

## ARIEL/REN Pg 1 of 2

*(REN follows her up a girder under the train bridge and tracks, high above the river. It is covered with graffiti. They brace themselves as a train rumbles overhead; lights strobe across their faces. This time, they both scream with abandon.)*

START

REN &amp; ARIEL

Aah-h-h-h-h-h-h-h-h--...!

*(When the train sound fades, REN realizes how high they are and pulls back from the edge.)*

REN

Whoa!

*(Peering down.)*

It's a free-fall into the river from up here! Are you out of your mind?

ARIEL

You noticed!

REN

What're we, like, forty feet above the water?

ARIEL

But look around: up here I can pretend I'm halfway to heaven... I listen to the river...

*(Indicating the girders.)*

...and look what happens!

REN

*(Inspecting the girders.)*

Whoa! This place is covered with graffiti.

ARIEL

It's not graffiti! It's poetry. I call this place, "My Diary."

REN

You climb all the way up here and write poems?

ARIEL

Uh-huh. They're all dedicated to Bobby.

REN

Bobby? Who's Bobby?

ARIEL

My brother.

REN

You never told me you have a brother.

ARIEL

Had a brother. Bobby was one of the four kids who went off the Potawney Bridge.

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Oh, god. I'm sorry.

REN

Yep. One of the...

ARIEL

*(A la SHAW.)*

"...four young people who held the promise of Bomont's brightest future."

REN

Why didn't I know this?

ARIEL

We never talk about it. And once Daddy decided the town needed saving, he never mentioned Bobby again.

REN

You must miss him real bad.

ARIEL

I try not to think about it.

REN

That never works. I'll bet you think about it all the time.

ARIEL

How did you know that?

REN

I study you.

ARIEL

Oh, yeah? What do you see?

REN

Somebody who's smart.

ARIEL

Thank you.

REN

Maybe a little bit angry.

ARIEL

Maybe a lot.

REN

And somebody who's sad.

*(Beat.)*

~~I always wondered where that came from.~~

ARIEL

STOP