

## THIEF IN THE NIGHT

By Gerry Wright

### Chapter 1

As you all know we left home on the 28 of Nov/10 and our travelling went well even getting our Mexico papers which use to be a nightmare of 3 hrs to get done , we went in the day before when we were over in Mexico to get our teeth cleaned and it was over in 1 hr. So the next day we breezed thru the border with no stopping. All went well until we were going thru Tampico where we were previously warned about the corrupted cops but there is no easy way a to miss that city, so with me in the lead there they were trying to flag me over to which I waved and kept going but not Claude honest to the bone he pulls over and now they were trying to extort money from him for some stupid infraction. He managed to talk his way out unscathed at this first stoppage. So we proceeded onward were this happen two more times, I manage gave the cops the slip but Claude kept getting caught. In the end I went to his aid and we managed to pay out nothing. The rest of the trip went fine except the roads were their usual bad until we were 300 km from our final stop in Xpu-Ha . Up to this point we had been staying in Pemex gas stations over night but we had previously stayed in Bacalar town square soccer field and thought that would be a nice change. To get away from all the racket that goes on at the gas station all night long so we pulled in side by side only 6 ft apart and proceeded to settle down for supper. We opened all the windows to get the heat out of the trailer and as bed time approached it was still hot so we left the windows open about 4 inches we didn't think about the new type of awning windows we have on our trailer that can be lifted up outside to make 6"H x 24"W inch opening , but remember there is also a hard to remove screen in there as well. With this we went to bed , the road noise it was still sufficient enough with trucks using there jake brake so we put in ear plugs . Now with our trailer still hooked to the truck there is still a little motion plus we have Buddy who jumps up and down all night long off and on the commode were he sleeps , so motion and noise are not unusual. So every one including Buddy and Bear who was in his cage to keep him off our bed were beat and we all went to sleep quickly. Nothing was heard till Ann got up to go to the bathroom at 2 am and found that the two lower window screens, over the couch and kitchen table had been pushed in and the trailer door was opened. She woke me up and we proceeded to check out the trailer nothing appeared to be missing even my wallet was still on the shelf above the dining table. So we figure it was kids and a real small one at that to get thru the window, little did I know at this point there goal was to get my keys that were on the table. We now locked up everything and put my wallet in my dresser drawer next to my head, put my computer in it's case besides my side of the bed and Ann put her pursers on a wall hook on her side of the bed now we were safe we thought and went back to sleep because we were still very tired after 11 days of driving, so we were back to sleep in a flash. The next time I woke up it was 5am, I saw some one stand in the kitchen and yelled at him, out the door he went with me scrambling to get out of bed to go after him. He appeared to be a teen size kid running like hell across the field towards the highway little did I know this was the start of king size nightmare.

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### Chapter 2

As we became awake we wondered how they got back into the trailer then it became obvious that they had my key from the first intrusion. As we got our wits about us we seen what they had stolen, they had open every drawer and cupboard looking for money. I guess then we discovered they must have been standing right over the top of us sleeping to get Ann's purse and my computer which was beside the bed a arms length away. The thought of that sent shivers down my spine to think what could of happened in I had woken up a confrontation could have been fatal. So much for our new guard dog who can hear paper rustling at 15 ft if it has candy in it he didn't make a sound, and his cage bed was on the upper level of our bedroom. Then the reality struck they had all of our keys to everything so I went out to the truck to discover it had been totally tossed as well but the doors were left open. Now considering we were parked on a field only about 300 yds from a R.C. church which was hosting a runners novena event celebrating the miracle of the virgin of Guadeloupe appearing to the people. This involves vehicles and runners at all hours making tons of noise with sirens blaring and lights flashing to protect the runner as they make there way up and down the Yucatan for SEVEN days and NOBODY saw anything. We waited till it was light enough to start our search of the field for any thing the thieves might have thrown away hoping for a set of keys, wallet, credit cards, etc,etc. The next thing we know the police show up , trying to communicate thru the language barrier didn't achieve much , it came down to find a translator then come to our station where they would make a report .FOR WHAT I ask, our insurance only covers thief of the entire unit. By this time Claude and Mags joined the search of the 1/2 mile square park for our stuff, to no avail. By 8am Claude and I were on our way back 20km to a GM dealer in Chetumal , there we were told once again thru language problems that even if they had there hands on the truck it would take weeks to replace the keys . Then they came up with another idea a locksmith who specializes in programmable key replacement. Eureka I thought a miracle had just been bestowed upon us, so we waited for him to show up , 2 hrs later we were on our way back to the trailer and truck . I road along with the locksmith in his rust bucket that would have fell apart in a thousand pieces if it was in a accident. I didn't care, I thought he was our saviour but that was soon shattered when he went to work on taking out the lock assembly in the truck, then he announced it would take him 5 days to make and program a replacement key and it would cost \$5,000.00 P (\$500.00)Ca and this was the start of what would become a \$2000.00 C key. With that knowledge there was no sense for Claude and Mags to be stuck here with us so they took off for Xpu-ha to secure our shaky reservation of camp sites . So with our fate in the hands of a locksmith we spent our time searching the grassy field for our stuff, we did find bits and pieces but no jackpot. As the day passed I hatched a idea and made posters that offered a reward for the return of the keys only no questions asked and no charges. We posted them all over the structures at the park. We were becoming more desperate as the days passed as our power supply dwindled that we needed to keep our fridge and freezer working. To save power we used no fans or lights and read by candle light and went to bed with the chickens with our trailer door secured by rope since our keys were still out there in somebody's hands.

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### Chapter 3

I kept doubling the reward amount for the return of our keys and by this time the entire town knew of the reward money because it was now equalled about 8mo of work for the average worker. This was my sweet revenge to tormenting the thieving bastards with money that they were to afraid to take for fear I would turn them in to the police. Our locksmith showed up each day trying different things to make his key work I finally told him he only has 2 days more, then I will be towing the truck to Playa Del Carman's GM dealer. To-day the batteries finally failed and I took the one out of the truck to keep the fridge going, then I flagged over a taxi and explained I needed booster cables to charge the batteries from his taxi, this we did for one hour at a cost of \$150.00 P. The next morning the cavalry arrive from Xpu-ha bound bent to tow us back to the campground well it was now possible since we could push the truck and uncouple it from the trailer because I could put the transmission neutral with the lock out of the steering column .So with the trailer now connected to Derick's truck they all left for Xpu-Ha leaving me all alone to sleep in the truck to protect it from those still with the keys , finally the locksmith showed up much later in the day for his final attempt to get the truck to accept the chip in his new key. Guess what it no work so I had him put the steering column back together and paid him off his \$5000 P all for a key that only opened the door and turned in the ignition column to release the gear shift. At this point I disabled the ignition under the hood and hoof it 10 blocks to a no tell hotel to spend the night and have a shower since I now smelled like a pole cat this cost me \$300.00P for the night. This joint didn't even have a restaurant so out I go the the store to get enough stuff to make ham sandwiches. I slept a fit full night but I was up to meet with the prearranged tow truck at 8am hoping it was a good one to carry our truck. I was in luck he was only about 1.5hr late we loaded the truck and we were off to the GM dealer in Playa. This was going to cost \$5,000.00P when we finally got there 3.5 hrs later and unloaded the truck in there service bay I showed them my expensive do nothing key which they now said they could program by tomorrow at a cost of \$1000.00P and would order me a extra key with two remotes for only another \$8000.00 P by this time I was looking for a tube of hemmroid cream to make it feel better but what do you do in this situation. Claude drove up to take me back to the campground then two days later they called and my key now started the truck but I still have to wait 2to 3 more weeks for the rest of the package. If you add it all up that, how it gets to cost two thousand Canadian dollars for two lousy keys with remotes. Well that's the end of the robbery saga for now but I still have to find a way to get door keys made for the trailer and the lockers on the trailer. The group here (Claude, Mags, Derick, Vera, John, Peggy, Sigrid are the best friends you could ever have in your life, and now everything is good here with Christmas and New Year just over and even the campground owner Chalio thanked us for braving the bad news and was sorry we were victims of bad people of Mexico .... To date 12.00 P for \$1.00 Can