

## Gaias Pendulum

### "Charlie"

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My daddy left home 'fore I met him  
My mama knew that I was sad  
She brought home a puppy named Charlie  
T'was the best dog that I ever had  
We hung out each morning and evening  
Till kindergarten took me away  
And Charlie would stand by the door looking lonely  
I'd look down at him and I'd say

Charlie I'll be home soon  
And then we can be together  
You'll give me a lick, and we'll head down the crick  
Me and you ? we'll be buddies forever  
So don't let your heart fill with gloom  
I'm coming home soon

I never was much of a scholar  
Dropped out when I was seventeen  
One day a recruiter came a-knockin'  
And soon I became a Marine  
I figured I'd put in my time  
Sort out what I wanted to do  
But Afghanistan wasn't part of the plan  
Now I'm up in a tower with a gun in my hand  
Then I got me a letter from Mama  
She said that you died by the door  
Waiting for the day when I'd come home to play  
Like I'd done so often before

Saying Charlie I'll be home soon  
And I know that you're gonna be waiting  
I'll toss you a stick, and we'll head down the crick  
There's a couple of hooks that need baiting  
In the heat of a long afternoon  
I'm coming home soon

The end of my tour was nearing  
In a couple of days I'd be free  
Came the moment I'd always been fearing  
Heard the blast of an IED

I think I'll head home for the summer  
Dig out my creel and my pole  
Me an my dog will just sit on a log  
By the edge of the old fishing hole  
I'm thinking 'bout my mama and Charlie  
Wish it would last forever  
In my last dying breath as I face my own death  
I said "Charlie we'll soon be together"

Charlie I'll be home soon  
We'll go on a hike through the canyon  
I'll take you away for a long summer day  
And you'll always be my companion  
By the light of a gold harvest moon  
I'm coming home soon

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