Riding U

Kyungsoo let out a quiet grumble as he made his way out of his house. Being a college student, he didnt always have the luxury of getting a full 8 hours of sleep every night. Thank the gods above his parents provide him enough money to get Uber everyday because he swears he probably can't take more than 5 steps in commuting without falling apart from tiredness. "Good morning, sir" the driver greeted him with a blinding smile. Kyungsoo was caught off guard with the greeting. Drivers we're usually as grumpy as he is in the morning. He was too focused on the driver's happiness that he realized he's been staring at him for an awkward amount of time without replying. Kyungsoo panicked and before he can decide what to say from the plethora of possible replies he came up with in his mind, the driver already broke the silence. "Tough night?” Yeah I understand. I hope you have a better day though". Guilt washed over Kyungsoo. The driver, what was his name again? He checked his phone for it. Jongin. Jongin was just trying to brighten up his passenger's day up and here he was ignoring his greeting. "Yeah, I had to finish like 4 projects in one night" Kyungsoo saw Jongin's face turn from shock to a smile. "Well, I hope you won't fall asleep in any of your classes" Jongin stated with a little laughter. "I'll try my best". Kyungsoo and Jongin chatted all the way to his school only to be interrupted by Jongin's phone annoucing that they have arrived in their destination. Kyungsoo felt this weird pull, as if it's telling him not exit the car. "Have a nice day, Kyungsoo" said Jongin. Kyungsoo knew he already had a nice day because of their encounter so he smiled and said "You too, Jongin". As if the vast universe conspired to bring them together again, they continued to match in Uber for almost every day. "Aaand we're here, you know the walk from your house to your school isn't that far" said Jongin as he put a stop to his vehicle. "You say that as if you're tired of driving me here every day" Kyungsoo feigned hurt. "Absolutely not, I like driving you every day! It's gives me a great start to my day" Jongin said almost too enthusiastically. Kyungsoo immediately took his wallet to hide the pink flush in his cheeks. "Here's the payment" the coins trickled down from his hands and cluttered everywhere. In his embarrasment, Kyungsoo frantically picked up the money scattered as Jongin tried to help. If Kyungsoo was blushing pink awhile ago, he was sure that his whole face was burning red now. Their hands met in the midst of their distraught. Their eyes were now locked to each other's. His shoulders relaxed as he observed the fan of lashes above Jongin's eyes. Kyungsoo knew he could stay like this forever. He was so sure the heat from Jongin's golden skin is enough to keep him warm from the cold dry days ahead. The ring of the school bell echoed in Kyungsoo's ears causing him to frenziedly open the car door, collect his things, and rush away from Jongin's presence. Kyungsoo thought it was the end of that. But he couldn't be more wrong. Maybe it was the way Jongin locked his seatbelt for him when he forgot to do so one time, or maybe when Jongin offered to carry his heavy project from the trunk the other day, or maybe it's the way that his deep brown eyes stare at him, but somewhere along the way, Kyungsoo started to question his feelings for Jongin. All he knew was that he found his home right in the passenger seat of his car. Eyes fluttering open, Kyungsoo was more than excited to start his day. Almost skipping his way to his kitchen humming along to whatever song was in radio his dad once left at his house. He found himself wondering what Jongin is doing at that moment, before getting ready to pick him up. After finishing his breakfast, he checked the time and grabbed his phone from the kitchen counter. His felt his heart drop to his stomach as he saw that Uber is no longer offering its services. He shakily downloaded the Grab application in the hopes of maybe finding Jongin there. Kyungsoo didn't see Jongin that day. In fact, Kyungsoo never saw Jongin again. Until, of course, when he was running an errand for his mom right down the market place near his school. He was on his way home, texting his mother to make sure he bought the right shade of paint to match her living room curtains when he saw him, still radiant as ever. His throat tightened, as if he down 6 shots, seeing him with a woman, Sao and their son, Dan. They were brimming with joy and their eyes were overflowing with exuberance, particularly his. His eyes always conveyed his feelings. It showed anger when a driver once swerved in front of them, causing him to hit the brakes too hard. It displayed exhaustion that one time he stayed up too late because of a bunch of drunken teenage passengers who made him drive back and forth across town. It mirrored happiness when he first said his good morning to Kyungsoo. He found his eyes most beautiful when happy and right now, next to her, he's the most entrancing. Kyungsoo prayed to whoever is listening, to let him catch his gaze once more. As their eyes met again, Kyungsoo search for answers in a pair of chocolate brown eyes as he felt hot tears flowing from his. Jongin looked away and continued to pass by with his family. Kyungsoo felt nothing except the impact of his knees to ground. He felt dizzy and drained out, mustering all the energy left in his body to fish his phone out of the bag of paint cans. He saw texts from his mother going on about how "aqua blue" is drastically different from "seafoam green". He clicked the application of Grab, figuring his heartbreak wont help his frail legs to walk home. In a matter of minutes, a fuchsia pink car parked in front of him with the corresponding plate number he matched with. He entered the vehicle and was greeted by his driver, Ronald. "Good morning sir" Kyungsoo knew falling for a driver didn't end up well the last time, but he also knew he won't be able to stop himself from doing so. Well, basta driver, sweet lover, Kyungsoo thought to himself.

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