

The Amazing son in law Chapter 7851

So he summoned Kikuchi Kohei and instructed him: “Kikuchi, from now on, all of you must kneel on one knee and respectfully address me as Guanghan Zhenren whenever you see me, including you, understand?”

The power of psychological suggestion is that it can completely eliminate all ambiguity and maximize execution.

Without saying a word, Kikuchi Kohei immediately knelt on one knee and respectfully said, “I pay my respects to the Immortal Guanghan!”

“Wow.” Wu Bolin (Bick) felt much more refreshed after that.

Despite being a highly respected elder in the Qing Dynasty, he has never experienced true honor. He began his seclusion in his youth, meditating cross-legged for over a hundred years. His consciousness was almost always in his own sea of consciousness, completely immersed in his own world. He was far more lonely than Sun Wukong, who was imprisoned under the Five Elements Mountain for five hundred years. At least Sun Wukong had a shepherd boy to bring him some fruit, but he hadn’t had anyone to talk to during his years of seclusion.

After leaving the pass, although the members of the Anti-Qing Society treated him with great respect, he could also sense that their respect was not due to their blind obedience to him, but rather to their deference to Sara.

This made him feel like he was the star of the opera troupe back then. Although everyone in the troupe bowed and scraped before him, they were all the troupe owner’s people. They were not only disloyal to him, but he also had no real power in the troupe.

Now things are different. These dozens of Japanese research team members, including Kikuchi Kohei, are all loyal lackeys to him. In this “Wu Han Palace,” he is the undisputed boss and doesn’t need to live in Sara’s shadow at all.

So he immediately said to Kikuchi Kohei, who was kneeling on one knee, “Go, call everyone over and have them all worship me!”

Kikuchi Kohei, with utmost respect and deference, loudly proclaimed, “Your subordinate obeys!”

Then, he immediately went to make arrangements for everyone.

Although those people did not understand Chinese, Wu Bolin (Bick) used Kikuchi Kohei’s words in Japanese to give them psychological suggestions, so they were absolutely obedient to Kikuchi Kohei.

So, the group immediately gathered in the freezing square.

In front of the “Wu Han Palace” stele, Kikuchi Kohei spoke to them in Japanese, instructing them to learn the pronunciation of eight Chinese characters from him.

The Japanese are not particularly gifted in languages, as evidenced by their daily practice of learning English and the Chinese phrase “识时务者为俊杰” (a wise man knows when to yield to circumstances). It took a group of people a full twenty minutes to rack their brains to learn the pronunciation of these eight characters.

Wu Bolin (Bick) is also patient.

With his hands behind his back, he stood on the platform in front of the stone tablet, looking down at the group of people practicing pronunciation in small groups. Kikuchi Kohei kept running and weaving among them, constantly correcting their pronunciation problems.

At one moment, Wu Bolin (Bick) suddenly understood what kind of life Sara had been living for the past few hundred years. She was an empress surrounded by tens of thousands, even hundreds of thousands of people! And she had been sitting on the throne for hundreds of years!

I wish I had the chance to live as freely as she does for hundreds of years.

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In temperatures below minus fifty degrees Celsius, Kohei Kikuchi managed to break out in a sweat. The sweat fell onto his eyelashes and was blown into ice crystals by the cold wind. Over time, this resulted in two thick, icy eyebrows hanging on his eyelids.

He rushed to Wu Bolin (Bick), knelt on one knee, and said like a Qing Dynasty servant, “Reporting to Guanghan Zhenren, all members of the Showa Station are ready!”

Wu Bolin (Bick) frowned and demanded, “Say it again, what station?!”

Kikuchi Kohei then noticed the three Chinese characters on the stone tablet behind Wu Bolin (Bick) and quickly corrected himself, saying, “Reporting to Guanghan Zhenren, all members of Wuhan Palace are ready!”

Wu Bolin (Bick) was finally satisfied and said coldly, “Since you’re ready, let’s begin!”

Like a conductor of a symphony orchestra, Kohei Kikuchi turned to look at the crowd, waved his hands, and the group shouted in extremely strange accents: “Zai Xia Shen Jian Gong Han Zhenren!”

The crowd shouted with great enthusiasm, and the white mist they exhaled rose up simultaneously, merging into one, creating a truly spectacular sight.

Wu Bolin (Bick) was momentarily stunned, thinking he had misheard. He was the Guanghan Zhenren, so how could these Japanese people insist on calling him the Gonghan Zhenren?

I initially thought these Japanese were deliberately being disobedient, but then I realized that didn’t make sense. They’d already been given psychological suggestions; even if I made them stand naked in minus fifty degrees Celsius, they wouldn’t hesitate for even half a second. It was clearly a matter of language ability.

So he said to Kohei Kikuchi with a dark face, “From today onwards, teach them to speak Chinese for six hours every day, and each person is only allowed to sleep for three hours a day!”

Kohei Kikuchi immediately replied loudly, “Yes, sir!”

At this time, the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, thousands of kilometers away, was unaware that members of its two scientific expedition teams, along with the crew of its only heavy icebreaker, had become Wu Bolin (Bick)’s lackeys.

Since they learned that the research vessel had safely arrived in Antarctica, they hadn’t paid much attention to the research team’s situation, because the team was carrying out routine tasks, and they assumed that these professionals would smoothly complete the handover of personnel and supplies in the next few days.

Three days later, when the Chinese language skills of these research team members had improved significantly, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology received a message from the research vessel.

The research vessel experienced a mechanical failure and needed to be cleared on the spot before it could begin its return voyage.

The officials from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology were a little puzzled. How could a brand-new research vessel break down as soon as it arrived in Antarctica? Normally, minor mechanical failures would not affect normal navigation and would be repaired as it sailed. But now it was completely immobile and would have to be repaired in Antarctica.

So they immediately called the research vessel, expressing their biggest concern: “Can you dare to come back before the coastline freezes beyond its icebreaking limit?”

Captain Matsushita Heikichi replied: “It is unpredictable. Please have the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology prepare for the possibility that the research vessel may not be able to return this winter.”

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The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology was immediately in an uproar.

Leaving dozens of people and a ship stranded in Antarctica is not considered dangerous, since the ship and research station have ample supplies, enough for these people to stay until the Antarctic summer arrives.

But the key question is, who the hell can afford to lose face like that?

While the news of the research vessel’s departure wasn’t exactly attracting widespread attention, it did garner interest from a segment of polar enthusiasts and the families of the research team. If it didn’t return, and the news got back to Japan, wouldn’t that be a disgrace to the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology? And if it got back to Japan, it would be a disgrace to the entire Japanese scientific community.

This isn't just the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology being overly worried; there are precedents to follow. Not long ago, two American astronauts were stranded in space for 286 days due to a Starliner malfunction, ending their planned eight-day mission. The image of one of the astronauts, who had become skin and bones, shocked the world, and NASA almost lost face. With American astronauts stranded in space and Japanese researchers stranded in Antarctica, if this gets out, it will be enough to give the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology a run for its money.

Although the fine tradition of seppuku (ritual suicide) by the person primarily responsible for the Fukushima nuclear accident is no longer popular in Japan these days, the tradition of hanging oneself still exists in Japan. For example, Yasuhiro Sato, the person in charge of the Fukushima nuclear accident, knew that he had made a huge mistake and ultimately chose to atone for it with his death.

If a major blunder occurs in polar scientific research and causes an international scandal, the person in charge will be under at least 70-80% of the pressure, even if it's not as great as Yasuhiro Sato. The public pressure would be unbearable for most people.

Therefore, the person in charge convened a top-secret internal meeting. After some discussion, they decided to send a request to the Antarctic expedition team members and the crew of the research vessel, asking them to tell their families that they were carrying out a secret scientific research mission in Antarctica and would not be able to return home for a short period of time. They also asked them to keep a consistent story and not mention that the ship had broken down.

To appease everyone and ensure their full cooperation, they even offered a rule of ten times the daily wage. That is, if everyone stayed in Antarctica for one more day than originally planned, they would receive ten days' worth of wages, continuing until they returned.

The research team members and crew had completely submitted to Wu Bolin (Bick) and had truly become uninterested in money. When Wu Bolin (Bick) asked them to agree, they immediately and without hesitation agreed.

The fact that everyone agreed so readily and without exception moved the high-ranking officials of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology to tears several times. They thought their researchers were the most dedicated in the world. Reassured, they immediately announced that Japan would launch its largest and longest-running winter scientific expedition to Antarctica in history. This made the Japanese public think that there was some major discovery that could not be announced for the time being, and everyone was excited online.

Little did they know, it was all the work of Wu Bolin (Bick), the Guanghan Immortal.

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Wu Bolin (Bick), who became the master of Wu Han Palace, reorganized and restructured the internal structure of Wu Han Palace.

First, he ordered the demolition of a nearly 100-square-meter polar laboratory, clearing out all the items inside, and then used it as his own bedroom.

It was called a bedroom, but it was actually a place for meditation and cultivation. After all, for someone of his level of cultivation, sleep was no longer a necessity of life.

Secondly, he merged the dormitories of the Japanese research team members. Previously, some leaders could stay in single rooms, but now they have all been converted into four-person rooms. The dormitories closest to his palace have been completely emptied, thus creating an additional layer of physical isolation between him and the others.

However, Wu Bolin (Bick) did not remain immersed in this empty fame and the illusion of being worshipped by dozens of people.

After a simple internal renovation, he asked Kohei Kikuchi to find the largest and most detailed map of Antarctica and began to plan future exploration directions on the map in search of the legendary Gate of Ascension.

He instructed Kohei Kikuchi to mark the area within a 50-kilometer radius of all Antarctic research stations on a map using a compass, based on the situation of human activities in Antarctica, and then to mark the area within a 100-kilometer radius of the South Pole using a compass as well.

Looking at the scattered circles on the map, Wu Bolin (Bick) focused his attention on the areas furthest from the circles, or areas where no circles appeared at all.

He felt that modern people had been exploring Antarctica for many years, and these research stations and the area around the South Pole must have been explored by them. Even if there were any relics of cultivators, they would probably have been discovered long ago. Therefore, he planned to ignore these places and focus on those places that were rarely visited by humans, or even places that were almost impossible for humans to explore.

At first, he thought he would go alone, since as long as he was on land, this kind of environment would not be a problem for him at all.

But he soon realized a serious problem: he had difficulty finding his way in the polar night of Antarctica.

Besides, with so many free laborers from Japan, why not make the most of them?

So, he used a red marker to circle several areas on the huge map, and then pointed to the nearest one and asked Kikuchi Kohei, "How long would it take us to drive here?"

Kohei Kikuchi measured the distance on the map with a ruler and then calculated it on a calculator. He said, "Reporting to the master, it is about 300 kilometers to here. However, we need to go around some mountains, so the total distance is about 400 kilometers. The snowmobile will need two days to travel."

Wu Bolin (Bick) said calmly, "Four hundred kilometers is too far to cover in two days. Go and organize a team of ten people in three cars. We'll set off in two hours and must arrive within 24 hours."

Without any hesitation, Kikuchi Kohei immediately said respectfully, "Yes, Master, I will make the arrangements right away."

Two hours later, a ten-person team had assembled in the courtyard of Wu Han Palace.

They prepared three tracked snowmobiles, which are very large and each can fit ten people.

Wu Bolin (Bick) rode in one car, while Kikuchi Kohei drove, and the rest of the passengers rode in two other cars.

Three snowmobiles drove out of the camp and headed towards the mountains hundreds of kilometers away.

Wu Bolin (Bick)'s vehicle was in the middle of the convoy. He didn't rush to meditate and cultivate. Instead, he sat in the passenger seat, looking at the vast ice-covered continent around him, and asked Kikuchi Kohei, "Kikuchi, how thick is the ice sheet in Antarctica?"

"Ice layer?" Kohei Kikuchi paused, then said, "You mean the ice cap, right?"

Wu Bolin (Bick) waved his hand: "It's the same thing. I just want to know how thick this ice layer is between the ice layer and the actual land."

Kohei Kikuchi thought for a moment and said, "The vast majority of flat land in Antarctica is made up of ice sheets formed entirely from frozen seawater, with an average thickness of over two thousand meters."

"Two thousand meters..." Wu Bolin (Bick) was somewhat shocked.

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As the ancients said, "It takes more than one cold day for ice to freeze three feet deep," and three feet is only about one meter.

However, the ice layer here averages over two thousand meters.

If the legendary Gate of Ascension is not on the ice sheet, but on the land beneath it, wouldn't it require venturing two thousand meters into the ice to find it?

Thinking of this, Wu Bolin (Bick) felt a sense of despair.

Having seen a map of Antarctica, he already knew just how vast the continent was. He had initially thought the search for clues would be on ice sheets covering millions of square kilometers, but now it seemed he would be searching within a vast expanse of ice and snow, spanning millions of square kilometers on the surface and extending two kilometers deep. This level of difficulty could be described as hellish.

However, even though the difficulty level is hellish, Wu Bolin (Bick) still has no intention of giving up.

He knew very well that under Wu Feiyan's command, he had no chance of escaping her control. If he couldn't find the path to immortality, he might not even outlive Wu Feiyan. Therefore, Antarctica might be his best chance.

So he secretly vowed that as long as the legendary Gate of Ascension really existed, he would find it no matter where it was!

After a full 24 hours of non-stop travel, the three snowmobiles finally arrived at the location designated by Wu Bolin (Bick).

This place is located in a north-facing mountain pass, where the cold wind is biting.

After getting out of the car, Wu Bolin (Bick) walked on the glacier. After a few steps, he stopped, pressed his palm against the ice surface, and released his spiritual energy to explore and perceive the situation and structure beneath the ice cap.

With Wu Bolin (Bick)'s strength, if his spiritual energy were to spread through the air, no movement within a radius of ten kilometers would escape his perception. However, when faced with an ice sheet more than two thousand meters thick, the transmission power was significantly reduced.

Let alone probing the area under the ice sheet within a ten-kilometer radius, even after his spiritual energy was released and penetrated the ice to reach the rocky ground, the range it spread out was only about three or four miles.

Seeing that he was stroking the ice with his hand and his brows furrowed, Kohei Kikuchi, who was loyal to him, couldn't help but ask with concern, "Masato, what are you doing?"

Wu Bolin (Bick) said impatiently, "This is not something you need to worry about."

After saying that, he stood up and said to Kohei Kikuchi, "Get in the car and drive straight south for two kilometers."

Kohei Kikuchi immediately nodded and said respectfully, "I obey!"

He then immediately called for the others to get on the bus.

Wu Bolin (Bick) returned to the car, constantly sighing and clicking his tongue. He couldn't help but think, "Each exploration only covers an area of about two kilometers in radius. How long will it take to explore the entire Antarctic continent? Moreover, the spiritual energy consumed each time we explore to a depth of more than two thousand meters is considerable. If this continues, our spiritual energy will be depleted, and we won't be able to replenish it. Won't we have no choice but to give up?"

While driving, Kohei Kikuchi couldn't help but ask, "Masato, is something on your mind? Why don't you tell me and see if I can offer any help you can?"

Wu Bolin (Bick) sneered: "Just drive your car properly. This is none of your business. If you say another word, I'll cut your tongue out!"

Seeing that he seemed somewhat angry, Kikuchi Kohei immediately dared not say another word.

Wu Bolin (Bick) was unaware that modern Antarctic scientific research already possesses something called ice radar. This device has a detection depth of two to five thousand meters and can detect structures beneath the ice surface. Many subglacial basins, bedrock, lakes, and even ice fissures are detected by it. This type of radar comes in two forms: ground-based and airborne. Ground-based radar, as the name suggests, is operated and used on the ground, while airborne radar is used by being hoisted into the air by airplanes or drones. Both of these types of equipment are present at the Japanese research station, which is now Wu Han Palace.

However, the use of ground-based ice radar is not hindered by the current winter season, which prevents aircraft from operating.

If Wu Bolin (Bick) were to tell Kikuchi Kohei about his needs, Kikuchi Kohei would definitely recommend a ground-based ice radar to him immediately. He would only need to go back and install the radar on the vehicle, and he could conduct detection along the way, which would be infinitely more efficient than Wu Bolin (Bick) searching for it bit by bit on his own.

Unfortunately, Wu Bolin (Bick), who had been in seclusion for a century, had not read many books, and had no in-depth understanding of modern technology, knew nothing about these things. He even had a transcendent sense of superiority, believing that apart from spiritual energy, no one could possibly detect what was under the ice layer more than two thousand meters deep.