## John K. Samson, Maryland Bridge

I woke you up at four this morning To whimper and to whine To hear myself through spit and crackle Of a poor long distance line Twelve clever ways to say I love you With words that always fail Hang up and light a cigarette Sit waiting for the mail Some flyers from department stores A, another get rich plan A bill or two, some shampoo and a note from Ed McMann Although you'll always be the one in which I will confide Sometimes you're the razor on my private water slide

By the way, I got your letter yesterday It said there's no need to be sad It said that some things would never ever change But that some already had And I'd heard it from the corner of my ear How that voice makes things right And I'm sure there's something more than memory Across the Maryland bridge tonight

How ominous these undercurrents They crowd me now it seems And every time I meet you in the darkness of my dreams It's likely that I'll turn around and parody myself Imagine we're in different places Pretend we're someone else I can be J. Edgar Hoover You be JFK As power hungry egocentrics We'll paper fight the nights away sometimes you're my nemesis When I am paranoid Sometimes I have doubts and worries Too strong to avoid

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