

Golden 65

Chapter Sixty-Five: Entering Tibet (Part 1)

At 4:30 PM, Zhuang Rui woke up Liu Chuan and the others. They packed their belongings and checked out of the room.

The car that Bai Meng'an had borrowed was already waiting at the hotel entrance half an hour earlier. After learning about Bai Meng'an's background, his client, in order to build a good relationship with him, even sent him an experienced driver. The client said on the phone that the driver had been a special forces soldier in the army and could adapt to all kinds of harsh environments.

With someone driving, Bai Meng'an had time to chat with Qin Xuanbing, so she naturally didn't refuse. After thanking her over the phone, she agreed.

Just as they stepped out of the hotel lobby, a young man of about twenty-eight or twenty-nine years old, about 1.7 meters tall, came up to them. He glanced at them casually, then recognized Bai Meng'an. He stepped forward and said, "Are you Mr. Bai? I'm Zhou Rui. Mr. Wang asked me to bring you the car. We just spoke on the phone."

Bai Meng'an had just received a call from Zhou Rui. The voice was indeed that of the person on the other end of the line. She said politely, "Brother Zhou, you don't need to be so polite. Just call me by my name. I'm sorry to trouble you these next few days."

"You're welcome.....".

Zhou Rui didn't say much, and didn't seem to have much interest in the beautiful women around him. After exchanging a few polite words, he walked towards the Desert Prince SUV parked at the hotel entrance, opened the door, and waited for everyone to get in.

It's clear that the owner of this Desert Prince is an off-road enthusiast. Several large bumpers are welded to the vehicle's exterior, and the wheels are specially designed run-flat, anti-skid tires with internal steel wires, raised higher than regular tires to better handle mountainous terrain. Four jet nozzles at the rear, resembling missile launchers, further emphasize the powerful performance of this four-wheel-drive off-road vehicle.

For vehicles like these, the cost of modifications is often several times higher than the purchase price. This is true for Hummers, and the engine of this Desert Prince has obviously been modified as well, meaning the owner must have spent a considerable amount of money.

“Zhou Rui was introduced by a friend. He’s supposedly a retired special forces soldier with pretty good driving skills. Xuan Bing, Lei Lei, you two get in this car. It looks like it’s been modified, so it should have good shock absorption. We need to get to Litang County, which borders northern Sichuan and Tibet, today. The roads aren’t very good. You ladies can sit in the back, and I’ll sit in the passenger seat so I can switch with Zhou Rui tonight.”

There were three ladies traveling with him this time, and the back seat of the Desert Prince was spacious enough to seat three people, so he could sit in the front passenger seat. As for what kind of car Zhuang Rui and his friends would drive, Bai Meng'an hadn't given it much thought. On the phone, his client had confidently assured him that his modified off-road vehicle was definitely one of the best in the country.

While at the restaurant, Bai Meng'an discussed the route into Tibet with Liu Chuan. Clearly, he had done some research after returning home; otherwise, while Hong Kong people knew about Tibet, they would never know that there was a Litang County on the border between Tibet and Sichuan.

Qin Xuanbing remained silent after hearing this, looking noncommittal. Lei Lei glanced at Liu Chuan and said, "Da Chuan and the others also drove here. Why don't we let Yao Yao ride in the same car as us? Da Chuan said his car has more space inside."

As Lei Lei spoke, she nudged Liu Chuan, signaling him to bring the car out. Liu Chuan had boasted about it to her several times on the phone, and Lei Lei vowed that if the car he brought didn't meet her expectations, she would teach him a lesson.

Liu Chuan grinned, handed a travel bag that was at least a meter long to Zhuang Rui, and scurried off to the parking lot. He was happy to show off like this. He figured when he got his car, the desert prince in front of him would be nothing more than a country bumpkin next to the Hummer.

Bai Meng'an's words just now made Liu Chuan very unhappy. Lei Lei is his girlfriend. Even if he rides a bicycle to Tibet, he will tie Lei Lei to the back seat. Why should he ride on someone else's bike? However, he can only think about it in his heart. If Lei Lei knew what Liu Chuan was thinking, she would definitely make him regret having so much soft flesh around his waist.

In just three to five minutes, Liu Chuan drove the Hummer to the hotel entrance, and with a showy drift, parked the car next to the Desert Prince, attracting the attention of the guests coming in and out of the hotel. You have to understand, in 2003, Hummers were extremely rare in China, especially this six-wheeled Hummer, which looked like a tank. Now, the Desert Prince looks extremely ordinary, and there is no comparison between the two.

Standing beside the Desert Prince vehicle, Zhou Rui, who had remained expressionless until he saw Liu Chuan driving the Hummer, couldn't help but light up. Even Bai Meng'an, who had over a dozen world-famous cars in his Hong Kong garage, was stunned by this behemoth. Compared to his BMWs and Ferraris, this car was the kind of vehicle a man should drive. At this moment, Bai Meng'an had already made up his mind to buy the latest Hummer as soon as he returned to Hong Kong.

It seemed that Qin Xuanbing and the others no longer needed to consider whose car to ride in. Not to mention that Bai Mengyao had already opened the Hummer door and climbed in immediately, even Bai Meng'an wished she could get in the car herself. Compared to the Desert Prince, the Hummer was undoubtedly several levels better in terms of space, stability, and shock absorption.

However, Bai Meng'an had spoken rather confidently earlier, and now she couldn't go back on her word, so she could only reluctantly board the Desert Prince.

Liu Chuan drove the Hummer ahead, found a Sichuan restaurant specializing in Sichuan cuisine, had a meal, and then, at Zhou Rui's suggestion, bought several bottles of high-proof Luzhou Laojiao liquor. According to Zhou Rui, liquor is a very important item in the wild, and can often play an unexpected role. Out of respect for the professionals, Liu Chuan bought a whole case of 12 bottles. However, according to Zhuang Rui, this guy was purely buying it for himself to drink.

When they set off again, the SUV was in the lead. Zhou Rui was very familiar with the route into Tibet, so the task of leading the way was naturally given to him. In contrast to the two men in the Desert Prince who were relatively silent, the Hummer was filled with fragrant breezes and the sounds of birdsong, making it lively and bustling. This caused Zhuang Rui, who was driving, to glance at the rearview mirror from time to time. Not to mention Liu Chuan, who was sitting in the passenger seat and preparing to drive the second half of the night, he wished that his parents had not given him a girl so that he could join in.

After leaving Chengdu city, the car turned onto the Chengya Expressway. The SUV in front maintained a speed of around 100 kilometers per hour. After more than an hour, it entered National Highway 218

from the Xikang Bridge. This section of the road was easy to drive, so Liu Chuan let Zhuang Rui drive for the first half of the night. In the second half of the night, it was mostly mountain roads. On those roads, even if Zhuang Rui dared to drive, the people in the car probably wouldn't dare to ride.

"Liu Chuan, what's in this box?"

The bamboo and rattan box that Zhuang Rui bought in Hefei was exquisitely woven and attracted the attention of several girls.

"Those are treasures Zhuang Rui found, hehe, I got one too, you guys can pick whichever you like,"

Liu Chuan didn't stand on ceremony and used the things Zhuang Rui bought to do him a favor, although he did pay for the things himself.