

1959

He was twenty-one. I was nineteen. Neither one of us was well-traveled in this world. We had such a wonderful time on our wedding day that we didn't want to leave the wedding reception and stayed very late into the evening.

Sometime after 11:00 P.M. we got into our car and started for Niagara Falls. Excited and happy about all the events of the day, we drove and talked for hours, mindless of the late hour and the very rural country we were driving through. Eventually we realized that it was three A.M., we were running out of gas and were driving through the mountains in dense fog. Finally a light at the side of the road! A bar and restaurant with rooms for rent on the second floor, and the place was still open for business. The bridegroom was only out of the car a few moments and returned to say "not the kind of place for you, Honey, no way will I even let you step into that building".

At this point it began to dawn on us that perhaps we should have made reservations. After driving another thirty minutes it became apparent that there truly was no place to spend what was left of the night. We pulled off the road in pitch black darkness. The rear seat of the car was completely filled by a clothes pole, eliminating the possibility of each of us stretching out for some sleep. There we were, each sitting up, dressed in "going-away outfits" (it was 1959 and a suit, hat and corsage were de rigueur). We finally managed to fall asleep, only to be awakened by a New York State Trooper, tap, tap, tapping on the car window. "Are you kids all right in there?"

As he pulled out of the parking spot, my husband stopped the car, got out, and took a picture of the place where we had spent our wedding night!

Once we reached Niagara Falls, we truly did have a wonderful time. The falls were breathtaking and we explored the city gardens and museums. Over the years we have told this story countless times. Ours surely was a unique honeymoon!

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