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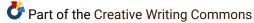
Article 5

1987

Driving Home

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DRIVING HOME

12:02 am on Friday

Doing 63, trying to be less late.

A smile for Mr. Pushover. The skin pulls tight on my forehead. The place where a kiss had once been, given to remind me to drive carefully.

At home I hold my sweater to my cheek and a whiff of cologne misses you.

A whim. I pull polar bear Phred Phredd into the cold vastness of a single bed. Not quite the same. It will have to do, I mindsigh, as I turn to dreams of Uncle Remus and sofas for two.

Alexa Finkler