The six o'clock train, a Chinese short story for HSK 1

Wáng Lěi's train leaves at six. It is five twenty, and the station is far. Will he make it?

你喜欢坐火车吗？我有一个火车的故事！
Nǐ xǐhuan zuò huǒchē ma? Wǒ yǒu yí ge huǒchē de gùshi!
Do you like taking the train? I have a train story!

有一天下午，我要坐火车去上海。我有两个大包。
Yǒu yì tiān xiàwǔ, wǒ yào zuò huǒchē qù Shànghǎi. Wǒ yǒu liǎng ge dà bāo.
One afternoon, I had a train to catch to Shànghǎi. I had two big bags.

我上了出租车，对司机说："去火车站！快！我的火车六点开！"
Wǒ shàngle chūzūchē, duì sījī shuō: "Qù huǒchēzhàn! Kuài! Wǒ de huǒchē liù diǎn kāi!"
I got into a taxi and said to the driver: "To the train station! Fast! My train leaves at six!"

我看了看时间：五点二十。火车站很远。
Wǒ kànle kàn shíjiān: wǔ diǎn èrshí. Huǒchēzhàn hěn yuǎn.
I looked at the time: five twenty. The train station is far.

六点以前，我们能到火车站吗？你猜！
Liù diǎn yǐqián, wǒmen néng dào huǒchēzhàn ma? Nǐ cāi!
Could we get to the station before six? Guess!

司机说："坐好！"他开得很快很快。
Sījī shuō: "Zuò hǎo!" Tā kāi de hěn kuài hěn kuài.
The driver said: "Hold on!" He drove very, very fast.

我看了看手机：五点半了！
Wǒ kànle kàn shǒujī: wǔ diǎn bàn le!
I looked at my phone: five thirty!

路上车很多。司机就走小路。
Lùshang chē hěn duō. Sījī jiù zǒu xiǎo lù.
There were lots of cars on the road. So the driver took the small roads.

"五点四十了！"我很着急。
"Wǔ diǎn sìshí le!" Wǒ hěn zháojí.
"Five forty!" I was so worried.

司机说："没事儿，我们能到！"
Sījī shuō: "Méi shìr, wǒmen néng dào!"
The driver said: "Don't worry, we'll make it!"

五点五十，我们到了火车站。还有十分钟！
Wǔ diǎn wǔshí, wǒmen dàole huǒchēzhàn. Hái yǒu shí fēnzhōng!
At five fifty, we were at the train station. Ten minutes to spare!

我太高兴了！我给了他钱，说："谢谢！你是北京最好的司机！"
Wǒ tài gāoxìng le! Wǒ gěile tā qián, shuō: "Xièxie! Nǐ shì Běijīng zuì hǎo de sījī!"
I was so happy! I paid him and said: "Thank you! You are the best driver in Běijīng!"

我拿着两个大包，跑进了火车站。
Wǒ názhe liǎng ge dà bāo, pǎojìnle huǒchēzhàn.
I took my two big bags and ran into the station.

五分钟以后，我又出来了，还拿着两个大包。
Wǔ fēnzhōng yǐhòu, wǒ yòu chūlai le, hái názhe liǎng ge dà bāo.
Five minutes later, I came out again, still with my two big bags.

司机还在那儿，在车里喝茶。
Sījī hái zài nàr, zài chē li hē chá.
The driver was still there, drinking tea in his car.

我又上了他的车。你猜，我说了什么？
Wǒ yòu shàngle tā de chē. Nǐ cāi, wǒ shuōle shénme?
I got back into his car. Guess what I said?

我说："对不起……我要回家。"
Wǒ shuō: "Duìbuqǐ…… wǒ yào huí jiā."
I said: "Sorry... I need to go home."

司机看着我：“回家？你的火车呢？”
Sījī kànzhe wǒ: “Huí jiā? Nǐ de huǒchē ne?”
The driver looked at me: “Home? What about your train?”

我又看了看手机上的票，小声说：
Wǒ yòu kànle kàn shǒujī shang de piào, xiǎoshēng shuō:
I looked at the ticket on my phone again, and said quietly:

“六点的火车……是明天的。”
“Liù diǎn de huǒchē..... shì míngtiān de.”
“The six o'clock train... is tomorrow.”

Words in the story

火车 huǒchē *train*	火车站 huǒchēzhàn *train station*	出租车 chūzūchē *taxi*
司机 sījī *driver*	包 bāo *bag*	远 yuǎn *far*
以前 yǐqián *before (六点以前: before six)*	开 kāi *to drive; (a train) to leave*	坐好 zuò hǎo *sit tight, hold on*
走小路 zǒu xiǎo lù *to take the small roads*	着急 zháojí *worried, in a hurry*	没事儿 méi shìr *it's fine, don't worry*
最好的 zuì hǎo de *the best*	票 piào *ticket*	小声 xiǎoshēng *quietly*
你猜 nǐ cāi *guess!*		

Hear this story from an AI chatbot: kotokin.com/learn/chinese/stories/the-six-oclock-train