

She sat in the passenger seat, staring out the window, her auburn hair whipping behind her as she stared. The beauty of the northern woods in autumn slipped by, an endless masquerade of trees with their gold and red hues. The world was vibrant and beautiful, the most stunning just before it died.

This was their special trip. They had been planning it all summer. She didn't know what was going to happen though. He had planned it all out. He would take her to the most beautiful spot on the lake, kneel down in the white sand and propose to her. He knew she would say yes, they were meant for one another. He knew how much she wanted to get married and now was his perfect moment to give it to her. He thought of her happiness and her joy when he would propose and it made him smile.

The trip was almost canceled. A young couple has little money to squander on such nice things like vacations, but, after some careful work, he had convinced his parents to lend him the money for the trip. Her parents had helped out too, they were already pulling the wedding plans together. They had been overjoyed to hear of his plan and they were almost too eager to help.

But things had changed now. He shook his head and looked over to her. She was so beautiful. To his surprise she turned to him, her green eyes sparkling with the gold of the trees. She whispered, "I'll see you soon my love." She gave him one last look and turned her head away. As she did, her form melted into a silvery mist, which was quickly swept out the windows by the rushing wind.

He stared for a moment, wishing she was still there. Turning back to the road, he lifted his eyes only in time to see the guardrail inches from the front bumper.