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Vintage Treasures

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The day was coming to a close as the sun began to hide quietly behind the distant mountains. We had spent countless hours playing basketball at the park—I suppose I could actually count the hours if I wanted to, but I never saw the need to expend the extra thought. None of us were as good as we thought we were, except James who knew exactly how good he was and proudly admitted he had no right playing the sport. Now returning from the park, our six-man group of all-stars continued to brag about all the shots we made, yet none of us seemed to remember the plethora of shots that never actually made it all the way to the hoop.

James, along with his brothers Jon and Jeremy, lived only a few blocks from the park, making their house a good rendezvous point for A.J., Kelly, and myself to meet up with them. Now that we had exhausted all of our energy running after missed shots all day, we came to the conclusion that it was time to head home. Kelly hopped into the passenger seat while I eased into the driver’s seat, trying not to show how sore I was from the long day of exercise. Kelly and I live very close to one another, so we decided to carpool and save some gas.

It was a special day for me. I had officially received my driver’s license six months before and I now was “legally” allowed to drive my friends around without my parents. And because Kelly was too lazy to even try to get his permit I had no other choice than to show off my amazing driving abilities. And what better way to show off than in a brand new, shiny red Ford Focus? This car was a 2009 version and we lived in the year 2008, so my gullible mind was convinced that it was the equivalent of a future hover car—or whatever cool vehicles they would design within the course of next year.

For a mid-size family sedan, this car had all the bells and whistles. I got a thrill out of showing Kelly every one of the gadgets that filled the dashboard, even the ones that I had no clue what they meant. I would tell him, “It has heated seats, and blind-spot detection...”