

Squirrels Just Wanna Have Fun

by Jerry Ratch

"Emma," I said, "will you quit staring?
What about the meatpacker's hope for his daughter?"
I asked. "Have you even thought about that?"

"Once you get off the moon, maybe," she said
"Honestly, after so much lamb and schwarma
I could go for a good wheelbarrow of broccoli
Right about now"

We kept looking over at the man at the bar
No sign of life fell over the his face

"I like him," she stated
"But I think he's a moose hunter
At heart"

"All right, can you explain this photo of you then?" I asked
Showing her the selfie she took
In a car in bright pajamas
With a big print of yellow and blue
Squirrels on them

This was right after her boyfriend, Ben
Dumped her. Her dad hated Ben

She nodded, sheepishly
"Yeah, that's me
Shown here in pajamas

Asleep at the human wheel”

“Squirrels just wanna have fun,” she said
Looking down at her feet now
“And girls just wanna buy shoes
I guess”

“Yeah,” I said
“We're really scraping
The muffin bottom now
Aren't we?”

