

**WHO'S ON LEFT at WRIGLEY by Gary Young-**  
**excerpt** ©2008 Gary Young

SETTING: The room housing the manually run score board at Wrigley Stadium, last game of the world series.

MATT: Age 25, dressed in jeans and a "beer hat."

DOUG: Age 35-55, dressed in work clothes, with an old, used cigar in his mouth from time to time.

MATT

Hey, can you help me out here, buddy?

DOUG

Yea, what'd ya need? Hey, you're not allowed in here!(YELLING) ONE MORE OUT!

MATT

Are you allowed to yell in here?

DOUG

I can do anything I want in here as long as I keep 'd score accurately. ONE MORE OUT! 'D CUBS ARE WINNING! 'D CUBS ARE WINNING!

MATT

The score is tied.

DOUG

Well, technically. Bases loaded, top of 9th, classic. We win. And what are you doin' in here? Get outa here. Go back to 'd stands.

MATT

That's what I'm trying to do. I'm trying to find the 4th section. They said it was near here.

DOUG

Well, it's not in here! What are you doin' movin' 'round at the end of the game like dis. You gotta be nuts. Anyway, There's no the 4th section. Are you a Cubs or Red Sox fan?

MATT

I'm sorry?

DOUG

Because you sound like a Red Sox fan. I hope not. It's Cubbies all the way dis time. One out away from the end of a one hundred year old curse. All Cubbies. All 'd way. You gotta leave. I can't be distracted. And you're not allowed in here. How'd ya get in, anyway?

MATT

Actually...I just need the 4th section.

DOUG

It's section 4, not 'd 4th section. Nobody calls it 'd 4th section. Not even little old ladies. Not even ones from Boston. Go away. Talk to one of 'd other 30,000 people here. I got 'd end of an ulcer-making game here. My whole world rests with 'd outcome of dis game. And it's not only a game now.

MATT

You're a fan?

DOUG give him an incredulous look.

MATT (CONT'D)

Still one more out to go? What's the count?

DOUG

(pointing up to 'd scoreboard, picking up a "3") 2 and 2. I'm thinkin' 'd next pitch will be another ball. Nothin' comes easy here.

MATT

Okay, I got bollocksed up. Section 4. Is it near the 5th section...section 5, or is it odds on one side and evens on the other? ...like that? Where's section 5? Have you seen it? I came from over there (pointing). Changing seats.

DOUG

What am I, a damn usher? I have an important job here.

(MORE)

DOUG (CONT'D)

I'm not 'd friggin' information booth. You shouldn't be here. (pause) But I do know that it's near 7. I also know you're gonna miss 'd end of 'd game. Look, hardly anyone has left early to get to 'deir cars. Some people may stay all night.

MATT

Lemme see that. (Takes the "3") This is big. Okay. Section 5 is near 7. Wait. I need section 4. So where is section 4? Near 5?

DOUG

I need that back now. You from around here? Are you one of dose Boston Red Sox people?

MATT

No. Not here. If I was from here, I'd know where the 4th section was.

DOUG

Section 4. Section 4. I need that "3."

MATT

DOUG

No. 3.

MATT

I meant Section 4.

DOUG

Right now I don't care from Section my ass. I need that "3" back. Gimme that "3!"

MATT

I'm from Colorado.