

SEE DAD RUN

by

HOPEFUL WRITER

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INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

SO-YUNG (26) LAYS ON A COUCH WITH THE TV BLARING IN THE BACKGROUND. MIN-WOO (50) COMES RUSHING THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR.

MIN-WOO

Get your ass up. There is a concert in Seoul this weekend and we are going.

SO-YUNG just stares at him as MIN-WOO begins packing a backpack.

SO-YUNG

I have been running around all day pulling people around in those damn rickshaws. All the money I made is on the table in the kitchen. Just let me lay here and die so I can be with mom.

MIN-WOO

Stop being so dramatic. Your mom would have you cleaning the house right now if she was still here. I am cursed with a useless child now after losing my wife.

MIN-WOO surprisingly is already packed and ready.

MIN-WOO

Hurry up. I'll meet you outside.

SO-YUNG

No. No, Dad. You don't get to push me out of the house after working a full day to run 20 miles to Seoul. I can't keep living like this.

MIN-WOO

I have heard this for 26 years.

SO-YUNG

(Beat)

Dad, I am 26 years old.

MIN-WOO

Yes. Every time you cried as a child I knew it meant you were too cold, too hungry, too unhappy. Your mom has been gone for 2 years. And now I get to hear the same thing come out of your mouth every day for 2 years.

SO-YUNG

Not every day.

MIN-WOO

Every day!

SO-YUNG is lost in his thoughts as MIN-WOO places his bags down. The television blasts a commercial with Usain Bolt selling a brand of green tea.

MIN-WOO

See. You could have been faster than him if you tried.

SO-YUNG

Yeah? Well, you are slowing down old man. You can't keep doing this. You're gonna have to give this life up pretty soon.

SO-YUNG stops talking abruptly and begins to think about what he said. All the courage he mustered had left him when he realized his father already knew what he was telling him.

MIN-WOO

(Agitated)

Then keep up, boy!

MIN-WOO slams the door behind him as he leaves. SO-YUNG rolls onto his stomach and yells in his pillow.

EXT. ROAD - DAY

SO-YUNG and MIN-WOO run pulling rickshaws on a narrow paved street with soft orange dirt surrounding it.

SO-YUNG

I'm sorry for what I said.

MIN-WOO

Yeah. You're always sorry.

SO-YUNG

No, I am really sorry. I just worry about you. You think you are gonna be able to do this job forever.

MIN-WOO

What are you jabbering on about? I will always do this job. You can barely keep up with me. And you call the money you left on the table a days work? You probably worked for 3 hours before your feet hurt and you had to take a nap. You don't try. If you would just try a little bit. Just a fraction of effort you could succeed in anything you wanted.

SO-YUNG

(Angrily)

Oh yeah?

SO-YUNG begins to run faster as MIN-WOO keeps a steady pace. SO-YUNG continues outpacing MIN-WOO until he can no longer see him.

SO-YUNG

I can't keep up huh? Well, where are you now old man? I could run this fast all the way to Seoul if I wanted to!

SO-YUNG speeds up to a full sprint.

SO-YUNG

I don't push myself? I push myself every day. I never even wanted to pull these damn rickshaws.

SO-YUNG begins to slow down to a stop. He breathes heavily. He looks back and still can not see MIN-WOO behind him.

SO-YUNG

You wanna do this forever? Then here!

SO-YUNG rolls his rickshaw to the dirt road and leaves it there. He begins walking away.

SO-YUNG

If he wants it so bad he can pull both of them. I never wanted this. I never asked for this.

EXT. ROAD - SUNSET

SO-YUNG walks on the dirt road lost in his thoughts. MIN-WOO runs on the paved street pulling both rickshaws at a slightly slower pace. As MIN-WOO passes SO-YUNG he says nothing and as SO-YUNG sees him he begins to jog next to him.

SO-YUNG

Hey Dad.

MIN-WOO ignores him.

SO-YUNG

Dad, I'm sorry.

MIN-WOO continues to ignore him.

SO-YUNG

Here, just let me take one.

As SO-YUNG begins to detach the rickshaw MIN-WOO stops and violently slaps his hand away. MIN-WOO re-attaches both rickshaws and continues running. SO-YUNG continues to run beside him.

EXT. CITY STREETS - DAY

MIN-WOO

Traditional Korean rides! Hop on!

MIN-WOO and SO-YUNG park their rickshaws at a busy street corner.

AMERICAN WOMAN

Oh, honey look! It's a cart where the little oriental man pulls you around in a cart. How fun. And he speaks English.

A large American man and woman enter MIN-WOO's rickshaw. As they both sit down MIN-WOO's rickshaws begins to creak and a look of worry crosses his face.

SO-YUNG

Actually, sir. Why don't you ride in my cart. My father and I can keep the same pace so you and the missus will stay next to each other.

The large American man switches to SO-YUNG's cart with an annoyed gruff. SO-YUNG smiles at MIN-WOO who recognizes the help.

AMERICAN WOMAN

Oh, now all we need is a small  
little oriental girl who can give  
me a pedicure and this would be  
perfect.

SO-YUNG and MIN-WOO smile at her as they take them both to the concert.

EXT. CONCERT ENTRANCE - DAY

SO-YOUNG and MIN-WOO drop off their customers and begin looking for others to transport.

MIN-WOO

I appreciate you helping.

SO-YUNG

Those fat Americans would have  
killed you on that downhill.

MIN-WOO pauses and begins to laugh hysterically.

MIN-WOO

You always have something smart to  
say, don't you?

SO-YUNG

Yeah. Like father like son. I am  
sorry though.

MIN-WOO

You are always sorry. And I always  
forgive you.

SO-YUNG and MIN-WOO smile at each other.

SO-YUNG

Do you miss her?

MIN-WOO pauses and looks up into the sky.

MIN-WOO

Lord, why do you curse me with  
this useless child?

SO-YUNG laughs and pauses.

SO-YUNG

You aren't actually talking to God  
are you?

MIN-WOO hides his face.

MIN-WOO

Come boy. Our day isn't done yet.

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

SO-YUNG

I thought you said we were working  
all weekend?

MIN-WOO

Nah, I just said that because  
you're lazy. We made more than  
enough today.

SO-YUNG

Enough for what?

MIN-WOO

You know, boy. I have given you  
everything I can. You have 2  
strong legs that will carry you  
anywhere you want to go. But I  
can't pick your direction.

SO-YUNG

What is that supposed to mean?

MIN-WOO

It means, this is a start of a new  
journey. A new place to go in the  
direction you choose.

SO-YUNG

So no more rickshaws?

MIN-WOO

No more rickshaws for you. I have  
given you 2 strong legs to take  
you as far as you can go. And when  
the day does come when I can no  
longer pull my rickshaw I expect  
those same 2 legs to bring you  
back to me.

THE END