A Cabbie to the Rescue

When Shiuan Liu climbed into a taxi following a conference in Taiwan, she expected to find a typical, hard-nosed cabbie. Instead, she met the inquisitive Mr. Wong.

"What do you do?" he asked.

She said she was pursuing a degree in psychology.

"People need psychology," he declared, launching into the story of his recent adventure.

A young woman had hailed his cab about half past 5 in the morning and asked him to take her to the beach. When they reached the rocky Oceanside on the city's outskirts, she paid her fare, then walked into the distance alone.



Driving away, Mr. Wong was overcome by an unsettling feeling, so he went back to find her. Squinting into the coming dawn, he spotted her struggling against the sea's choppy currents. He swam out and dragged her to the shore, where she collapsed, weeping. When she calmed down, he took her to the hospital.

"So," Shiuan said, "you think the girl needs 'psychology'?"

"No," replied Mr. Wong. "I need psychology!"

After he reported the incident to his dispatcher, Mr. Wong was overwhelmed by radio calls from co-workers telling him the girl had been lured into the water by spirits, and that by interfering with their spell, he would incur their wrath. He'd had trouble sleeping ever since.

Shiuan reminded Mr. Wong he had saved a life – and heaven would remember.

It may come as a surprise that good deeds get criticized, yet it happens. You can't always stop the naysayers from sowing seeds of doubt, but like Shiuan, you can offer assurance to those who are struggling that their efforts do not go unnoticed.

– Beecher Hunter