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Missing Smith Girl Found in Own Cellar

Moaning and stupefied by drugs, 20-year-old Sylvia Plath, brilliant Smith College student missing since Monday, was found yesterday behind a pile of kindling wood in a cramped concrete recess in the cellar of her home in Elmwood st., Wellesley.

She was immediately rushed to the Newton-Wellesley Hospital where it was reported she would recover.

The girl's moaning led to her discovery even as police, who feared she may have taken her life, searched for her in dense woodlands at the dead end of Elmwood st., not far from the Plath home.

SOUNDS REVEAL GIRL

Mrs. Aurelia Shober, 69, Sylvia's maternal grandmother, heard guttural sounds coming from the basement and traced them to the woodpile.

She called Sylvia's brother, Warren who pulled away the kindling and found his sister lying [lying] on the concrete floor of the recess in a semi-conscious condition [condition].

The girl, wrapped in a blanket [blanket], was wearing dungarees, slippers [slippers], and faded T-shirt, different clothing from that she wore when last seen.

Beside her was a jar with eight tablets of a sodium base sedative which originally was filled with 50 tablets. Another partly filled jar of water was on the floor.

Police Chief Robert B. MacBey [MacBey] said it has not been determined [determined] if Sylvia was in the cellar all the time or if she returned home Monday night and hid herself [herself] behind the kindling.

HOUSE SEARCHED

The chief frankly declared that he felt "responsible" and that any criticism in connection with this "should be aimed in my direction [direction]."

He explained that although he did not personally search the house himself, "it was searched by my men and I was satisfied from what they reported the girl was not in the house."

[Photograph of SP's head, cropped from family photograph]

SYLVIA PLATH

Stupefied by Drugs

Transcribed by Peter K. Steinberg, 11 September 2016.