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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.