

PUSHING COPYRIGHT LAW IN CHINA: A DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD¹

“In order to properly understand the big picture, everyone should fear becoming mentally clouded and obsessed with one small section of truth.” –Xun Zi²

I. INTRODUCTION

One afternoon in the mid 1980's, while excitedly rummaging through my mother's suitcase, I found a book called *On the Road*. My mother had just returned to Beijing from the University of Minnesota where she did research for a year. I opened the book and the following passage met my eyes:

But then they danced down the streets like dingedodies, and I shambled after as I've been doing all my life after people who interest me, because the only people for me are the mad ones, the ones who are mad to live, mad to talk, mad to be saved, desirous of everything at the same time, the ones that never yawn or say a commonplace thing, but burn, burn, burn like fabulous yellow roman candles exploding like spiders across the stars and in the middle you see the blue centerlight

1. This Comment was awarded Second Place in ASCAP's Nathan Burkan Memorial Writing Competition, 2007.

2. Xun Zi (310–237 BC) was a Chinese philosopher. See Brainy Quote, Xun Zi Quotes, http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/x/xun_zi.html (last visited Mar. 23, 2008).