# **Breath of Life**

Summers stretch on forever when you're young, but here in Orange Blossom and under this stifling heat - do you want it to?

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## The Witness

Maria Perez is a first year nursing student working summers as Head Lifeguard at the public pool. She got the gig because she could teach first aid and CPR to the teens, instead of hiring someone else to do it. Her source of the strength is that *she cares about people* and her personality trait is *vigilant*.

#### Other Characters

- Brad Andersen, rival lifeguard. Brad has worked at the pool more summers than Maria. He spends most of his time talking with his friends and ogling girls than lifeguarding.
- Mr. Cohen, committed swimmer. Mr. Cohen isn't a creep, but he's not exactly friendly.
  The kids have mostly driven the senior citizens to the beach or private pools, but Mr.
  Cohen is here everyday doing his laps like clockwork.
- Maîtresse Brown, retired high school French teacher. Mrs. Brown has taught at the high school forever - until the school board made her retire. She's the newest resident of the Orange Blossom Rest Community, but she isn't fitting in well.
- Sally Smith (?), fellow nursing student. Sally (?) is blonde and pretty, and people seem taken with her right away. She doesn't take it personally that no one can seem to remember her name or that they've met her before.

#### Location and Era

Orange Blossom, Florida's median age has risen 30 years in the last ten, when its beaches, hospital, and favorable taxation rate drew retiring seniors to the sleepy village. The summer of 1970 has been hot, and there just aren't many places for young people to hang out anymore.

#### Other Locations

- The Public Pool: It's dumb really, to build a pool so close to the beach that you can see it from on top the lifeguard's chair. The old folks prefer the beach, so that's something.
- Orange Blossom Rest Community: A collection of trailer homes on the edge of the village. It always seems like there are more trailers than the last time you saw it.

- The Swamp: If you're really bored, you could go out the edge of the swamp and drink beers and burn garbage like it was a bonfire.
- The Beach: It's a maze of beach chairs, towels, and scores of old people during the day. At night, it's blue and clear, but the undertow is vicious.

### **Special Cards**

- Anachronism
- Victims
- Spatiotemporal Distortions

## Breath of Life: Sample Clues

- Children's faces resemble the face of Resusci Anne, the practice resuscitation doll.
- A rumor of a blonde, teenaged girl in old fashioned clothes who was found drowned. The story goes that no one ever claimed her body.
- A Parisian newspaper, dated July 12th, 1880.
- They're only breathing in, never exhaling.
- The water is cold, dirty, and reeking of sewage.
- The sound of everyone's heartbeat is deafening.
- Coughing up lungfuls of water.
- An old woman aggressively believes the Witness is her daughter.
- The moon rises in the wrong phase. Except, the moon was already up.
- A yearbook in perfect condition, except that all of the faces have been carefully removed.
- A large peel of paraffin wax. One side is smooth, but the other has taken the impression of skin and has few, tiny hairs embedded in it.