

EURYDICE

*Eurydice &
61 Orpheus*

*A small sound – ping.
They turn their faces away from each other;
matter-of-fact, compelled.
The lights turn blue.*

EURYDICE. I'm sorry.

ORPHEUS. Why?

EURYDICE. I don't know.

ORPHEUS. (*syncopated*)

You always clapped your
hands
on the third beat
you couldn't wait for the
fourth.

Remember –
I tried to teach you –

you were always one step
ahead
of the music
your sense of rhythm –
it was – off –

EURYDICE.

I could never spell the
word
rhythm –
it is such a difficult

word to spell –
r – y – no – there's an H
in it –
somewhere – a breath –

rhy – rhy –
rhy –

ORPHEUS. I would say clap on the down-beat –

no, the down-beat –

It's dangerous not
to have a sense of rhythm.

You LOSE things when you can't
keep a simple beat –
why'd you have to say my name –
Eurydice –

EURYDICE. I'm sorry.

ORPHEUS. I know we used to fight –
it seems so silly now – if –

EURYDICE. If ifs and ands were pots and pans
there'd be no need for tinkers –

ORPHEUS. Why?

*start **

*They begin walking away from each other
on extensive unseen boardwalks,
their figures long shadows,
looking straight ahead.*

EURYDICE. If ifs and ands were pots and pans
there'd be no need for tinkers –

ORPHEUS. Eurydice –

EURYDICE. I think I see the gates.

The stones – the boat –

it looks familiar –

the stones look happy to see me –

ORPHEUS. Don't look –

EURYDICE. Wow! That's the happiest I've ever seen them!

ORPHEUS. (*syncopated*)

Think of things we did:

we went ice skating –

I wore a red sweater –

like home –

our house was –

grey – with a red door –

we had two cats

and two dogs

and two fish

that died –

ORPHEUS. Will you talk to me!

EURYDICE. The train looks like

the opposite of a train –

ORPHEUS. Eurydice!

WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER FOR CENTURIES!

I want to reminisce!

Remember when you wanted your name in a song

so I put your name in a song –

When I played my music

at the gates of hell

I was singing your name

over and over and over again. →

Eurydice.

He grows quiet.

They walk away from each other on extended lines until
they are out of sight.

★ End