundred times Frank, the guy who I was doing this with is sick so I need to fill in.

FRANK

I don't know, I'm just not very comfortable with this.

DEE

Can you just do this for me, please? You said you wanted to do something new and exciting.

FRANK I know, I've just got the pre show jitters. DEE

You did fine when we were practicing, you know this play better than that other guy did, you're going to be great!

#### FRANK

Well, alright.

They walk into a classroom. Inside a small class is seated. Standing at the front of the class is INSTRUCTOR. Frank and Dee sit at the front of the room.

> INSTRUCTOR Alright it looks like everyone is here. We have a lot of projects to get through so we'll start right away with Dee and her substitute partner.

Frank and Dee get up, walk to the front of the room and face the audience.

DEE Tonight we'll be performing a classic, and I think you'll really like it.

Dee nod at Frank, clears her throat, and then lowers her head for a moment before raising it back up.

> DEE (CONT'D) Romeo Romeo, wherefore art thou, Romeo? Deny thy father and refuse thy name.

FRANK (in a strange, low voice) What are you doing under my bridge?

Dee looks flustered.

DEE Um, 'tis but the name that is my enemy...

FRANK I'm going to eat you!

Frank leaps at Dee and tackles her to the ground. Dee screams.

# EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT

7

Charlie and Mac are walking together down the alley towards a ramp set up in the alley. Charlie is walking a bike and Mac is carrying a camera.

#### CHARLIE

I still think it'd be driving a semi full of grenades off of a cliff, the explosion would be amazing.

### MAC

No dude trust me, the coolest way to kill yourself would definitely be to cover yourself in cow blood and jump into a pihrana tank.

#### CHARLIE

I guess that is pretty badass, it just seems to be lacking an explosion, you know what I mean?

MAC

Whatever, let's just focus. I probably shouldn't be talking about suicide methods with you anyway.

#### CHARLIE

Alright, I just don't know if this is going to make me feel better dude.

MAC Bro, trust me. When you hit that ramp and jump over the street you are going to feel amazing.

CHARLIE

Fine, let's just get this thing going.

MAC

(motioning to camera) Alright, let me make sure I have this thing going and then I'll give you the cue to go.

Mac pulls the cap off of the camera and puts it on his shoulder. He then stands there for a bit, doing nothing.

### CHARLIE

Well?

MAC

Just a sec dude, I'm making sure it's focused perfectly. I always make sure my Project Badass videos are perfect. Alright, go, go!

Charlie starts riding toward the jump, building up as much speed as he can.

# CHARLIE

Oh god, oh god, oh god.

Charlie hits the jump and flies into the air. As he flies over the street, a car drives by and he hits the side of it, bouncing off. Mac screams and run towards Charlie as the car speeds off.

> MAC Charlie! Are you okay?

Charlie is laying on the other side of the street with the bike on top of him.

CHARLIE I think I'm ok, I just ripped my pants.

Charlie stands up and brushes himself off.

# MAC

(laughing) Awesome bro! I thought you were dead for a second to be honest. Don't you feel like a badass now? Like you have a new lease on life?

CHARLIE You know- not really bro. To be honest when I hit the jump and saw that car coming I thought "Oh, finally."

MAC Son of a bitch. Charlie grab the bike, we're going.

# CHARLIE

Where?

Mac spins around and looks at Charlie.

MAC To level orange.

# INT. PADDY'S IRISH PUB

The bar has gotten even busier. Dennis is behind the bar making drinks furiously and looking mad. Frank and Dee walk in, bickering as they make their way through the crowd to the bar.

#### DEE

I don't know what would possess you to do something like that!

FRANK I panicked, it seemed like the best decision at the time.

DEE

The best decision was to tackle me and then drag me around the room by the hair while shouting obscenities at my class!?

FRANK I went with what I knew, and I know trolls. That was classic troll work.

They reach the bar and Dee looks over to Dennis.

DEE Dennis, I need a beer now. Thanks to Frank here I just had the worst day of my life.

DENNIS Frank thank god you're here, can you help me out back here? We're having a record night.

FRANK (motioning to Dee) Sure, right now anything beats hanging with this downer.

Frank walks around to help Dennis with the bar.

DENNIS (to Dee) Can't you see I'm a bit busy right now, sis? God you're always so demanding!

DEE Geez, what got sand in your vagina? 8

DENNIS It's just this girl, the hot one over there.

Dennis seems to calm a bit.

Dennis points over to the table the group is at. They're taking shots, dancing and just having an all-around good time. A few of the guys in the bar are hanging out with them and seem to be having just as great of a time.

> DENNIS (CONT'D) She won't give me the time of day. She just keeps blowing me off like I'm a complete piece of shit. Like I'm Charlie or something.

> > DEE

(looking at Carly) Well she is extremely beautiful. And you are kind of a piece of shit.

DENNIS Whatever, is there any way you could... you know, talk me up to her?

DEE I dunno, you haven't been too helpful to me. Where are we on that beer situation?

Dennis quickly gets Dee a beer and sets it on the counter.

DENNIS There. Now will you please please just help me on this. That girl is starting to get into my head, make me question things about myself, it's not good Dee, not good!

DEE Geez, alright I'll see what I can do, just calm down.

Dee grabs the beer and walks over to the party.

INT. STRIP CLUB

9

Mac and Charlie are sitting at a table watching a stripper.

MAC See, now isn't this what you needed? You gotta be feeling better now.

CHARLIE Meh, it's pretty cool I guess.

MAC Pretty cool? Charlie this is awesome.

### CHARLIE

It's just such a tease when we come here. The girls over there, I'm over here. What is that?

MAC I think I know how to take care of this.

Mac gets up and walks over to STRIPPER.

MAC (CONT'D) Excuse me miss, my friend is really down(motions to Charlie) and I was wondering if you could help him out with a lap dance or something.

STRIPPER (bored) Lap dances are twenty bucks.

MAC God dammit, so much for compassion.

Mac digs around in his pockets and pulls out some money.

MAC (CONT'D) I seem to have spent most of my money on those beers, do you have some sort of discount package for five bucks?

The stripper sighs and nods here head over to the side. Charlie follows her gaze and sees FAT STRIPPER standing in a shadowy corner. Mac smiles and nods his head, all of his problems have just been solved.

# 10 INT. PADDY'S IRISH PUB

Dennis and Frank are still working the bar. Dee does a shot with the party, she seems to have become a part of the bachelorette party. She turns to Carly.

DEE Thanks for letting me into your little shindig here, I was really down after my boyfriend dumped me.

CARLY No problem, girls help each other out! This night has been great.

DEE So what's next? You going to get wild, hook up with some random guy or something?

CARLY (smiling) You never know, right?

They laugh.

DEE You know who's kinda hot? That bartender guy over there.

Dee points to Dennis.

guy.

CARLY Urgh, I think he's kind of a smarmy creep. I prefer the sweet, sensitive type. Plus he's just too clean, I like a little scruff on my

DEE I for one think the metrosexual look is super hot. It shows a guy cares about himself, you know?

CARLY Well let's go over and talk to him.

DEE

Really?

CARLY Yeah, I don't know what you see in him but if it'll help you get over your ex.

DEE

But-

Before she can say anything else Carly pulls Dee over to the bar.

CARLY (to Dennis) Hey.

DENNIS

Hey there.

Dennis looks over to Dee briefly and smiles.

CARLY This is my friend Dee, she told me she thinks you're super hot.

DEE Actually I-

Carly drunkenly shushes Dee. She leans over the bar and whispers to Dennis.

CARLY You guys should totally hook up.

Carly walks off. Dennis stares at Dee furiously.

11 INT. STRIP CLUB

11

Mac is smiling and watching as Fat Stripper gives Charlie a lap dance. She is holding his face between her breasts and is awkwardly bobbing up and down, rubbing against his face.

MAC This is the life bro. Beers, lap dances, what more could you ask for?

Charlie suddenly starts to flail around and say something, but his voice is muffled by Fat Stripper's breasts. Mac seems confused for a moment, and then stands up and grabs the stripper to pull her off.

> MAC (CONT'D) Come on, I think he's done.

FAT STRIPPER The songs not done yet! MAC

It's fine, keep they money.

She gets off Charlie and walks away. Charlie gasps for air.

CHARLIE Oh my god dude.

MAC Dude you totally just wasted my money, what was the deal?

CHARLIE

(yelling) I couldn't breathe dude! I was suffocating. Why would you think I'd like that?

MAC Well, I always kind of thought you were a bit of a chubby chaser.

CHARLIE

What!? No, no!

MAC What about Melinda Hamilton?

CHARLIE

A man dying of thirst in the desert isn't going to turn down a mud puddle but that doesn't mean that's what I want all the time.

MAC Well sooorry for not thinking out every little detail before trying to help you.

CHARLIE

I'm going.

MAC Charlie, wait!

Charlie gets up and walks out with Mac following him.

12 EXT. STRIP CLUB - CONTINUOUS

Charlie walks out of the club and starts walking down the street angrily.

MAC Charlie, wait!

Charlie turns to Mac.

# CHARLIE

What?!

MAC So... are you feeling better now?

CHARLIE No, if anything I feel worse. None of your ideas have helped whatsoever. Instead of making me not want to kill myself you almost killed me twice.

MAC God dammit, bro! When you put it like that it makes me sound like an asshole instead of a helpful bro.

CHARLIE Sorry. I think I'm just going to go hang out at my apartment.

Mac has a leap of intuition.

MAC Charlie I have one last idea.

CHARLIE

No.

MAC Just hear me out for a seco-

CHARLIE

No, dude.

MAC I guarantee that it will be the greatest time of your life.

Charlie looks over at Mac, interested.

# 13 INT. PADDY'S IRISH PUB

Dennis is at the bar, looking angry with Dee standing in front. They are both looking over to the party. Frank is in

DENNIS Well thanks Dee, now I have no chance.

DEE It's not like you had much of a chance to begin with, and it's so not my fault!

DENNIS How is it not your fault Dee?

DEE I was just talking you up like you wanted and she took it the wrong way.

Carly walks up smiling, unseen by Dennis while he is yelling at Dee.

DENNIS Well god dammit, this is just making it worse, quit talking to me!

Carly's smile disappears.

#### CARLY

I knew it. You are a scumbag jerk. I thought maybe I was wrong when you started talking with my friend. But clearly I was right all along.

Carly grabs Dee and starts to walk off.

DEE

But..

CARLY

Come on, we'll do some more shots and forget about this asshole.

They go back to the party. Dennis shakes his head to himself and pounds the counter with his fist.

# 14 INT. XXX SHOP

Charlie and Mac are walking through the shop. Charlie is looking around uncomfortably at several strangely dressed people in the store. Mac looks right at home and leads them towards the back of the store.

### CHARLIE

Unbelievable dude. How is this supposed to make me feel better. I feel like I'm going to get raped.

MAC You are not going to get raped Charlie, quit being hysterical. This is a classy place.

### CHARLIE

Right, I can see that.

Mac stops in front of some booths in the back and looks over to Charlie.

MAC Now we are about to see Desiree. She does the best peepshow in town.

### CHARLIE

This was your plan? We just left a stripclub.

MAC Believe me she is something special, you'll never be able to get this picture out of your mind.

CHARLIE Alright I'll try it but I'm not holding out a lot of hope after your last couple of ideas.

MAC Well prepare for me to be vindicated. Oh just pay attention, will you? I only have enough money for about ten seconds or so.

They walk through a curtain into a booth. Unseen by them there is a sign at the top of the curtain that reads: NEW ACT!

# 15 INT. XXX BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

Mac and Charlie sit down on a small bench in the booth. At the far end of the booth is a window with a curtain covering it from the inside and below the window a coin slot. They sit on the bench and Mac puts some change into the coin slot. The curtain slowly raises, with Mac and Charlie looking eager. As the curtain gets halfway up their look turns to confusion and then to shock as the curtain fully raises.

CHARLIE Well. I think you were right about never being able to get that out of my mind at least.

16 INT. PADDY'S IRISH PUB

The place is a bit less crowded, but the party is still there. Dennis and Frank are standing behind the bar, with Dee sitting on a stool in front of them. Mac and Charlie walk in, arguing.

> MAC Come on just let me try one more thing.

CHARLIE No Mac, no! You've done enough already today. I feel way more worse than I ever did before!

They arrive at the bar.

DENNIS Hey Charlie, how's it going?

CHARLIE

Oh fine, just had the worse day of my life. I'm going to go sit in a booth and wallow in my sorrows, can I get a beer?

Dennis gets him a beer.

DENNIS Look bro, I'm sorry about ditching you earlier, I didn't have such a great day either.

Charlie walks off while Dennis is still talking.

MAC Man, now I feel kind of depressed that I failed so badly with Charlie.

#### DENNIS

Tell me about it bro, I totally failed with that girl over there and now I have to pretend to like Dee to even have a shot with her.

FRANK You guys are babies, I had by far

the worst day.

DEE How's that Frank? You ruined my class, I can't show my face there ever again!

FRANK

I've had to hang out with you downers all night. You all are the biggest bunch of babies I've ever met.

Frank, Dennis and Dee start arguing loudly. Mac rolls his eyes and looks around the bar. His eyes widen with surprise.

MAC

Uh, guys?

They take no notice of him.

MAC (CONT'D) GUYS! Charlie is making out with the chick that Dennis said rejected him.

They shut up and look to the back of the bar. Charlie and Carly are making out. Dennis' mouth drops open in shock.

MAC (CONT'D) Looks like I did my job after all, I think Charlie is going to be just fine.

Carly walks out the door, pulling Charlie with her. Everyone looks happy for Charlie except for Dennis, who slumps and drops his eyes to the floor miserably.