

O BEAUTIFUL

Theresa Rebeck

Dramatic

Lennie, seventeen to eighteen

Lennie, a high school student, addresses the audience.

LENNIE Your brain is so weird. Like, you're thinking something and then you feel something and you totally forget what you were thinking in the first place. And then you remember it again like the next day, like where did that go, and then why did it come back? Are the things you think real, even, if they can disappear like that? Because there's you and there's your brain and then there's the thing your brain thinks and if you wrote it down before you forgot it, it would be outside of you, like on a piece of paper. So it would be real then, but not if you don't write it down? Because writing is just writing, it's not the thing you're writing about, those are two different things. I like thinking about questions, my brain is happy when it thinks things. So you would think I mean I would think that because you're happy your brain would want to stay there and just stay happy but then it's like this other part of you comes along and just wrecks everything. And it's like IN you, like IN your brain but then you know, like, really, it's like you're having an argument with yourself and there's a couple of people in there. But that's, okay look that's totally, I'm not saying you're like a multiple personality or anything; that's not what I'm talking about. Although I would like to meet someone with multiple personalities, that sounds kind of interesting to me. Unless some of them were mean to the other ones. That wouldn't be so good. To have a mean person *inside* you? Because when people are mean that really is what makes the ideas—that make you happy—it makes them disappear.

*Information on this playwright may be found at:
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