

IDA Monologues 1 and 2.

Monologue #1 (Page 94)

IDA.

Funny thing was I saw him the way he looked when we first started dating, just before he went off to the war. With thick, wavy black hair. Back then he had some head of hair. Dubrow's restaurant. That was where we met. A mutual friend, Ruth Cutler, set us up. She was with her boyfriend, I forgot his name, and they brought Murry along. Murry and her boyfriend went to school together. The whole meal I couldn't take my eyes off him. I don't know how I didn't poke myself in the face with my fork. And I remember thinking he didn't have any interest in me. Murry was like that back then. Very cool. The next day I get a call from Ruth. Murry had given her his number and told her to have *me* call *him*. What nerve, I thought. So I called. I said "Hello, this is Ida. My number is Rivington 7-6207. If you want to talk to me, call me." I hung up and prayed. Sure enough, he called back. And the rest, as they say, is history.

Monologue #2 (Page 77-78)

IDA. (*Turning Doris to face her.*)

Listen to me, Doris. For you it's enough to have your friends, family, children, and live alone. Me, I can't do it. I need to *be* with someone, to *give* to someone. That afternoon, when you and Lucille left and Sam and I were alone, I came alive. I felt awkward, nervous, excited-my heart was *pounding*. For the first time since Murry died I felt *alive*. And yes, part of me still feels miserable for feeling that good. But I'm not going to give in. I'm not going to spend the rest of my life feeling guilty for wanting to be touched, to be held by someone who isn't Murry.