[[A Male Teenager’s VOICE-OVER narrates]](https://genius.com/Riverdale-chapter-one-the-rivers-edge-annotated#note-11455017)

UNSEEN MALE TEEN (V.O.): Our story is about a town. A small town.

UNSEEN MALE TEEN (V.O.): And the people who live in the town.

UNSEEN MALE TEEN (V.O.): From a distance, it presents itself like so many other small towns all over the world.

UNSEEN MALE TEEN (V.O.): Safe. Decent. Innocent. Get closer though and you start seeing the shadows underneath.

UNSEEN MALE TEEN (V.O.): The name of our town is Riverdale.

[EXT. SWEETWATER RIVER - EARLY MORNING]

UNSEEN MALE TEEN (V.O.): And our story begins, I guess, with what the Blossom twins did this summer...

UNSEEN MALE TEEN (V.O.): On the fourth of July, just after dawn, Jason and Cheryl Blossom drove out to Sweetwater River for an early morning boat-ride

CHERYL: Are you scared, Jason?

[EXT. SWEETWATER RIVER - MOMENTS LATER]

[Jason and Cheryl in the rowboat, sliding across the water, towards an outcropping of rocks. They pass into -- and out of - frame...]

[EXT. SWEETWATER RIVER - THE SHORE - THE SAME MORNING (LATER)]

UNSEEN MALE TEEN (V.O.): The next thing we know happened for sure is that Dilton Doiley, who was leading Riverdale’s Boy Scout Troop on a bird-watching expedition, came upon Cheryl by the river's edge.

CHERYL: *...Ja...Jason...*

[EXT. SWEETWATER RIVER - DAY (LATER)]

UNSEEN MALE (V.O.): Riverdale Police, dragged Sweetwater river for Jason’s body, but never found it.]

ALICE: If he is dead, how? I hope in those last moments he suffered. May Jason Blossom burn in hell

UNSEEN MALE TEEN (V.O.): So a week later, the Blossom family buried an empty casket, and Jason’s death was ruled an accident.

[INT. POP’S CHOCK’LIT SHOPPE DINER - EVENING]

UNSEEN MALE TEEN (V.O.) [CONT]: As the story that Cheryl told made the rounds. That Cheryl dropped a glove in the water, and Jason reached down to get it, and accidentally tipped the boat, and panicked, and drowned. As for us, we were still talking about the July 4th tragedy on the last day of summer vacation. When a new mystery rolled into town.