



PROOF

by David Auburn

HAL *(said to Catherine)*

(Hal is a graduate student. Catherine's recently deceased father was a math genius and Hal's professor. Catherine is a math genius herself. She became a recluse when her father took ill and now has continued to shut out the outside world since her father died. Hal comes by the house to go through Catherine's father's notebooks. On his way out, he and Catherine start chatting. Here, Hal is attempting to invite Catherine out:

Well, I'm gonna be late...Some friends of mine are in this band. They're playing at a bar up on Diversey. Waaay down the bill, they're probably going on around two, two-thirty. I said I'd be there.

They're all in the math department. They're really good. They have this great song-- you'd like it -- called "i" -- lower-case i. They just stand there and don't play anything for three minutes.

(i for Imaginary Number)...it's a math joke. You see why they're way down the bill.

Oh, they're raging geeks! But they're geeks who, you know, can dress themselves...hold down a job at a major university...Some of them have switched from glasses to contacts. They play sports, they play in a band, they get laid surprisingly often, so in that sense they sort of make you question the whole set of thersm: geek, nerd, wonk, dweeb, dilbert, paste-eater...Okay, yes. I play drums.

You want to come?

I never sing, I swear to God.