

THE STORY OF ANGIE AND MICHAEL

Michael and Angie, both 17 years old, have been going together for about six months. According to Angie, their relationship was a dream-come-true. They were both seniors trying to do well and graduate. Angie met Michael's parents and they liked her and her parents liked Michael. They enjoyed hanging out at each other's homes. They had similar interests and similar dreams for the future, and really admired each other.

When summer came, Angie got a summer job and was accepted into the local community college. Although Michael was interested in working in the computer field, he decided to take the summer off to relax and enjoy himself before getting on with his life.

When school first let out, Michael met Angie after work most days to get a bite to eat and hang out. But by the middle of summer, Angie got tired of eating out together because she was paying most of the time. Michael got frustrated when Angie started saying she was "too busy" or hanging out with girlfriends. He asked her not to hang out with her girlfriends.

Angie started making up excuses not to spend time with Michael. Sometimes when she saw his number come up on the caller ID, she wouldn't answer. When Michael told her he thought he was losing her, she said he was imagining things. In the meantime she started noticing this cute guy on her job, Sam, who seemed very easy-going and fun.

Last Saturday Angie went to a family wedding with Michael and his family. It was a real nice day. Michael told Angie he wanted to marry her and was planning to give her a ring so everyone would know she was his woman. The image of herself in a beautiful wedding gown made her smile...but Angie had this nagging feeling in her chest...almost like she was suffocating.