

Gambler's Blues (Saint James Infirmary, Saint James Hospital)
as sung by Dave Van Ronk

It was down by old Joe's barroom
On the corner of the square.
All the drinks were served as usual,
And the usual crowd was there.

On my left stood Big Joe McKennedy.
His eyes were blood-shot red.
He turned to the crowd around him.
These are the very words he said.

"I went down to St. James Infirmary,
I saw my baby there;
She was stretched out on a long, white table,
So sweet, so cold, so fair."

Cho:

"Let her go, let her go, God bless her,
Wherever she may be.
She may search this wide world over,
Never find a sweet man like me."

"Now, when I die, bury me
In my high-topped Stetson hat.
Put a twenty-dollar gold piece on my watch chain,
So St. Pete will know I died standing pat."

"I want six crap shooters for pall bearers
And a chorus girl to sing me a song.
Put a jazz band on my hearse wagon
To raise hell as I stroll along."

Cho.

Well now that you have heard my story,
I'll take another shot of that booze;
And if anyone should happen to ask you,
Say I've got those gambler's blues.

Cho.