1995

e seemed: A half Jewish quality of life fable car climbing half way to the stars: Rita Daniels was also a half Jewish quality of life pleasure tank: Rumbling: Smashing: Car een ing: To beyond the stars: In the very early morning of September 12: 1995: I received a telephone call: "Rita's life is don e: She's had enough morphine: To insure she sens ed no pain: Where did the poor thing get her strength?: She had no brain: She had no body: She had no sight: No smell: She had no feelings: There was nothing left of her: yet she power roared out her las *t words: You can come in to see her as soon as* you wish:" My son Chris and I drove out to see Rita for the last time: Rita was la *id out with dignity approaching majesty in the* peaceful: Caring: Room Of Death: Appointed like a little Oriental Palace: In *Fairmont Hospital high in the Oakland hills: Lo* oking out over San Francisco Bay: She was bald: Her eyes and mouth: Wide ope *n: She looked like a: To the last layer unwrappe* d: 50 pound Egyptian AIDS princess: She was awash in the arms of her belo *ved Morphine: She had had no present pain: The* y said she had no brain: Yet Little Rita Daniels died with her mouth and eyes *roaring in death's face like Delacroix's liberty on* the barricades: Rita was more frightened than anyone else on earth: Rita was b *raver than anyone else on earth: Rita had more fun* than anyone else on earth: Rita suffered more pain than anyone else on earth: I loved Rita very much: Her brother Chris loved Rita very much: Her Sister Rachel loved Rita very much: Life loved Rita Daniels very much: No matter how many times Death stabbed at her: Life was sweeter: When Rita: Was near: Yes: The pretty baby tank: Who'd crawl sweet across the kitchen floor: Grab my leg: Bite: As I tried to carefully get

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to work: Out the door: Is dead: Rita's ashes are on a table beside me: Her ashes are in a Greek Vase: On the vase: Vying for a lovely girl between their shady leer: Dionysus and Eros: Rita spent her whole life getting off: Yet: Sheroically: Heroically: Dearoically: Fearoically: Nearoically: To: Tearoically: At the dark curtain: At that lucky moment when all is rest: Then: When: Every mind: Has its brain: Every breath: Has its lung: Every bloodgush: Has its heart: Then: When: What: Is: Right: Life: Knows: Best: In her final moment of breath: Rita did not crave to get off: To lousy death: Rita Daniels roared: "Fuck Off!"