

## JULIE

April 3 I took the first bus to Pittsburgh. Forgot to take a book, so I read a newspaper I found on the seat over and over. Go ahead - ask me what happened on April 2. John Anderson's pondering a third party candidacy. The prime rate jumped to over 20 percent. Carter urges restraint with Iran. (*she looks to him for a reaction; nothing*) Little clinic in a strip mall - very clean - all women. They were in the process of taking down the Valentine's Day decorations and putting up Easter ones, so for a while Cupid was aiming at the Easter Bunny, which was a little disconcerting. Only takes a few minutes. Hundred and thirty dollars. Cold day for April. I came out and there was a movie theatre across the street so I went in - didn't feel like coming back here right away. Sat through All That Jazz till they got to the open heart surgery and I walked out into the next theater. Little Darlings. Tatum O'Neill and Kristy McNicol trying to lose their virginity at summer camp. Bad choice. So I just sort of floated from theatre to theatre. Kramer vs. Kramer... American Gigolo... Lady and the Tramp. I stayed in there till the last bus back. Never took my coat off the whole time. Couple days later your letter came back. "No longer at this address." (*pointing to her head*) Up here, she was always a girl. Got out the calculator and figured out when her birthday might've been: October 28<sup>th</sup>. I almost told you on the phone the other night - I came this close but... that wouldn't work. You had to be here. And I had to tell you because... I never told anybody. My roommate never knew why I was crying. I couldn't even tell Steven. (*looking directly at him*) But you were gonna' know. Tonight, tomorrow morning, sometime. I rehearsed a dozen different ways, believe me, but... you were gonna' finally know. (*a slight shrug*) Good for the soul. (*Silence. Finally, she laughs sadly.*) Well, I got this out of my system. Life goes on. Onward and upward. Once more into the breach dear friends. Know any other applicable cliches?