

Black Tuxedo / Brand New 4wd / White Evening Gown

I was working at Wilpena Pound, as a consultant for the Traditional owners; I was in the little information office on a raining wet Sunday afternoon, which was at the base of the famous Wilpena Pound. When I walked a guy dressed in a Black Tuxedo, he asked where he can do some off road driving in his new black 4wd, which was made of fibre glass, dark rich black in colour, apparently him and his wife drove up from Adelaide, He wanted to show off his driving talents and his new 4wd

As I was going to speak a young female NPWS service officer, spoke very abrupt to him saying you are not allowed to drive your 4wd in and around the National Park, and if you get caught driving your 4wd off the main roads you will be charged, but this man just wasn't listening he had the money and he just wanted to do some serious off roading.

I intervened in the conversation, and I told the young NPWS officer to let me handle this person, you see the information office was just off the main road into the Wilpena Pound. I spoke to the gentlemen and asked him if he can handle his 4wd, and he said yes with a very bad attitude, so I said to here is a little test for you and your 4wd. Go back up back up the same road you came in on and to the left about 1 km is a clump of pine trees on your left hand side, just drive around those trees and come back to this office, if you can do that then I will tell you where all the hard tracks for 4wd vehicles, which will really test your skills.

Well this fella really had a bad attitude, and he wanted to do serious 4wd off roading, so I said if you can complete the trip around the pines and get back to this office then I will take you to the hard tracks. By this time the young female NPWS officer, just got really worked up and said that she will report me and the person who is driving the 4wd, will be fined, and that I should not be encouraging him to break the rules of the National Park.

The man left the office in his 4wd, after shouting I'll be back in five minutes, so he sped off in the direction I'd had given him, we went back to work, the young female officer, just got angrier by the minute, I told her to wait and see, because we as blackfellas know the landscape very well, just wait and see. 5 minutes came and went, no sign of the man the woman and the 4wd, everything was quite, and one hour passed then another hour, and then suddenly a mayday call on the radio, with much laughter.

The grader operator for NPWS came on the radio laughing loud and trying to tell us about the situation, and what he couldn't believe what he was seeing, I started laughing, as loud as I could, then the female NPWS officer asked what's happening, the grader operator reported " You are not going to believe what I am seeing here in front of me, there is brand new black 4wd drive stuck in quick sand, and there is a woman in an evening gown trying to push the vehicle out, while her man is in the vehicle is dressed in a Tux, with his foot flat on the pedal, trying to spin the wheels, and the mud is all over her and her new dress, she was covered from head to toe.

The young NPWS female officer asked how did I know, I told her an old blackfella trick if people won't listen, just send them in the right direction to learn a quick lesson. The whole area close to pines trees during or after rain becomes sinking sand, and if you don't know you can and you will sink. We arrange to get them out of the sinking sand with the help of the grader, we dragged them back to information office, and when they got out of their 4wd, they were both drenched like rats, and they were covered in mud, we tried hard not to laugh in front of them, but we couldn't help ourselves, they had to drive all the way back to Adelaide, just like that, I still can hear the woman saying to him, you can keep you're 4wd, but take me home and we get home I will be divorcing you.