

1985

## The Way to School

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## THE WAY TO SCHOOL

We venture  
into the dark, foggy world,  
our feet gliding carefully,  
over grass crying tears.

Dad breathes, "Hope the day  
brightens up."

I feed my books into the cold, black mouth  
of the back seat,  
and the car's heart pounds  
to life; we turn  
onto the dirt road glistening  
in the headlights.

Houses fly past,  
windows like sleepy eyes;  
the morning sun  
sprinkles glitter on lawns  
of green crystal.

I sometimes see the green  
and yellow image of the  
Gas-n-Go on my eyelids  
as we pass. Under the bridge,  
Dad tames the car  
and as I collect my gear  
I tease him, "Be good,  
and stay out of trouble!"  
I pick my trail up the hill,  
and the sun blossoms over  
the parking lot where crying gulls crab at  
zinging cars, a sight  
perfectly routine  
in my day.

Christine Diehl