

DISTANCE FREQUENCIES

Chapter 5 -- February

FRIENDS.
THIS ONE IS CLOSE TO MY HEART. TAKE YOUR TIME WITH IT.

I WANTED YOU TO HAVE THE CD I MADE FOR ERNIE,
BUT YOU KNOW THOSE ANTIQUATED TECHNOLOGIES...THEY JUST DON'T HOLD UP TO TIME.
LUCKILY I DIGITIZED THE WHOLE THING A FEW YEARS AGO. GRAB YOUR HEADPHONES BEFORE YOU GO AND
FOLLOW THE STARRED SECTIONS CAREFULLY. -X

➔ **YOUR DESTINATION:** U Street NW, starting in front of the Reeves Center (2000 14th St NW). There's a large open section of sidewalk there so plenty of space there to open your box and check it out.

GETTING THERE: There is street parking available on many of the streets in the area. Please read street signs carefully. Parking is limited so allow yourself plenty of time. U Street Cardozo Metro Station on the Yellow & Green Lines. The 52 & 54 buses and the Circulator lines also go to that intersection.

HOURS: U Street is accessible anytime, but this can be a busy area on evenings and weekends. Consider visiting on weekday daytimes if you'd prefer avoiding others and have the flexibility to do so.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: Your box (obviously), comfortable walking shoes, a mobile device with the ability to access the internet. We strongly recommend you bring headphones to better hear the audio. A map on your device may be helpful but not essential.

★ **WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU ARRIVE:** Start out at **14th & U Streets NW**. Plug in those headphone and go to <http://bit.ly/for-ernie> (or <https://rorschachtheatre.com/for-ernie/>) to listen to the digitized version of that broken CD. You can follow along with my narration, but if you're the type that prefers to look ahead, here's where we're going: East on U Street to what used to be **Republic Gardens (just to the left off 1353 U Street)**, from there you'll continue east to the **Lincoln Theatre, 1215 U Street**, next up is **Lee's Flowers 1026 U Street**, then head up 11th Street toward Florida Ave and hit the **Florida Ave Grill (1100 Florida Ave NW)**. Lastly, keep heading north up 11th Street. Cardozo High School will be on your left. Turn left on Clifton Street and walk to 13th Street. At the intersection of **13th and Clifton** you can walk through the **Cardozo High School parking lot to the very edge** where you can look out past the football field and see the city unfold before you.

★ **CHAPTER 5 CHALLENGE:** *If you could say one thing to someone you've lost touch with in your life what would it be? When you get up to 13th & Clifton, imagine shouting it out over the whole city in hopes that they hear it. Now call (301) 818-3624 and leave your message there. (What you share may be shared later by us without attribution to protect your anonymity.)* And as always if you snap a pic you want to share, send it to info@rorschachtheatre.com or tag us on social media (Instagram: @rorschachdc, facebook/rorschachtheatre, #distancefrequencies)

IF YOU'VE BROUGHT A YOUNG (OR YOUNG AT HEART) RORSCHACHER ALONG: Well, you can always buy them a milkshake at Ben's Chili Bowl, and while they sip, tell them a little about what was known as Black Broadway. (www.blackbroadwayonu.com is a helpful resource.)

ACCESSIBILITY: For those who wish to explore the location, but prefer not to walk, each stop is accessible by car. You can expect a fair amount of traffic in the area, so lingering may require pulling over and parking where possible. If the area is inaccessible for anyone in your party, we encourage you to view the video in our "at home" section as well.

OTHER THINGS YOU MAY WISH TO EXPLORE:

These diversions (probably) don't pertain to our story, but you may enjoy them nonetheless.

- Ben's Chili Bowl--an DC icon since 1958 is at 1213 U Street.
- Bohemian Caverns, at 2001 11th Street, has gone by a number of different names and has hosted the likes of Duke Ellington, Cab Calloway, Miles Davis, Shirley Horn, Nina Simone and many more.
- Lee's Legacy mural at 1026 U Street celebrates the original founder of Lee's Flower Shop just down the block. The shop is currently operated by their granddaughter.
- African American Civil War at Vermont Ave & U Street NW honors the service and sacrifice of more than 200,000 African-American Soldiers and Sailors that served in the US Army & Navy during the Civil War.
- Florida Avenue Grill is another U Street institution--they're only open Friday, Saturday & Sunday 9AM-2PM right now for carryout so plan accordingly if you're craving breakfast.
- Neighborhood Murals are everywhere. A particularly cool one is the Paul Robeson "living timeline" in the alley next to 1351 U Street.



AT HOME EXPERIENCE: If you choose not to leave home right now, or you live far away, we recommend preparing your environment in some of the following ways: Find a place where you can hear the sounds of the world in action outside, the higher up the better. Traffic and car horns are great. The low thump of a go-go soundtrack just around the corner would be ideal. Bring along a device with which you can access the internet. You might want to use headphones to ensure you don't miss a thing. Break the seal inside the box. Begin by going to this page on our website: rorschachtheatre.com/df-home. Explore the items in the order described in the "**WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU ARRIVE**" on the previous page. No need to follow the link mentioned above. The video will provide the same audio.



DON'T MOVE THE REFRIGERATOR* **NOTES:** Wear your mask. Leave six feet of distance between yourself and others you may encounter. Please respect the space and other visitors you encounter. Please be respectful of neighborhood. If you choose to drive between locations, please be thoughtful about not blocking traffic. As in any urban environment please stay aware of your surroundings, especially when moving through streets with headphones in.

* "*Don't move the refrigerator*" is a shorthand phrase invented in the early days of Rorschach to mean-- "*This should be so obvious we don't think we have to say it...but we're saying it anyway.*"