

## Melvin the Car

As Magdalene packed her car for yet another travel assignment, told Melvin how wonderful he was. She spent so much time with her car, she felt somehow attached to him. She even gave him a name, Melvin. They went everywhere together. He was sporty and had lots of room for her things.

Melvin was a unique model, no longer manufactured, called a Mazda MX-3. His hatch back allowed plenty of room to stack her things. The back seat even folded down to make more room.

After awhile, she had her packing strategy down to a science. For example, her books were lined up in the bottom of the trunk. They remained there all the time. No matter where she went, she always had her personal library with her. She didn't have to pack and unpack them each time she took a new assignment. She packed a suitcase of overnight things on the top for her stops along the way.

The point is: having a car with plenty of room is something to consider before you take an assignment. You want to be comfortable when you travel. On the other hand, another consideration is the fuel efficiency of the car. You may not want to get a car that is so big that it is a gas guzzler. You want a car like Melvin. He was cute, had plenty of room, reliable, and efficient and traveled with Magdalene wherever she wanted to go. What more could one ask for from a car? If you named your car, what do you think you would name it? Does it have all the characteristics you would want to have for a traveling companion?