

## Chicago Seemed Tired Last Night

### The Hold Steady

Nelson Algren came to paddy at some party at the dead end alley  
.

He told him what to celebrate.  
And I met William Butler Yeats.  
Sunday night dance party summer 1988.  
At first I thought it might be William Blake.

We mix our own mythologies. We push them out through pa systems  
.

We dictate our doxologies and try to get sleeping kids to sit u  
p and listen.  
I'm not saying we could save you.  
But we could put you in a place where you could save yourself.  
If you don't get born again at least you'll get high as hell.

Sweet Saint Paul. That must be the hardest luck saint of them a  
ll.

We met him in some suburban Saint Paul mall.  
When St. Theresa came to holly. I wasn't even at that party.  
I'd already moved out to New York City.  
When Judas went up and kissed him. I almost got sick.  
I guess I knew what was coming. I guess I knew it was coming.

We gather our gospels from gossip and bar talk then declare the  
m the truth.

We salvage our sermons from message boards and scene reports. W  
e come on to the youth.

We try out new testaments on the guys sitting next to us in the  
bars with the bars in their windows.

Even if you don't get converted tonight you must admit that the  
band's pretty tight.

They did she's got legs into ain't too proud to beg into someth  
ing by the Dixie Dregs.

They faked their way through 'Fairytale of New York'.  
When the band stopped playing we howled out for more.

Hey Nelson Algren. Chicago seemed tired last night.  
They had cigarettes where there were supposed to be eyes.  
Hey William Butler Yeats. The Irish seemed wired last night.  
They tried to separate our girls from our guys.  
They had cigarettes where there were supposed to be eyes.