# Title: Snowplow Driver Chris Bonen is Unsung: A Hardworking Series by Shell Rotella T

**Transcript:** Well, John D says we're going to get a lot more snow the next three days. This should be our last storm we're going to get for the year, which hopefully it is 'cause everybody is pretty tired of it. My name is John D and I have one of the few jobs that when you are wrong, everybody knows about it. We're almost at the top of the United States, surrounded by the shores of Lake Superior, 400 miles to the north of Chicago. East of the Rockies, the Keweenaw Peninsula, is one of the snowiest places in the whole United States. The snow plow drivers up here are up against a bigger job than you're probably going to find anywhere. A plow can go down a roadway and when it's snowing heavily and we've got 40 mile per hour wind like we're going to have tomorrow, that road can get closed right back within a matter of minutes. The problem right now is we got about 3 feet on the ground and there's really nowhere to push it. Tomorrow, if we do have enough wind, it could be bad. I guess we'll just have to wait and see. I wake up at 4 in the morning and it's snowing, the name of the game is to get everything done as fast as you can. I try to get all my residential clients wrapped up by about 7 o'clock so I try to drive pretty fast to get everything done. My dog's name is Brian and he comes with me every day for morale because I spend about 12 hours in my truck. It seems to be getting a lot windier now and making visibility a lot harder. Having one truck is a little stressful just because if I get stuck, the whole operation is shut down. And the spaces we have to maneuver in, they're bad right now. I don't have a lot of room to work so I end up smashing my back bumper and tailgate so my truck takes a lot of abuse. I need a new transmission, new bumper. Broke the plow a little bit so that makes it a little bit stressful. I don't feel like I can rest easy until I can get everybody out so they can make it work or school or wherever they need to be. I try to help out elderly people or people that are having a tough time moving snow themselves. I think it's more or less a small town thing to help each other out. To live in the UP, you definitely need to like snow. Otherwise, you're going to go crazy. I feel like I accomplish something at the end of the day. I'm just glad it's over with and hope it doesn't snow the next night.