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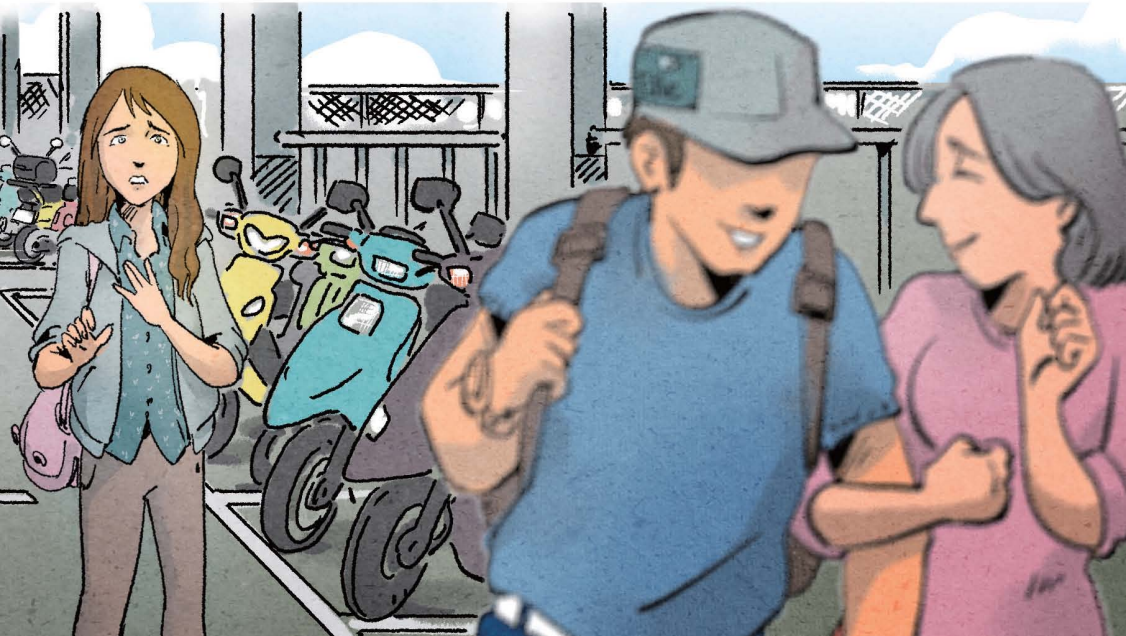


My Cheated Heart

Elle couldn't wait to tell everyone that she finally graduated! She was going to share this good news with her boyfriend. Elle ran as fast as she could to get on her scooter.

When Elle was about to leave for the parking lot, she saw a familiar man wearing a hat. It was her boyfriend. She could recognize the hat, and she couldn't be wrong because it had a sticker on the hat that was the same as Elle's. They had signed their names on each other's hats.

Is this a surprise? Elle thought. Her heart jumped, but it dropped right away when she saw her boyfriend holding a woman's hand. The woman happened to be Elle's best friend.



For what felt like a year but probably was only a minute, Elle couldn't breathe.

When Elle's boyfriend saw her, he quickly let go of the woman's hand. "Baby, why are you here? I can explain it. It is not what it looks like. I can explain, baby. It is not what you think. Listen to me."

Elle looked at them silently for a moment, and then she turned around and ran away.

Elle's phone kept ringing. The phone screen showed "Baby."

But Elle was too angry to pick up the phone. She was sad, tired, and very angry, but she couldn't go back to her house. Back there her now ex-boyfriend was falling in love with her fake BFF, her lying "Best Friend Forever."

Only a month ago, everything had been great. Elle had been happy about her graduation and planned to take a trip with her boyfriend and her best friend. But now her beautiful world didn't feel real. Her boyfriend was **cheating** on her with her best friend.

This must be a bad movie; I can't believe this is happening to me, she thought. He was her first boyfriend, and she had thought they had been meant to be together forever. But now her dream was falling apart. The phone kept ringing. She was not sure if she should answer it, and her head was full of their memories. He had promised her that he would love her and take care of her. Now she felt she was going crazy. She held her phone in two hands, looking down at it. "Enough!" She sent a message. "It's over!" Then she threw the phone into her bag. The tears started streaming down her face.



The Unknown Message

She did not remember how long she had sat on the bench in the small park near her college. The noise of cars and crowds never stopped, but she heard nothing. There were tears on her face, and she did not know how many times and how long she had cried. People slowed down and looked at her as they passed by, but she did not care.

Elle had a good taste in fashion, and she knew how to make herself look good. She was 163 cm tall, was fit, and looked good in a skirt. But today she couldn't care less how she looked.

Suddenly, her phone made a strange beep. She dug her phone out of her bag to see what made the strange sound. It was a message. It said:

"Tired of doing the same things every day? Want to escape from your work or school life? Want to experience something new and meet people from different parts of the world? *Go Anywhere Travel Agency* is now looking for a new staff member. You need to have good communication skills, as well as be knowledgeable about tourism and online travel services. We prefer to have people who can speak more than two languages. Want to know more about the job and the salary? Contact us at +886-6-264-7633 or send us an email at goanywhere@thmail.com. We look forward to meeting you!"

Elle usually didn't care about messages from people she did not know, but today was different. She had no place to go, and she only had NT\$3,000 dollars left in her bank account. And she really needed to get away from her life.

She searched about the Go Anywhere Travel Agency. It had a 4.9-star review on Google. She read the comments.



★★★★★ (a year ago)

"Acceptable price and the tour guide was nice and easy-going."



★★★★★ (two months ago)

"Our local tour guide Kevin was great and knew a lot about Taiwanese culture and places of interest. The local Taiwanese food he recommended was great. We had a good time!"



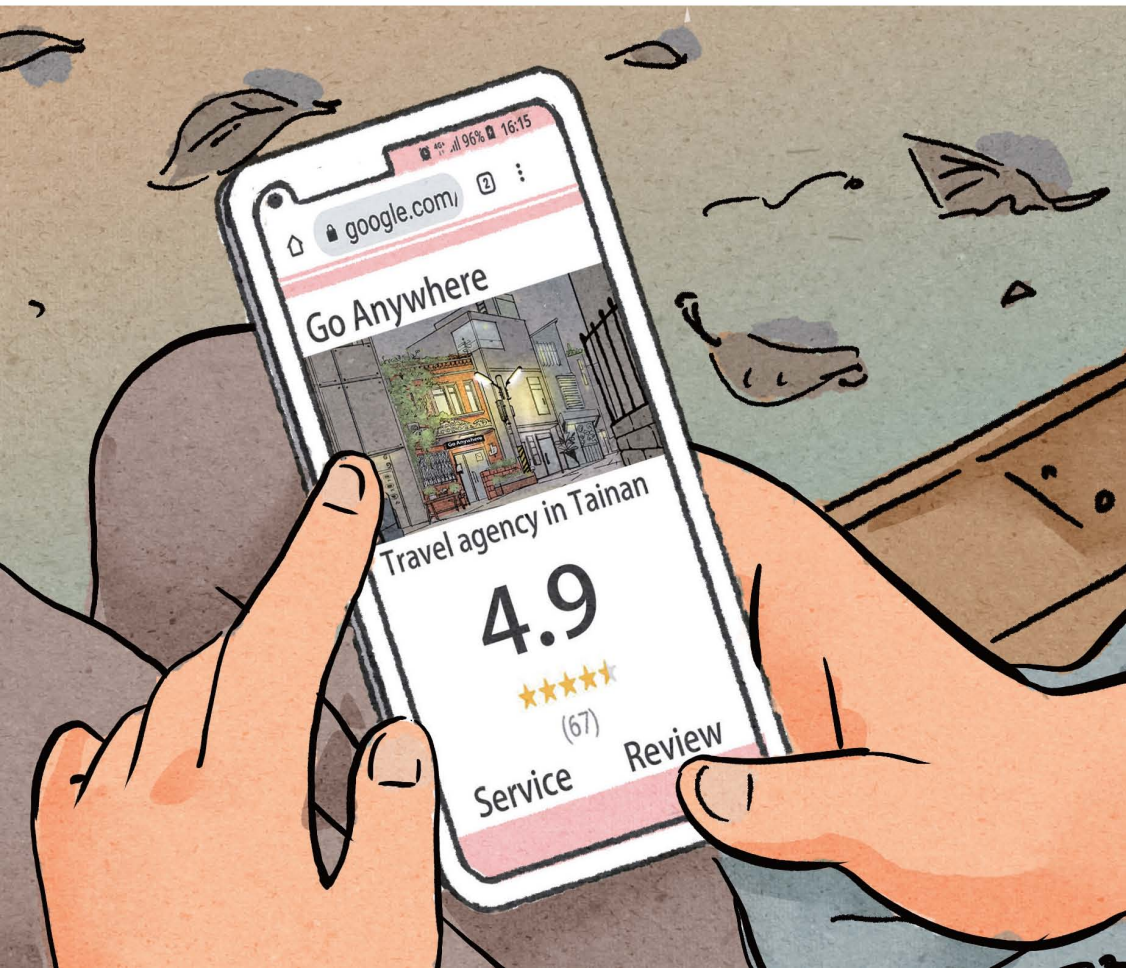
★★★★★ (three weeks ago)

"The staff of the travel agency was nice enough to answer our questions almost 24/7. My girlfriend and I had a good time!"



★★★★★ (more than a year ago)

"If you are lucky, you might have a chance to make up your past mistakes. If you are lucky enough..."



Did someone leave this message in the wrong place? Elle wondered, but it was not important. There was not much information about the company, but the reviews looked fine to Elle. So she decided to phone Go Anywhere.

"Hello," said a middle-aged woman who answered the phone.

"This is Go Anywhere Travel Agency. How may I help you?"

"Hi, my name is Elle. I'm calling to ask about the job opportunity. I got a message on my phone. Are you looking for someone? I don't have much work experience, but . . . I'll work hard and do my best," Elle said, feeling nervous and tired.

"Wait a minute. Could you please slow down? If you are asking about the job position, yes, we are looking for an employee. But you have to pass the interview first."

"Of course. Can I make an **appointment** with you about the interview?"

"No need, you don't have to make an appointment. If you are the one we are looking for," the woman said quietly with her flat voice.

"But—"

"I will send you the address," the woman said, speaking quickly now. "Our office hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., Monday to Friday; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Saturday. We look forward to seeing you in the future." Then she hung up the phone.

"Hello? Hello?" *What a strange conversation!* Elle thought to herself, but she was too tired to think about anything.

Elle checked the address. The travel agency was in Tainan, about five hours away from Taipei. She had visited Tainan several times with friends, but she had limited knowledge of the city. Also, she had never traveled alone before. She usually traveled with someone, but today she just needed to get away.

When Elle arrived at the bus station, she bought a one-way bus ticket from Taipei to Tainan. She had no idea where she would go and what her next step was, but nothing could stop her. She held the ticket tightly in her hand and got on the bus. She turned off her phone. She was determined to start a new chapter in her life.