

Golden 60

Chapter Sixty Arrival in Chengdu

The Hummer cruised smoothly on the highway. Zhuang Rui was now driving, while Liu Chuan lay sprawled on the sofa inside, drooling and snoring. Liu Chuan had been driving for over ten hours, from 6 PM yesterday to 7 or 8 AM this morning, which had taken a toll on him. When Zhuang Rui took over driving this morning, Liu Chuan had barely taken a couple of bites of bread before falling asleep.

Zhuang Rui had been driving for more than seven hours. Driving long distances is a very tedious thing. Zhuang Rui's originally excited nerves had become somewhat numb. Maintaining concentration for a long time is a very tiring thing. Even though the Hummer's steering wheel was very light and stable, Zhuang Rui was still a little overwhelmed. After all, it was his first time driving a long distance, and once the excitement wore off, he felt tired.

In the distance, another toll station appeared, with a huge sign that read: "Wanzhou People Welcome You." Seeing this sign, Zhuang Rui breathed a sigh of relief. They had finally entered Wanzhou territory. It seemed that Chengdu was not far away. Before going to sleep, Liu Chuan had told Zhuang Rui to wake him up when they reached the Wanzhou highway toll station so that they could refuel and rest there before continuing their journey.

After passing through the tollbooth, Zhuang Rui first pulled into a nearby gas station to fill up the tank. Then he parked on the buffer zone next to the highway entrance, about 300 meters away. He opened the window, and the cold wind blowing in made him feel much more alert. He lit a cigarette, took a satisfying puff, and then grabbed the passenger seat cushion and threw it at the sleeping Liu Chuan.

It's only because Liu Chuan is easygoing that he can sleep. If it were someone else, they definitely wouldn't be able to sleep. Imagine a novice driver who has only driven a few times, driving for seven or eight hours straight. Anyone would have trouble sleeping in the car. It's like entrusting your life to that person.

Liu Chuan rolled off the sofa with a tumble, but the carriage was actually quite clean, except for the cigarette ash he'd flicked away. After getting up, Liu Chuan groggily asked, "Huh? We're here? We're in Chengdu?"

"You wish! You've only just arrived in Wanzhou. Let's grab something to eat first..."

Hearing Zhuang Rui say that, Liu Chuan also felt his stomach rumbling. He hadn't had a proper meal since getting on the highway yesterday and was starving. He took out a few vacuum-packed bags of braised beef, braised chicken, and Peixian dog meat, heated them up in the car microwave, and ate them with the snacks he had packed in Hefei.

"You scoundrel, how much further until Chengdu? Hey, get out of the car and have a smoke. This nice car is covered in cigarette ash. When we get back, Brother Song will beat you up."

After eating and drinking to their hearts' content, Zhuang Rui got out of the car, lit another cigarette, and casually tossed the cigarette pack to Liu Chuan. He had smoked more cigarettes in the few hours he had driven than he usually smoked in several days.

"Tch, just spend 10 yuan to wash your car, and you won't see a thing."

Liu Chuan took the cigarette, lit it, and said nonchalantly.

"Nonsense, didn't you see you burned a hole in that leather sofa?" Zhuang Rui said, pointing to the spot where he had just been lying.

"Where? Where?"

Liu Chuan panicked and rushed to the car, searching everywhere with his rear end sticking out. He only realized he had been tricked when he heard Zhuang Rui laughing loudly behind him.

"Even if it's just a burnt hole, I'll say it was you who did it when we get back..."

Liu Chuan got out of the car dejectedly and looked at Zhuang Rui with an annoyed expression.

"Alright, how much further? Let's rest for a bit and then hit the road. Getting to Chengdu sooner will allow us to get a good night's sleep."

Although Zhuang Rui didn't drive last night, he had never slept in a car before. Even though the Hummer's shock absorption system was very good, and sleeping inside felt similar to being on a train, Zhuang Rui was still half asleep and half awake all night and didn't get a good rest.

Liu Chuan raised his wrist to check his watch and said, "It's not far now. I'll drive later. After passing Dianjiang, Nanchong, and Suining, we'll be in Chengdu. We should be there by 8 p.m. Then we'll find a bathhouse, have a nice meal, and I'll even send you a picture of a Sichuan girl. I guarantee she'll make you feel good to the core."

This guy never speaks seriously except in front of Lei Lei. Zhuang Rui ignored him, finished his cigarette, got into the car and lay down. He actually fell asleep in no time. It seems that people's habits are forced into them. Just like those only children in families nowadays, their parents have to chase after them all day to feed them. If you let them go hungry for a day, let's see if they will still be picky about food. Of course, the parents have to be ruthless.

When Zhuang Rui was woken up by Liu Chuan, the Hummer was driving on a not-so-wide road. There were a lot of cars, making it a bit crowded. However, under Liu Chuan's control, the Hummer was like a fish swimming, weaving left and right through the traffic. He drove this heavy big guy with the agility of a sports car.

Zhuang Rui wiped the drool from the corner of his mouth, turned on the car's roof light, checked the time—it was ten minutes to eight o'clock—sat up and looked out the window. Night had fallen, but the outside was brightly lit, as bright as day. The streets on both sides of the road were bustling with tourists, as if this was just the beginning of a new day. Zhuang Rui could only feel this way in Zhonghai. In Pengcheng this month, due to the cold weather, there were very few pedestrians on the streets at this time.

"I've booked the hotel. Let's have dinner first, then take a bath and rest for a couple of days before heading to Tibet."

Seeing Zhuang Rui sit up, Liu Chuan said without turning his head, and turned the steering wheel. Zhuang Rui saw the Hummer drive into an underground parking lot called "Jinjiang Hotel".

"When did you book the hotel? I didn't know. Also, one day of rest is enough, why take two? We can play after we finish our business earlier."

Zhuang Rui had been with Liu Chuan for the past few days and really didn't know how he booked the hotel. Moreover, what Liu Chuan said earlier puzzled Zhuang Rui: why stay in Chengdu for two days?

"Hey buddy, I booked the hotel online. How about that? This counts as e-commerce, right? Get out of the car, hurry up and get out."

Liu Chuan parked the car and said smugly, while urging Zhuang Rui to get out of the car.

"Booked a hotel online? You're up to no good, kid. Explain yourself properly. What's going on here? And why are you staying in Chengdu for two days?"

Zhuang Rui could believe that Liu Chuan had made a name for himself by playing online games, but he simply couldn't believe that Liu Chuan had booked the hotel room online while he was in Pengcheng. Putting aside everything else, he didn't even know how to type "Jinjiang Hotel" into his computer, and he had only recently become familiar with the term "e-commerce," let alone Liu Chuan.

Liu Chuan realized he had misspoke and his face turned bright red, but he stammered and refused to say anything. Zhuang Rui couldn't do anything about it, and the two of them entered the hotel lobby noisily.