

Fighting Sleep on a Lonely Country Road

A lonely country road
All around me darkness and silence
The moonless night a harbor of bad dreams and distant storms
Except for my headlights and reflections of passing signs
Ghastly outlines of eerie shadows
The white line my only anchor with reality
Tired eyes longing for sleep
But my brain saying not yet
Just a few more miles a few more curves in this winding road
The constant drone of the engine lulling me to sleep
Yet slumber is not an option
I must stay awake
Reality and fantasy blending like fog creeping through a valley
Casting shadows of fear and doubt
I cannot go to sleep
My mind playing tricks of the seen and unseen images on the road
Just another mile just another mile
Alas
The lights of my driveway a welcome reprieve
I am home
Sleep can now be my companion

—*Whitney K. Taylor*