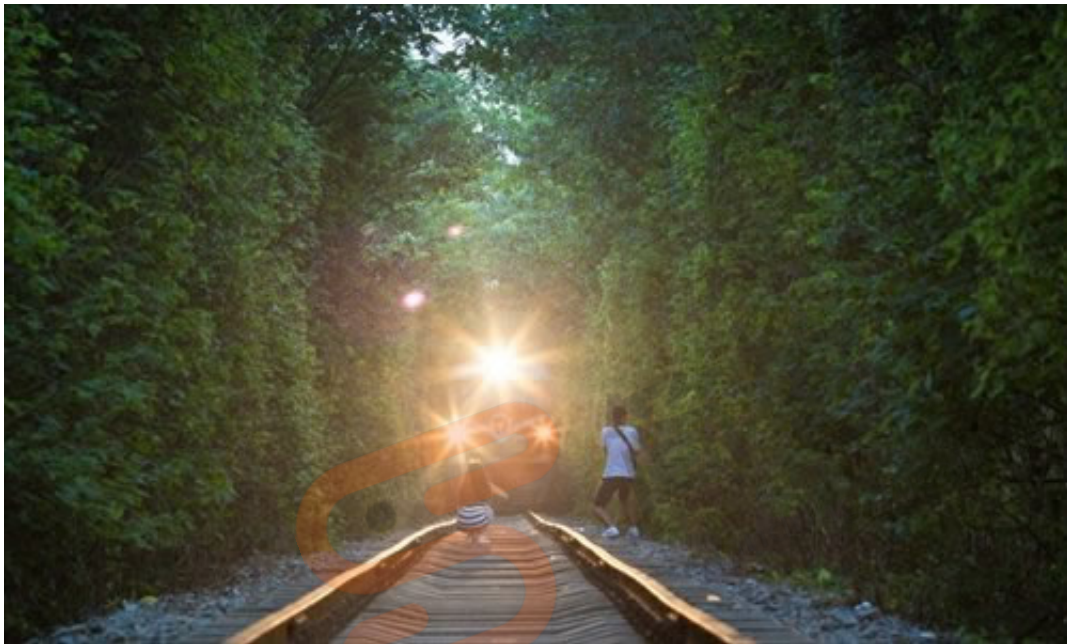


《青少年在铁轨上自拍险些丧命》

Perfect train track selfies are to die for

青少年在铁轨上自拍险些丧命

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Police rescued two teens from an oncoming train in Changde, Hunan Province, on Monday as the unaware pair was preoccupied with taking selfies on railroad tracks.

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The incident follows the death of a young woman last month in Guangdong Province who was struck by a train while posing for similar photos.

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The news has prompted concerns on social media about what appears to be a growing trend of train track photography among teens.

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Railway personnel at Hanshou Station first caught sight of the two girls taking photos of each other performing splits along the tracks on Monday.

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With a train scheduled to pass through the station within minutes, employees quickly notified police officers stationed nearby.

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Officers arrived just in time to pull the girls from the tracks before the train rushed past, Hunan-based Changsha Evening News reported Tuesday.

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The two high school seniors, both 17, later told police the oncoming locomotive had totally caught them by surprise.

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They were reprimanded by officers for their behavior and released to their parents.

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Train track selfies are an emerging trend on Chinese social media. In particular, among teenage girls for their romantic overtones and connotations of adventure.

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But sometimes the perfect photo op can be deadly.

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A 19-year-old girl was killed by an oncoming train April 9 while taking selfies near tracks in Foshan, Guangdong Province.

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She was one of many who had been attracted to the selfie spot near a field of roses to pose as a train passed, the Foshan Daily reported.

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Reports of similar trends popped up in 2015 along rail lines in Beijing and Yunnan Province.

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While taking photos with trains is not illegal, trespassing on tracks is. However, punishment and fines are light.

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According to Public Security Administration Punishments Law, anyone found posing a safety threat on or near railroad tracks faces an official warning and a maximum fine of 200 yuan (\$30).

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