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When charlie wade and his group of four disembarked, the short daytime was almost over.

On the ice cap a hundred meters away from the ship, three members of the Nordic polar expedition team were waiting next to a snowmobile.

The message they received was that after resupplying the research station with fuel and various supplies, they would set it to an unmanned operation mode. The station's power, heating, and water supply would operate automatically and remain habitable. The instruments and equipment would record the operating status and key indicators such as temperature, humidity, air quality, and oxygen content within the station. If the unmanned operation of the research station throughout the winter went smoothly this year, a group of research team members could truly stay here for the winter next year.

Because there is no sun and the wind is unstable in Antarctica during winter, there is almost no clean energy available. The most stable source of energy is diesel generator sets, and the heat generated by the diesel generator sets during power generation can also be used to heat the research station.

Therefore, this research vessel needs to replenish the research station with at least 150 tons of diesel fuel to support its operation throughout the winter.

Transporting fuel is relatively troublesome, requiring at least two or three trips to complete the shipment. Therefore, the research team members were prepared to be busy, hoping to finish their mission this morning and return to their warm home in Northern Europe.

When they saw charlie wade and his three companions, the three research team members who came from the station were somewhat surprised. They were driving a snowmobile to tow the crew cabin, intending to bring back the people on the ship who could help, but they did not expect that there were four Asian faces on board.

charlie wade stepped forward and shook hands with the leader. While using his spiritual energy to give himself a mental suggestion, he introduced himself to the three men: "Gentlemen, I am a meteorological expert from the military. I am here on a very important mission. While you are here, you must cooperate fully with my work. After you leave, you must forget that I exist. Can you do that?"

The three of them immediately answered in unison, "We can do it."

charlie wade nodded and asked the man in the lead, "What is your name?"

The other person said respectfully, "My name is Charles, Charles Johnson."

charlie wade asked him, "Okay, Charles, how many people are there at the research station now?"

Charles said, "We were originally a team of sixteen, but most of them went back home at the end of summer, so now it's just the three of us here to prepare for the winter unmanned operation."

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charlie wade nodded and instructed, "Then send us there now."

Charles nodded and said, "No problem, everyone please get in the car. My two colleagues will be responsible for driving us back."

Accompanied by Charles, charlie wade and the other three boarded the crew cabin, while the other two sat directly in the driver's cab of the snow tractor. The vehicle then started and headed towards the research station more than 100 kilometers away.

Antarctica is truly the end of the world, surrounded by nothing but ice and snow and endless mountains. There are no real roads, but most of the terrain is relatively flat, so snowmobiles can pass through easily. There is absolutely no trace of human presence here, making it perhaps the only virgin land on Earth that has remained almost unchanged since hundreds of millions of years ago.

According to Charles, research stations in the Antarctic interior are not actually concentrated. They are scattered about 100 kilometers inland from the coastline. The Nordic research station is relatively close to the coastline. Most of them are actually inland, 200 to 300 kilometers deep. Some research stations are even far away near the South Pole. If you want to get there by land, it is at least a thousand kilometers away. It is almost impossible to reach them in winter. Only in summer can you use the simple airfields on the ice sheet for resupply and personnel dispatch.

Even so, most research stations cease operations during the winter. On Antarctica, a continent larger than Canada, very few research stations remain operational during the winter.

charlie wade also learned from him that once winter arrives, these still-operating research stations have strict operating guidelines. Unless there are unforeseen circumstances, they are not allowed to leave the research station for more than 24 hours. This means that everyone's range of activities will be restricted, so there will be almost no interference between the various research stations.

charlie wade then asked about the aurora borealis. Charles told him that Antarctica had recently entered the aurora season, but it had not yet reached its peak. So, at the Nordic research station, one could see the aurora every two or three days. However, once the polar night arrived in April or May, the aurora could be seen almost every day, and even for several days in a row.

This was almost the perfect environment for charlie wade to cultivate in seclusion.

The snowmobile traveled for several hours in the Antarctic night before finally stopping in the middle of a cluster of low-rise buildings.

The research station in Northern Europe looks unremarkable and even somewhat shabby from the outside. In front of it is a row of stilted bungalows about 100 meters long. To the left are several arched buildings of the same shape and size, arranged in a very orderly manner. To the right, there are several special buildings with various kinds of equipment installed on top of them, including communication equipment and climate monitoring equipment.

In the center of the entire building complex, several special vehicles of various kinds were parked. Whether they were transport vehicles, loaders, cranes, or excavators, they were all tracked vehicles.

After the vehicle came to a stop, charlie wade and the others got out of the warm car. Although they had only traveled more than 100 kilometers inland, the temperature was much colder than when they had just disembarked because the sun had been out for several hours.

Charles subconsciously considered charlie wade and the others to be military personnel involved in national security matters, so he said very politely and warmly, “The temperature has dropped sharply now, and the four of you may not be used to it yet. Let’s go inside quickly!”

charlie wade nodded. The three women beside him didn’t feel cold at all. They looked around curiously. After all, most people wouldn’t have the chance to come to such a place, especially in winter.

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charlie wade said to Charles, “Could you first give us a detailed introduction to the entire research station and its operation, such as what hardware facilities it has and the basic operating methods of the necessary equipment?”

Charles nodded and introduced to the four people: “The main building in front of us is the living and daily working area of the research station. All the indoor spaces are equipped with electric underfloor heating facilities, as well as 24-hour heat exchange fresh air and humidification equipment. In addition, there is a molecular sieve oxygen production system, so it can basically achieve constant temperature, constant humidity and constant oxygen.”

After saying that, he pointed to several arched buildings on the left and said, “Our generator sets are in the first equipment compartment on the left. There are five diesel generator sets in total, three main and two backup, and an energy storage system to ensure that the power supply is uninterrupted. The second equipment compartment contains our ice melting equipment and water storage equipment. We use the temperature and electricity of the diesel generator sets to slowly melt the stored glacial ice. After purification, the ice is stored in water tanks and transported to various rooms through underground pipes.”

charlie wade asked him, “Are all these devices automatic?”

“Yes,” Charles said. “All the equipment will run automatically after it is set up. The diesel generator set will adjust its power according to the electrical load, and the same goes for the meltwater equipment. It stores a large amount of glacial ice, at least a thousand cubic meters, plus the underground reservoir, which is nearly a hundred cubic meters.”

charlie wade nodded. A little over a thousand cubic meters of water should be enough for the four of them to use for a winter.

Charles added, “Our oil storage tanks are all built underground around the perimeter of our main building, with ample fire and explosion prevention measures in place. They can store up to 500

tons of high-grade diesel fuel. In addition to the generator sets, all vehicles are also diesel-powered.”

charlie wade asked him, “Then how do we refuel these vehicles?”

Charles led charlie wade to the central parking lot, where there were four refueling machines specially developed for polar regions. While showing charlie wade how to refuel the vehicle, Charles explained, “The fuel here is ultra-low pour point diesel mixed with aviation kerosene, which can flow normally even at minus seventy degrees Celsius. All the vehicles have also been modified for polar regions. Apart from needing to spend a little more time preheating, they are not much different from inland vehicles in terms of usage.”

charlie wade specifically asked him how to operate the enclosed snowmobile. After he understood everything, he asked Charles to take everyone inside the research station to learn more.

Although the outside temperature was below -50 degrees Celsius, the interior temperature of the main building of the research station was a remarkable 26 degrees Celsius. The building has an area of over 4,000 square meters and contains not only some professional research facilities and laboratories, but also as many as 20 rooms. Like the research vessel, these rooms range from four-person rooms to single rooms, and each room is equipped with a simple toilet and shower. Wastewater has an automated recycling system, and sedimented sludge and solid waste are automatically collected and transported back to the country for treatment on supply ships.

The restaurant and kitchen had a good amount of food reserves. Although it wasn't enough for the research station to operate at full capacity for the whole winter, fortunately, among charlie wade and his group of four, only Lin Wan'er needed to eat, while the others could abstain from food. So the supplies were quite plentiful.

Charles also told charlie wade that in addition to the daily necessities and supplies, there is also a television, telephone and satellite network here. All communication is through satellite, and the efficiency is no slower than inland. In any situation, charlie wade can contact the outside world immediately, and others can also contact him immediately.

However, this network coverage is limited to the research station area. If you leave the research station to work in the field, the vehicles outside are equipped with Musk's Starlink system, which provides signal coverage throughout the Antarctic continent and the speed is not slow, with bandwidth exceeding 100 megabits.

charlie wade was quite surprised by Starlink's coverage and speed. He had never encountered such a product before, and he did not expect that such comprehensive network service could be guaranteed even in the polar regions. Even if the first phase of the satellite communication system that he had Lang Hongjun build was completed and put into use, it could only ensure basic communication around the world except for the two major polar regions. To achieve such high-speed network coverage without any blind spots, the number of satellites would need to be increased exponentially.

While charlie wade was mastering the operation of the research station's equipment and vehicles, the oil tanker was constantly shuttling between the research vessel and the research vessel. They spent a full thirty hours replenishing fuel and other necessary supplies. After replenishing the supplies, they packed a large amount of garbage into trucks.

Three days had passed after the last truck was fully loaded and the transport was completed.

During these three days, Charlie Wade saw two aurora borealis events, but because the others were still working non-stop, he did not leave the research station during these three days.

As the supply team and the three remaining personnel finished their work and prepared to return, Charlie Wade watched their vehicles depart from outside the research station.

After leaving the research station, everyone completely forgot about Charlie Wade's existence. In their subconscious, the research station had entered an unmanned operation phase, and the next time someone would come would be when Antarctica entered summer in the second half of the year.

After these people left, only the four of them remained within a radius of several hundred kilometers around Charlie Wade's research station.

Charlie Wade joked that this might be the loneliest place in the world, but interestingly, none of them felt lonely. On the contrary, all four of them felt that this was a rare opportunity in life to completely escape the hustle and bustle of the world.

Just as the four had settled in at the research station, a Japanese research vessel set sail from the port of Ushuaia.

On the vast sea, a fishing boat was drifting and swaying. Wu Bolin (Bick) sat cross-legged in the cabin, meditating with his eyes closed.

At this moment, Wu Siyuan ran in excitedly and said, "Elder, the research vessel you've been waiting for has arrived!"

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On the dark and calm sea, a research vessel flying the Japanese flag was sailing steadily.

Before entering the Roaring Forties, the sea was relatively calm. Both large and small ships could see each other using their shipboard radar. Within a radius of several kilometers, there were only two ships, one large and one small.

This Japanese research vessel was Wu Bolin (Bick)'s target this time.

Even with his strength, he couldn't traverse the entire Roaring Forties on his own, so he needed to find a research vessel to hitch a ride on, preferably to find a place to stay in Antarctica.

Of the research vessels that have departed from Ushuaia these days, only the Japanese ship is from East Asia. Although Wu Bolin (Bick) had not seen Japanese people since the First Sino-Japanese War, he knew that since they were both from East Asia, there was not much difference in physical characteristics between Chinese and Japanese people. So, mingling with the Japanese research team was the best option for him at the moment.

As the two ships drew closer, Wu Bolin (Bick) was preparing to board them by wading when they got even closer. However, when the other ship detected the approaching distance on its radar, it changed course and prepared to circle around the other ship at a safe distance. Upon seeing this, Wu Bolin (Bick) immediately instructed Wu Siyuan to send a distress signal to the other ship via the intercom system.

Wu Siyuan shouted into the intercom in fluent English: “Help! Help! This is ARG7717. Our boat has lost power, is damaged, taking on water and about to sink. Requesting assistance from JRC5990!”

At this moment, on the Japanese research vessel with IMO number JRC5990, the duty officer immediately called the captain via radio: “Captain Sato, we have received a distress call from a vessel with IMO number ARG7717. The vessel is about five nautical miles away from us. It has encountered a malfunction and is about to sink. We request instructions.”

A deep voice came through the walkie-talkie: “Ignore him, full speed ahead! We don’t have time to waste on the Argentine boat. Let them contact the Argentine maritime rescue department!”

The driver on duty blurted out instinctively, “But the other side is about to sink...”

The captain coldly replied, “Baka! So what if we sink? We’ve traveled tens of thousands of kilometers to get here to carry out the glorious mission of Japanese Antarctic scientific research, not to rescue Argentine fishermen. Their lives are none of our business! Full speed ahead!”

The driver on duty had no choice but to respectfully reply, “Yes, Captain Sato! I understand!”

Inside the fishing boat, Wu Siyuan watched as the enemy on the radar grew farther and farther away, and its speed increased. His face darkened as he said, “Damn it, instead of coming to rescue us, this Japanese research vessel is speeding up and taking a detour!”

“Damn it!” Wu Bolin (Bick) cursed angrily, “Didn’t you say that people are becoming more and more friendly these days? And that there’s this international humanitarian spirit, how can there still be people who refuse to help those in distress?! What kind of humanitarianism is this?”

Wu Siyuan was also very frustrated.

He was the one who gave Wu Bolin (Bick) this idea, because he thought that since Wu Bolin (Bick) could use his spiritual energy to control other people’s minds, as long as he could lure the Japanese research ship over, he could leave the rest to him. But who would have thought that the Japanese ship would not only not come, but would instead speed up its escape, which was too unethical.

Helpless, he said with shame, “I’m sorry, Elder, I overestimated their character. Why don’t we wait a little longer? There’s another research vessel leaving tonight, it’s from Canada.”

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Wu Bolin (Bick) also lost his temper, gritting his teeth and saying, “No way! I can’t swallow this! Go full speed ahead and catch up with it!”

Seeing Wu Bolin (Bick)'s resolute attitude, Wu Siyuan swallowed his words of persuasion and turned to the boatman, saying, "Speed up and catch up!"

Wu Siyuan's fishing boat is not as simple as it looks on the surface. Its hull and power system have been greatly upgraded. If it really picks up speed, it can easily catch up with a 10,000-ton ship.

So the fishing boat immediately sped up and chased after the Japanese research vessel.

When they were less than a kilometer away from the research vessel, Wu Bolin (Bick) looked at the stern of the ship and felt the impact of its wake on the fishing boat. He said to Wu Siyuan, "Alright, you guys go back. I'll board the ship myself."

Wu Siyuan quickly said, "Elder, this ship is full of Japanese people. You don't speak Japanese or English, so I'm afraid you won't be able to communicate!"

Wu Bolin (Bick) snorted coldly and said, "I don't believe that a whole ship full of so-called Japanese scientific research experts can't find a single one who can speak Chinese. If they really can't, I'll sink their ship and wait for the Canadian ship!"

Wu Siyuan asked, "Elder, should we wait here first?"

"That works," Wu Bolin (Bick) said. "You can stay far away and hang there. If you find that the ship has sunk within an hour, you can come closer to pick me up. If the ship hasn't sunk, it means I've found someone who speaks Chinese, and you can go back."

Wu Siyuan nodded and said, "Yes, Elder, I obey!"

Wu Bolin (Bick) gently smoothed his sleeves, put his hands behind his back, lightly touched the deck with his toes, and was already airborne.

Just as he was about to land on the water, he gathered his spiritual energy under his feet, creating an invisible barrier between his feet and the sea surface. Then, his body moved across the sea with incredible speed and silence, far faster than a ship could travel.

As he rushed towards the research vessel, he lightly tapped his toes again, and he was already airborne, rising nearly a hundred meters high. In a parabolic arc, he landed directly in front of the Japanese research vessel's cockpit.

The crew did not notice anything unusual at the time. Since the fishing boat was following them but not getting too close, it did not trigger any radar alarms.

The on-duty driver was only thinking about getting into the Roaring Forties as soon as possible before the next storm hit, so as to avoid increasing the risk when the storm came. Therefore, he focused all his attention on the course ahead. In addition, there had never been any pirates in this area, so he had no sense of vigilance at all.

Just as he and his crew were steering the ship at full speed, they were completely unaware that a figure had appeared on the top of the ship outside the control room.

Just as everyone was busy with their own tasks, the door to the control room was suddenly opened, and a figure stood at the door with a cold and somewhat ferocious expression.

The crew in the control room were startled by the sudden appearance of the stranger.

The ship departed from Japan more than a month ago. Some of the crew members were crew members, and some were members of the scientific expedition team. Although these two groups did not know each other before, they had become familiar with each other over the past month. It was unlikely that a complete stranger would suddenly appear.

But on this vast ocean, who else could be there besides the people on their own ship?