

## Wilderness House Literary Review 12/1

*Richa Gupta*  
**Rays of Dawn**

It was dark and tempestuous,  
shadows crept out of crevices  
leering menacingly  
The bright eyes of night creatures  
gazed at her- ominous and threatening  
The moon was cold and distant,  
white mingled with silver, dispassionate, hostile  
The stars blinked maliciously  
eyeing and mocking her and her fruitless struggles  
to escape from the forest  
They twinkled and shone faintly  
deliberately gleaming weakly,  
so that she may lose her way once more  
The trees towered over her- skeletal, gaunt,  
they loomed portentously, offering a branch  
for sinister, baleful critters to perch on  
and direct their unswerving gaze at her  
The leaves rustled purposefully,  
as if their sole aim was to expose her position  
Trees camouflaged with the darkness,  
behaving like a wall of black-  
an impediment to her progress  
to escape from the forest  
Nocturnal animals howled, communicated eerily  
with sounds unearthly, with glittering eyes  
did they perceive the doe  
With haughty mockery did they consider  
her feeble attempts to return home  
She flew through the forest-  
the cold, foreboding forest  
She leaped about for endless hours,  
lost, bewildered, confused  
Until there came the ray of light,

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slicing through the sky in a shower of sparkles  
indicating approaching dawn  
The doe sat up hopefully, looking at the  
lush, green trees, amiable creatures,  
cordial birds flying about  
Carefully, retracing her steps, she found a path  
to escape from  
Heaving a sigh of relief, she looked up gratefully  
at the shimmering sun, and its golden light  
that had guided her to safety  
from the forest at night