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Timber Queen

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Timber Queen

Olympia Peninsula, Washington State

When the Sasquatch finally stumbles into Forks, he's tiny, the size of a grainy newspaper clip. Trish, the 1973 Timber Queen, spots him from her perch on the blue porch. As she stands to squint,

her fat feels wrong, like someone's mother's hand-me-down sweater. He might be a rat from the town dump but he walks upright and clutches a mess of maidenhair ferns.

She always knew he'd come too late to carry her into the Hoh rainforest where nothing dries so nothing dies completely: the robin's rotted wing lifts up as huckleberries sprout between its bones. When the Sasquatch finally stumbles into Forks, no one runs for a camera or rings the *Enquirer*. Trish gives him a bowl of dog chow soaked in water. The sun is so bright it ought to be warmer.