

Proof by David Auburn

CATHERINE

I wrote it. *(Softly)* Yes, it does look like my father's handwriting. *(Pause)* I didn't show this to anyone else. I could have. I wanted you to be the first to see it. I didn't know I wanted that until last night. It's me. You want to test the handwriting? Just because you and the rest of the geeks worshipped him doesn't mean he wrote this proof, Hal! My education wasn't at Northwestern. It was living in this house for twenty-five years. You think it's too advanced, well it's too advanced for *you*. It would be a real disaster for you, if I wrote it, wouldn't it? And for the other geeks who *barely* finished their Ph.D.'s who are marking time doing *lame* research, bragging about the conferences they go to – *wow-* playing in an awful band, and whining that they're intellectually past it at twenty-eight, *because they are*.