

A Car Drives Into The Niagara Falls

LEVEL 3

ADVANCED



People **retrieved** a woman's body from a car that was close to the edge of the Niagara Falls on the US-Canada border.

The car was almost completely **submerged** with only a part of the roof and open trunk visible through the rapidly flowing water. Police used a drone to determine that it was occupied. In a dramatic rescue attempt on Wednesday, a US coast guard diver braved the **frigid** water where the car became submerged. The rescue was also dangerous from the icy wind coming off the falls. A helicopter lowered the diver who climbed into the car; however, it was too late to rescue the driver trapped inside.

According to police, the driver was a woman in her late 60s who lived in the area, and she likely drove into the Niagara River on purpose. It was unclear how exactly the car was in the river; however, witnesses reported seeing it floating near a bridge.

Difficult words: **retrieve** (to get or remove from somewhere), **submerge** (to go or make something go below the surface), **frigid** (very cold).



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Discussion Questions

Topic Talk

- 1. Define the following words: retrieve, submerge and frigid
- 2. What did people retrieve from a car that was seen close to the edge of the Niagara Falls?
- 3. Why did the police need to use a drone to know if someone was inside the car?
- 4. Why was the rescue dangerous for the diver?
- 5. Did the 60-year-old woman trapped inside the car survive?
- 6. What did the police believe happened to the woman?

Express Your Thoughts

- 1. Have you ever seen these beautiful wonders of the world, the Niagara Falls? *If yes,* Please tell me more. *If no,* would you like to see them one day?
- 2. Have you heard of any similar incident that happened in the Niagara Falls or Niagara River? What happened?
- 3. According to statistics, an estimated 5,000 bodies were found at the foot of the falls between 1850 and 2011 and the majority of deaths are suicides. Why do you think people choose to commit suicide in the Niagara Falls?