

THE DRY, LATE-SUMMER AIR

by

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SETTING — A car ride.

CHARACTERS — PERSON and OTHER PERSON.

AT RISE — OTHER PERSON is driving, PERSON is feeling thoughtful.

PERSON

...You know that point in a season where it brings you right back to a certain memory?

OTHER PERSON

Hmm. What do you mean?

PERSON

Like the dry, late-summer air. It's still warm but it has that dry feeling and it cools off just enough at night that you can get a feeling for what's coming. And the sun, it slants a lot longer and earlier than it used to, so you're more likely to be out and about, doing things outside during that twilight time. That always reminds me of playing soccer out on the field.

OTHER PERSON

Hmmmm.

PERSON

The mood is really peaceful, even though you're yelling and kicking the ball at people.

OTHER PERSON

For you, that is a peaceful activity.

PERSON

It just feels like the beginning of things.

OTHER PERSON

Yeah, it always makes me feel like... I should be thinking about my classes. Early fall, to me, feels like change is coming. And if it isn't, then it ought to be. It's a weird, sort of anticipatory restless time. Like time's running out, you know?

PERSON

Hm. For me, it feels like it's just beginning.

OTHER PERSON

Hm.

PERSON

Full of possibilities.

OTHER PERSON

I guess that's why you're the optimist.

END OF PLAY.