

Title: *Boston Evening American* Cambridge/Somerville Edition

City, State: Boston, Massachusetts

Date: 25 August 1953

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Hunt Wellesley Girl 'on Hike'

Described as "close to a nervous collapse," a 20-year-old Smith College senior today became the object of a statewide search following her mysterious disappearance from her Wellesley home.

Sylvia Plath, of Elmwood st., a brilliant student who topped the college's junior list last year,

vanished after leaving a note for her widowed mother, Mrs. Aurelia [Aurelia] S. Plath, a Boston University professor, in which she said:

"I am going for a hike and will be back tomorrow."

The girl has been nervous and under a doctor's care for several months, her mother said, and had been advised to devote less time to academic activities in the interest [interest] of her health.

Mrs. Plath said her daughter was on the verge of a breakdown as the result of extremely intensive [intensive] activities. She said in addition [addition] to maintaining one of the highest scholastic standings at Smith, Sylvia was working on poetry for submission to national publications.

The girl's work already has appeared in Harper's, *Mademoiselle* [Mademoiselle] and other magazines. She

is the subject of a college feature
in the current issue of
Mademoiselle. Sylvia is a full-
scholarship student at Smith.

When last seen, the girl was
wearing a blue denim skirt and
blue jersey blouse.

Sylvia is five feet nine and
weighs 140 pounds. Her hair is
dark brown and her eyes are
brown.

Mrs. Plath said her daughter
was fond of taking long hikes
along the Charles river, or wan-
dering [wandering] through Boston Common
and the Public Garden. Police
searched these areas without suc-
cess [success]. Hunters also scoured the
woods around nearby Morse's
Pond at the Wellesley-Natick
line.

Sylvia has a brother, Warren,
17, who will enter Harvard this
fall. She is the daughter of the
late Dr. Otto Plath, a Boston
University professor who died 10
years ago.

Transcribed by Peter K. Steinberg, 11 September 2016.