

medication which she does not have with her. She also suffers from anorexia and low blood sugar, and she was on a strict diet in October 2003. Monica was under a doctor's care at the time of her disappearance and may be in need of medical attention.

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### Details of Disappearance

Monica was last seen at her aunt and uncle's home four miles east of Balmorhea, Texas late in the evening of October 1, 2003. She is believed to have left the residence sometime between 11:00 p.m. on October 1 and 7:30 the next morning. She may have been carrying her large white or black Bible with her.

Extensive searches of the rural, rugged area around Monica's aunt and uncle's home have yielded no clues as to her whereabouts. Monica may have left the Balmorhea area to meet someone, possibly an individual she contacted through the Internet. Her aunt and uncle believe she may have become disoriented from her medications, left the house, and gotten a ride with a passing motorist, possibly on Highway 17 which runs near their home.

A bus driver allegedly harassed Monica in May 2003, five months before her disappearance. She did not report the incident to any official authority, but was so shaken by it that she refused to take the bus to school after that. The bus driver was interviewed and has been ruled out as a suspect in her disappearance, but Monica's uncle failed a lie detector test in relation to her case.

While Monica apparently left the house of her own accord, police believe she may be in danger. She became depressed following her father's death from bone cancer in 2000 and was hospitalized for the depression and anorexia nervosa after losing over fifty pounds. After she was released from the hospital, she decided to live with her aunt and uncle because she was angry with her mother. Monica's mother says their relationship problems were not serious, however, and she does not believe her daughter ran away.

Monica was a junior at Alpine High School at the time of her disappearance and is described as a very religious person. Her case remains unsolved.

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### Investigating Agency

If you have any information concerning this case, please contact:

**Reeves County Sheriff's Office**

**432-445-4901**

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### Source Information

[The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children](#)

[The Laura Recovery Center](#)

[Perverted Justice](#)

[Pecos Country of West Texas](#)

[Texas EquuSearch Mounted Search and Recovery Team](#)