

Chan Arthur Chi Yen

It was all over now. The silence reminded me of the time we caught the pheasants.

“When are we going to eat them, Dad? The pheasants?”

“Shall we have one today?” he said.

“Yes please! Are we really going to?”

“Of course, Danny. We shall introduce you to pheasant-eating! The first time is the best. It was the taste and the thrill that gave me the motivation to go poaching.”

He was already thinking of our next adventure. I could see it in his eyes. You see, eyes are very informative and expressing.

“We’ll have roast pheasant tonight, right? It’s time we had an oven.”

“But that costs an arm and a leg, Dad! Do we have enough money for it?”

“Ah...” He moved towards our workshop. His eyes were sparkling, the stars in his eyes shining even more scintillating than the autumn sun hanging on the sky.

Inside, he took a toolbox and placed it gently on the floor as if it were treasure.

“Open it!” he said. I trembled with excitement. My dad only used that tone of speech if he had something to show me that was very exceptional. I last heard that tone when he showed me “Soapo”. I opened the box and peered inside. Inside was a piece of paper, I read it slowly.

“Where on earth did you get this? It... it... would make us half as rich as Mr Hazell! We could buy thousands of ovens with this fortune.”

He replied, “My parents had a huge house before. My old dad inherited it from his father, whose grandfather was rich.” He leaned on the workshop’s wall.

“Apparently the time I sold it, I only received halve of the money. It was found out by Enoch Samways.” I couldn’t believe it! My own father was a millionaire.

“What are you going to do now? One million pounds is quite a lot. Will you retire?”

But before he answered, I already knew he would keep working. We’re mechanics, that’s what we are. And he is the most marvellous, brilliant and magnificent father ever.

To the children that have read this, take this oath:

I will be fun.

I will not be boring.

I will be honest.

I will be sparky.

If you have all these qualities when you become a grown-up, you will be just like my father: The Champion of the World.