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Shady Trail

...sometimes I can see Timmy skating with Linda under the yellow floodlights. I'm young and happy. I'll never die. I'm skimming across the surface of my own history, moving fast, riding the melt beneath the blades, doing loops and spins, and when I take a high leap into the dark and come down thirty years later, I realize it is as Tim trying to save Timmy's life with a story" (232-233).



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"It is during our darkest moments
that we must focus to see the
light"

-Aristotle Onassis

The Things They Carried

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- “How the **flashlight** seemed impossibly heavy in the hand and how it was **tunnel vision** in the very strictest sense...and how you found yourself worrying about odd things: **Will your flashlight go dead?**” (10) [symbolism]



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"And it was a restful,
unencumbered sensation, just
riding the light waves...beyond the
sun...where there were no
burdens and where everything
weighed exactly nothing...and so
at night, not quite dreaming, they
gave themselves over to lightness,
they were carried, and they were
purely borne" (22)
[metaphor]

"They were light and free—it was all lightness,
bright *and* fast *and* buoyant, light *as* light." (21)
[pun, polysyndeton, simile]

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Drafted

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“All around me the options seemed to be narrowing, *as* if I were hurtling down a huge black funnel” (41)
[simile]

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“I remember...
looking carefully at
the familiar objects
all around me...The
room was full of
bright sunshine.
Everything
sparkled.” (44)
[imagery]

Elroy Berdahl and Biblical Allusion

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"One evening, just at **sunset**, he pointed up at an owl circling over the violet-lighted forest to the west. 'Hey O'Brien' he said. 'There's *Jesus*.'" (47) [color motif, ethos]