Title: The Bangor Daily News Waldo Edition

City, State: Bangor, Maine Date: 27 August 1953

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Missing College Girl Found Ill Beneath Porch

WELLESLEY, Thursday (AP)
—A pretty 20-year-old Smith College [College] senior—who vanished Monday after telling her mother she was going hiking—was found today semiconscious but apparently uninjured under the porch of her home.

While searchers fanned out in a widespread search, Sylvia Plath was located by her brother, Warren, 18, and her grandmother, Mrs. Aurelia [Aurelia] Schobar, 66, who heard moaning [moaning] coming from the cellar of their home.

The girl was found behind a pile of lumber in a tiny space under the porch, through which entrance is gained by a $2\frac{1}{2}$ foot opening about five feet above the cellar floor.

Police Chief Robert McVey said an empty water jar and a container of eight sleeping tablets were found by the girl's side. He said the bottle had contained 48 tablets when full.

Her mother, Mrs. Aurelia S.
Plath, a Boston University professor [professor], said her daughter recently had been depressed because she felt "she was unworthy of the confidence [confidence] held for her by the people

she knew. For some time she had been unable to write either fiction or poetry."

Miss Plath was taken to Newton-Wellesley hospital where a spokes-man [spokesman] described her condition as "fair." The spokesman added that she had suffered "no apparent injury [injury]."

McVey said searchers passed up the sub-porch area in Monday's search of the house because the lumber looked as if it had not been disturbed. The family habitually stored it there.

Miss Plath, editor of her college literary review magazine, had been a frequent contributor of fiction and poetry to magazines and other publications.

Transcribed by Peter K. Steinberg, 15 July 2020.