My dad has many friends, a Chinese short story for HSK 2

In his first week of school, six-year-old Wáng Lěi is asked what his dad does. He doesn't say “taxi driver”.

你爸爸是做什么的？我六岁的时候，老师也问过我！
Nǐ bàba shì zuò shénme de? Wǒ liù suì de shíhou, lǎoshī yě wènguo wǒ!
What does your dad do? When I was six, my teacher asked me that too!

那时候，我爸爸开出租车。他每天晚上出去，早上回家。
Nà shíhou, wǒ bàba kāi chūzūchē. Tā měi tiān wǎnshang chūqu, zǎoshang huí jiā.
Back then, my dad drove a taxi. He went out every evening and came home in the morning.

我上小学的第一个星期，老师问每一个孩子：“你爸爸是做什么的？”
Wǒ shàng xiǎoxué de dì yī ge xīngqī, lǎoshī wèn měi yí ge háizi: “Nǐ bàba shì zuò shénme de?”
In my first week of primary school, the teacher asked every child: “What does your dad do?”

一个孩子说：“我爸爸是医生。”一个说：“我爸爸是老师。”
Yí ge háizi shuō: “Wǒ bàba shì yīshēng.” Yí ge shuō: “Wǒ bàba shì lǎoshī.”
One child said: “My dad is a doctor.” One said: “My dad is a teacher.”

然后到我了。我站起来，可是没说“出租车”。你猜，我说了什么？
Ránhòu dào wǒ le. Wǒ zhàn qǐlai, kěshì méi shuō “chūzūchē”. Nǐ cāi, wǒ shuōle shénme?
Then it was my turn. I stood up, but I didn't say “taxi”. Guess what I said?

我说：“我爸爸有很多朋友。每天晚上，他们坐他的车，他带他们走。”
Wǒ shuō: “Wǒ bàba yǒu hěn duō péngyou. Měi tiān wǎnshang, tāmen zuò tā de chē, tā dài tāmen zǒu.”
I said: “My dad has many friends. Every night they get in his car, and he takes them away.”

老师问：“带到哪儿去？”我说：“不知道。可是他们给他钱。”
Lǎoshī wèn: “Dài dào nǎr qù?” Wǒ shuō: “Bù zhīdào. Kěshì tāmen gěi tā qián.”
The teacher asked: “Takes them where?” I said: “I don't know. But they give him money.”

老师又问：“他认识这些朋友吗？”我说：“不认识！”
Lǎoshī yòu wèn: “Tā rènshi zhèxiē péngyou ma?” Wǒ shuō: “Bú rènshi!”
The teacher asked again: “Does he know these friends?” I said: “No!”

我还说：“他早上回家，把钱都放在桌子上。”
Wǒ hái shuō: “Tā zǎoshang huí jiā, bǎ qián dōu fàng zài zhuōzi shang.”
And I said: “He comes home in the morning and puts all the money on the table.”

放学的时候，老师对我妈妈说：“明天请孩子的爸爸来一下学校。”
Fàng xué de shíhou, lǎoshī duì wǒ māma shuō: “Míngtiān qǐng háizi de bàba lái yíxià xuéxiào.”
After school, the teacher said to my mom: “Please ask his dad to come to the school tomorrow.”

妈妈看着爸爸：“你做什么了？”爸爸说：“没做什么啊！”
Māma kànzhe bàba: “Nǐ zuò shénme le?” Bàba shuō: “Méi zuò shénme a!”
My mom looked at my dad: “What did you do?” My dad said: “Nothing!”

第二天，爸爸开车来了学校，车就在外面。我也在。
Dì èr tiān, bàba kāi chē láile xuéxiào, chē jiù zài wàimian. Wǒ yě zài.
The next day, my dad drove to the school and parked right outside. I was there too.

老师很严肃：“王磊爸爸，孩子说您每天晚上开车带走不认识的人，然后他们给您钱。”
Lǎoshī hěn yánsù: “Wáng Lěi bàba, háizi shuō nín měi tiān wǎnshang kāi chē dàizǒu bú rènshi de rén, ránhòu tāmen gěi nín qián.”
The teacher was very serious: “Wáng Lěi's dad, your son says that every night you drive away people you don't know, and then they give you money.”

爸爸说：“对啊。没错。”
Bàba shuō: “Duì a. Méi cuò.”
My dad said: “Yes. That's right.”

老师没说话。她看起来有点儿怕。
Lǎoshī méi shuōhuà. Tā kàn qǐlai yǒudiǎnr pà.
The teacher said nothing. She looked a little afraid.

爸爸不知道为什么。然后他说：“老师，您看外面。那辆车是我的。”
Bàba bù zhīdào wèishénme. Ránhòu tā shuō: “Lǎoshī, nín kàn wàimian. Nà liàng chē shì wǒ de.”
My dad didn't know why. Then he said: “Teacher, look outside. That car is mine.”

老师看了那辆车很久。然后她的脸红了。
Lǎoshī kànle nà liàng chē hěn jiǔ. Ránhòu tā de liǎn hóng le.
The teacher looked at the car for a long time. Then her face went red.

她说：“哦……出租车。”她说了很多次对不起，还送爸爸到门口。
Tā shuō: “Ò…… chūzūchē.” Tā shuōle hěn duō cì duìbuqǐ, hái sòng bàba dào ménkǒu.
She said: “Oh… a taxi.” She said sorry many times, and walked my dad to the door.

到了门口，她看了看时间，又问了一个问题：
Dàole ménkǒu, tā kànle kàn shíjiān, yòu wènle yí ge wèntí:
At the door, she looked at the time and asked one more question:

“王磊爸爸……您现在有空吗？我要去火车站。”
“Wáng Lěi bàba…… nín xiànzài yǒu kòng ma? Wǒ yào qù huǒchēzhàn.”
“Wáng Lěi's dad… are you free right now? I need to get to the train station.”

Words in the story

做什么的
zuò shénme de
what (someone) does for work

开出租车
kāi chūzūchē
to drive a taxi

小学
xiǎoxué
primary school

孩子
háizi
child

医生
yīshēng
doctor

到我了
dào wǒ le
it was my turn

带……走
dài…… zǒu
to take (someone) away

认识
rènshi
to know (a person)

放学
fàng xué
school is out

严肃
yánsù
serious

没错
méi cuò
that's right

有点儿怕
yǒudiǎnr pà
a little afraid

辆
liàng
(the word for counting cars)

脸红了
liǎn hóng le
(her) face went red

有空
yǒu kòng
to be free, to have time

火车站
huǒchēzhàn
train station

Hear this story from an AI chatbot: kotokin.com/learn/chinese/stories/my-dad-has-many-friends