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Missing Student Found in Wellesley

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Find Girl

In Cellar

A brilliant Wellesley girl student [student] who has been missing since Monday was found unconscious today in a closed-off section of the cellar of her home.

SYLVIA PLATH, 20, of Elmwood [Elmwood] Rd., Smith College senior, was lying on a blanket.

At her side were any empty water jar and a bottle of sleeping pills with 40 tablets missing.

SHE WAS RUSHED to Newton-Wellesley [Newton] Hospital in a police ambulance.

Initial examination showed she was in fair shape despite her "comatose" condition.

"THERE ARE NO serious in-

MISSING

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Missing Wellesley Student Is Found Alive

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juries [injuries]," a hospital spokesman said.

Police Chief Robert McBey of Wellesley said that the sleeping pill bottle had contained 48 tablets [tablets] of sodium butisol.

Eight pills were left in the bottle.

Sylvia was found while a 100-man party was ranging through woods near the home in search of her.

The Plath family was at lunch at about 12:40 p.m. when Sylvia's [Sylvia's] brother, Warren, 18, heard moans.

Suddenly he recalled an unused [unused] space under the porch and he traced the moans to this unused [unused] area.

The space is 20 feet by 10, has cement walls, part of the foundation [foundation], and a dirt floor.

It can be reached only through a 2½ by 2½ foot opening shoulder [shoulder] high above the cellar floor.

The enclosure opening is usually [usually] filled with kindling and scrap lumber.

Sylvia had pushed aside the wood, crawled in and replaced the lumber to give the entrance [entranced] to the enclosure its usual, unused appearance.

Police and members of the family searching the cellar

Monday did not venture into the space because it did not seem to have been disturbed.

"We should have looked there anyway," said Chief McBey [McBey] today.

When Warren crawled into the under-porch space he found his sister stretched out on the blanket.

She was wearing dungarees, slippers and a green jersey.

Her water jar was practically empty.

Police were called and Chief McBey and Officer Theodore McGlone [McGlone] removed the girl.

RUSHED TO HOSPITAL

She was rushed by ambulance to the hospital.

A blue skirt and white blouse Sylvia was thought to be wearing was found later in a clothes hamper.

She had been wearing a halter and shorts the day she disappeared [disappeared] but changed before crawling [crawling] into her hiding place.

Relatives and classmates of Sylvia attributed her depressed state to intellectual overwork.

She had set impossibly high standard for herself in classwork and was also engaged in writing poetry and an academic thesis.

Sylvia's work has appeared in several leading magazines, including [including] Harper's, Seventeen and Mademoiselle.

The girl had been disappointed in her own work lately, intimates said, although she was considered one of the most brilliant members [members] of her class.

Transcribed by Peter K. Steinberg, 11 September 2016.