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When charlie wade heard the faint sound of an engine, the other three girls were completely confused.

Apart from the sound of the wind and the rustling of the wind blowing the ice and snow on the ground, there is no other sound here. How could there be a helicopter?

Moreover, when they arrived at the research station and met with the Nordic research team, they heard them say that helicopters are rarely used in Antarctica during the winter. Unless there is an emergency concerning personal safety, it is absolutely impossible to risk starting them, as a slight mistake could result in the destruction of the aircraft and the loss of life.

However, since charlie wade said he heard it, they all believed that charlie wade was definitely not just saying it casually.

So Lin Wan'er (Alani) said, "Perhaps it's another scientific expedition team's helicopter on a mission."

charlie wade said, "If helicopters are really deployed for the mission, it's highly likely that someone has been injured."

As he spoke, he frowned and said, "The helicopter seems to be getting closer and closer to us."

At this moment, dozens of kilometers away, Wu Hangong's helicopter was searching along the predetermined route.

They mounted an aerial ice radar on the helicopter and used it at full power to detect the ice sheet below.

Their planned flight path brought them within a few kilometers of the Nordic research station. Because they needed to explore the ice sheet, they had to precisely control the helicopter's altitude, keeping it as close to the ground as possible.

As the helicopter drew closer, Yun Rugo and Song Ruyu also heard its movements. Yun Rugo asked charlie wade, "Mr. wade, should we go back first, or wait here and see?"

"Let's wait and see," charlie wade said. "They've flown this far; it doesn't seem like they're here to rescue people. After all, in such extreme weather, who would send someone out to carry out a mission this far?"

"Okay." The group decided to wait and see which country's research helicopter would be carrying out such a large-scale mission at this time.

Because Wu Han Palace's scientific research helicopter was conducting exploration, it was not moving very fast. The four of them waited for a long time before a helicopter appeared in the aurora-covered sky.

Although they were still several kilometers away, Charlie Wade immediately spotted the large red circle on the fuselage and exclaimed in surprise, "Looks like a Japanese helicopter. What are they up to at this time of year?"

Lin Wan'er (Alani) remembered something and said, "When you were in seclusion, I saw some news about Antarctica. It seems that the Japanese research team launched their largest-ever winter research expedition to Antarctica this year. It is said that the research stations are fully staffed or even almost overstaffed."

"Oh?" Charlie Wade also found it strange and said, "We've been here once before, so we know that even if some countries have permanent stations that are still operating year-round, they are reducing their personnel to ensure sufficient supplies. After all, it's not easy to supply supplies, and now they can't even get them in. With Japan launching such a large-scale operation this time, can their supply reserves be used?"

Lin Wan'er (Alani) shook her head: "I don't know about that, but what you said makes sense. Even if they can bring a lot of supplies through the research vessel, the scale of the research station is limited. Take our current research station, for example. First of all, there is a clear limit to the fuel reserves. Moreover, the construction of the oil storage tank is very troublesome. Not only does the entire oil storage tank equipment need to be transported directly from other continents, but the supporting stabilization equipment and transmission pipelines also need to be transported to the station. The oil tanks need to be unloaded from the ship and transported to the research station. A large pit also needs to be dug to bury them. This definitely cannot be completed in winter. They have not announced any information about the expansion of the research station. With so many people suddenly coming, the fuel and supplies may not be enough."

"What's more, they're using helicopters on such a large scale. I've looked at the map these past few days and roughly know the locations of some other countries' research stations. It's at least 300 kilometers from the Japanese research station. Their helicopters not only didn't turn back, but they kept going forward. This trip will probably consume a lot of fuel. Are they just trying to survive? If dozens of people don't have fuel to generate electricity and keep warm, it could easily lead to deaths."

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Charlie Wade thought Lin Wan'er (Alani)'s words made sense, so he said, "I'll ask someone to help me find out what's going on. If the Japanese are planning to conduct large-scale scientific research in Antarctica this winter, it will be a problem for us."

Lin Wan'er (Alani) nodded and said, "Does the young master want to ask Miss Ito for help?"

"Yes." Charlie Wade smiled. "Nanako has a lot of influence in Japan. Her people should be able to figure out what big moves Japan is planning in Antarctica."

He then called the three of them back to the research station and used a satellite phone to call Nanako.

When the call connected, Nanako asked with surprise and delight, “Is charlie wadejun calling me from Antarctica right now?”

“Yes.” charlie wade smiled and said, “We are still under the aurora borealis in Antarctica and are heading back.”

“How romantic.” Nanako couldn’t help but exclaim, then asked him, “Did charlie wadejun call because there’s something he needs me to do?”

charlie wade said directly, “Nanako, I hope you can help me investigate what Japan is up to with this largest-ever Antarctic expedition. It would be even better if you could figure out their mission.”

Nanako immediately replied, “No problem, charlie wadejun, I’ll have someone look into it right away.”

The Ito family’s influence in Japan is no less than that of the Samsung family in South Korea.

They wield significant influence not only in the private and financial spheres but also in various government departments and even within the cabinet.

Although Japan’s Antarctic expedition was kept highly confidential, this level of secrecy was like a thin sheet of paper to the Ito family, easily pierced with a simple gesture.

So, Nanako quickly called back and told charlie wade, “charlie wade-kun, I just had someone look into it. This Japanese scientific expedition to Antarctica, on the surface, is the largest in history, but it was actually caused by a human accident.”

“A human error?” charlie wade asked her, “Do you know the specifics?”

Nanako said, “I know. The newly launched research vessel transported the research team that was on a winter mission to Antarctica. They planned to unload the personnel and supplies and then return with the summer research team. However, because they needed a few days to transport the supplies, the ship’s propulsion system suddenly malfunctioned and could not be repaired in a short time. Now the ship is frozen in ice, far beyond its icebreaking capabilities, so the ship and its crew are stuck in Antarctica. In order to avoid a scandal, they announced that it was done on purpose.”

charlie wade frowned even more deeply and said, “If twice the number of personnel are stranded in Antarctica, then supplies and fuel should be quite scarce. How could they be so extravagant, directly using helicopters? Could you also ask the Japanese side what mission the helicopters are carrying out? Shouldn’t the research team here report to Japan?”

Nanako then said, “charlie wade-kun, please wait a moment. I’ll ask about the helicopter again.”

“Okay, Nanako, thank you for your hard work.”

charlie wade waited for a while, and then Nanako called back, saying with some shock, “charlie wade-kun, the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology said that they did not see any record of the helicopter taking off. If what you just saw was really a helicopter

from the Japanese research station, then it can only mean that they deliberately concealed the helicopter's movement information."

charlie wade was even more puzzled.

First, the research team members were stranded; second, the research team members secretly called in helicopters without the knowledge of the domestic authorities. This doesn't seem like a normal situation at all.

So he asked Nanako, "Isn't the Japanese research vessel stuck in transit? Do you have the coordinates of its location? I want to go and take a look!"

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charlie wade had been on a research vessel once and knew that although it looked like a ship, the design redundancy of its various systems was probably more than that of two ships combined.

It's somewhat illogical for a ship like this to break down so suddenly.

Furthermore, the fact that the Japanese research team had begun using helicopters without informing their superiors and had even turned off their GPS made him feel uneasy. He felt that these people weren't trapped here, but rather deliberately wanted to stay for some purpose.

However, this motive is quite strange.

They are all research team members. If they really have any Antarctic research projects, they should be in charge of the newly arrived team members. Moreover, once the project is decided, they will definitely make all kinds of preparations before departure, including personnel, materials and equipment.

In that case, the research team members who had already spent the entire summer here and should have returned to Japan, as well as the crew members of the research vessel, would have no need to deliberately stay in Antarctica.

Moreover, not only did they stay, they also started their own little schemes in Antarctica. What was their purpose?

Aren't they afraid of being held accountable by the Chinese authorities?

What's even more outrageous is that flying helicopters in Antarctica during this season is extremely dangerous. They are all scientific research team members, not soldiers following orders. Why would they take such a big risk to do something in Antarctica that is not known to the authorities?

This makes even less sense.

Originally, charlie wade could have ignored these matters, but with these Japanese research team members flying back and forth in helicopters, and even starting to fly over his head, he felt uneasy if he didn't figure out what they were up to.

Therefore, charlie wade decided to first go to their stranded research vessel to see if there was anything unusual, or better yet, to find someone directly to ask and find out what they were doing.

Most importantly, we must ensure that their activities avoid the vicinity of the Nordic research station. Otherwise, if the Buddha's handprint appears in the sky again and is discovered by them and spread, it will be a real problem.

charlie wade shared his concerns with Lin Wan'er (Alani), Yun Rugo, and Song Ruyu. They all felt that the Japanese expedition team was indeed acting strangely, and since charlie wade's current cultivation relied on the changes of the aurora, the Japanese expedition team flying around was definitely a hidden danger.

So Lin Wan'er (Alani) asked him, "Young Master, you asked Miss Ito for the coordinates of the research vessel, don't you plan to go to their research station first?"

charlie wade shook his head and said, "No matter what they're up to, the research station is their core area. In comparison, the research vessels that can't be moved are definitely on the periphery. I think it's best to be cautious and start with the research vessels first."

Lin Wan'er (Alani) said thoughtfully, "What you say makes sense, young master. It's always good to be cautious."

Yun Rugo then said, "Mr. wade, let me go with you; it will be of some help to you."

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charlie wade politely declined, saying, "Miss Yun, Miss Song, you two should stay here to take care of Miss Lin. She has no cultivation, and if she encounters danger, she may not be able to protect herself. I will go alone and return in a day."

Lin Wan'er (Alani) said, "Young master, you don't need to worry about me. I can stay in the research station and not go out even half a step. I don't think there will be any danger."

"no."

charlie wade firmly refused, saying, "The environment here is special. If we really encounter danger, we won't be able to provide support in a short time. I can feel more at ease if Miss Yun and Miss Song stay and take care of things."

Seeing charlie wade's firm attitude, Lin Wan'er (Alani) nodded gently and said, "Then please be careful, young master."

Nanako quickly found the coordinates of the research vessel that had run aground for Charlie Wade. It was about 300 kilometers away from Charlie Wade's location. However, since the ship was stranded on the coastline at the end of summer, it was now possible to sail across the frozen sea.

Because the terrain of the frozen sea is relatively flat, the snowmobile can travel a little faster and can reach the destination in five hours.

However, snowmobiles are large and noisy, making them easy to spot, so Charlie Wade decided to drive to a location 50 kilometers from his target first, and then switch to walking from there.

Soon, he drove a light snowmobile from the Nordic research station, speeding across the ice until he stopped and turned off the engine fifty kilometers from his target.

Charlie Wade left the car behind and gathered invisible spiritual energy beneath his feet. Although the spiritual energy was not enough to make him levitate, it was enough to form a barrier between his feet and the ice surface. Then, he silently raced across the snow-covered ground at a speed no less than that of a snowmobile.

Meanwhile, the Japanese research vessel had been frozen over for nearly a month.

However, although the surroundings were freezing cold and the environment seemed extremely harsh, it was actually the most stable time for this ship, because it was completely frozen on the ice, like a huge ice structure, and could remain motionless no matter how strong the wind and snow were outside.

With ample reserves of marine diesel fuel, the generator set roared continuously, and the heat generated by the internal combustion engine made the entire cabin warm and comfortable.

At this moment, Wu Bolin (Bick)'s lackey, Matsushita Heikichi, was bored out of his mind in his captain's cabin.

When Wu Bolin (Bick) left, he announced that he would become the new captain of the research vessel. Due to psychological suggestion, all the crew members on the ship, including the previous captain, treated him with utmost respect.

He was now thoroughly enjoying the feeling of being respected, and coupled with the boredom of being frozen here every day, he began to enjoy life on the ship.

Moreover, Wu Bolin (Bick)'s energy is currently focused on urging the expedition team to find the Gate of Ascension. Apart from having Matsushita Heikichi stand by here, no other orders have come in, so Matsushita Heikichi's days are even more leisurely.

The others on board had also gotten used to this idle state over the past few days. In this freezing weather, they didn't send anyone to keep watch; everyone stayed in their warm rooms, only routinely keeping the radar on.

However, the ship's radar could not detect any human-shaped targets, so no one expected that someone had already rapidly approached the research vessel.

In the blink of an eye, charlie wade had arrived below the Japanese research vessel. Although the ship's side was at least ten meters above the ice, he simply used his legs to leap up from below the ship's side and landed lightly on the deck.

Since the ship no longer needed to sail, and there was no one in the cockpit, charlie wade, finding no trace of anyone on the deck, immediately used his spiritual energy to search the entire interior of the ship.

Finding that almost all the crew members were in their own cabins, he focused his attention on the only person living in a single cabin.

That person was Matsushita Heikichi, who was sitting in his room with his legs crossed, listening to music.

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As Matsushita Heikichi belted out his song with his hoarse voice, he suddenly noticed a figure appear beside him.

Before he could even react, he had already lost the ability to move.

He could only stare at charlie wade in terror, his whole being in a state of extreme panic.

charlie wade didn't know if the man spoke Chinese, but considering that these Japanese people working on the research vessel must have at least a university education, they should be able to understand some English. So he planned to give him a psychological suggestion and then ask him a question in English. But when he actually gave him the suggestion, he was shocked to find that there was already a suggestion in this man's mind!

A cultivator?!

charlie wade suddenly became alert.

Are there cultivators in Antarctica besides myself?

Then... this person must be one of the three elders who disappeared from the Earth Network system after arriving in Ushuaia, right?!

A few days ago, just as charlie wade was setting off for Antarctica, the ground network system discovered that one of the three elders had already arrived in Ushuaia.

At the time, charlie wade was worried that this person might be tracking him, but he never heard from him again.

Unbeknownst to him, Wu Bolin (Bick), in order to reach Antarctica, no longer used any public transportation, but instead took a fishing boat to the shipping lane where the research vessel was departing, and took the opportunity to board the Japanese research vessel.

However, now that Charlie Wade saw that the Japanese crew members had been psychologically manipulated, he immediately guessed that the elder's route to Antarctica was through the research vessel he was on.

The fact that the research vessel ran aground here proves that the other party had already arrived in Antarctica, and the recent major actions of the Japanese research team must have been entirely under their control.

At this moment, Charlie Wade was very worried.

He didn't know what the elder's purpose was in coming to Antarctica—whether he was looking for him, for Lin Wan'er (Alani), or for some other reason.

He wanted to get some answers from the Japanese man in front of him, but the thought that the man had been psychologically manipulated made him uneasy.

Psychological suggestion cannot coexist.

In other words, if he wanted this Japanese man to obey him, he had to erase the psychological suggestion left by the elder.

Although Wu Bolin (Bick) was much stronger than Charlie Wade, spiritual energy was still very precious to him. Therefore, when he made psychological suggestions to these ordinary people, he only touched on the surface and did not waste too much spiritual energy. As long as Charlie Wade used stronger spiritual energy, he could erase the suggestions he left behind.

However, this also carries a significant risk.

Once the elder returns and sees this person, he will likely notice the other person's unusual behavior.

Even if he still manages to make this Japanese man obey him, if he examines the situation carefully, he will find that the psychological suggestion in the other man's mind has changed. It's like how everyone recognizes their own handwriting. Others may be able to imitate their own handwriting to deceive a third party, but they certainly can't deceive the person in question.

Charlie Wade soon realized that he seemed to be in a dilemma.

Using psychological suggestion might be discovered by the other side; if psychological suggestion is not used, the only option is to kill the Japanese man, otherwise he will definitely report to the other side immediately.

However, killing him still poses a significant hidden danger.

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A person who has been given psychological suggestion cannot commit suicide or disappear on their own. If they do disappear, there must be someone else behind it.

The other side may have already psychologically manipulated everyone on the ship, which means they won't fight each other. So, whether they kill the Japanese man or make him disappear, the other side will realize the danger.

After much deliberation, charlie wade decided to take the risk and try psychological suggestion, at least that way he would still have a chance to fool the other party.

Moreover, this research vessel is probably not the main base for the other party's search for the Antarctic continent. Perhaps the other party will not come in person again, in which case there will be no risk of being discovered.

Therefore, charlie wade immediately made a decision, using stronger spiritual energy to erase Matsushita Heikichi's psychological suggestion, and then placed a new one.

Once his mental suggestion took effect, charlie wade asked in English, "Whose orders were you to stay here before?"

Matsushita Heikichi immediately replied, "I am acting on the orders of the Immortal Guanghan."

"The Immortal of Guanghan?" charlie wade wondered. He took out the Poqing Society elder who had disappeared in Ushuaia from his phone, showed it to the other person, and asked, "Take a look, is this the person?"

Matsushita Heikichi immediately nodded: "That's right, it's him, this is the Guanghan Zhenren."

His answer was not unexpected for charlie wade, so he asked again, "Where is this person now?"

Matsushita Heikichi replied, "The real man should be at Wu Han Palace at this moment."

"Wu Han Palace? Where is it?"

After Wu Bolin (Bick) proclaimed himself the Immortal of the Moon Palace, he treated all the Japanese as his servants. Therefore, he specifically ordered Kikuchi Kohei to inform everyone about the renaming of the research station and his self-proclaimed title of the Immortal of the Moon Palace. So Matsushita Heikichi had already received the order.

In response to charlie wade's question, he truthfully replied, "Wu Han Palace is the Showa-era Japanese research station in Antarctica, only it was renamed by the real person."

charlie wade was both amused and exasperated. This elder was quite playful, even giving the Japanese research station such a chuunibyou-esque name. It seemed he also aspired to be a leader like Wu Feiyan.

Then, charlie wade asked him, “Has that Guanghan Zhenren been here recently?”

“No,” Matsushita Heikichi said. “He hasn’t come back since he landed and went to the research station, but he sent someone over a few days ago to transport some supplies.”

charlie wade continued, “Do you know what he’s going to do in Antarctica?”

“I’m not quite sure,” Matsushita Heikichi replied. “I’ve only heard that the Mashin has deployed several snowmobiles and a helicopter to scan the entire Antarctic continent with ice radar.”

“Ice radar? What does that do?”

Matsushita Heikichi said, “It scans the structure beneath the ice sheet at a depth of two to four thousand meters, which can reveal the topography and structure beneath the ice sheet.”

“Under the ice cap...”

charlie wade frowned.

The elder instructed these Japanese to explore beneath the ice sheet, so it seems he was unaware that he and Lin Wan’er (Alani) were also there.

But what’s so interesting about exploring the Antarctic ice sheet? Didn’t it already take shape millions of years ago? You probably wouldn’t even find a dinosaur fossil here.

He asked Matsushita Heikichi, “Do you know what he’s looking for?”

“I don’t know,” Matsushita Heikichi said. “All I know is that they are exploring outside every day. Wu Han Palace is consuming fuel rapidly, and they need to transport some marine diesel from our oil tanks. However, at their rate of consumption, it won’t be long before our ship runs out of fuel. Not to mention that it won’t be enough to last until the frozen sea thaws in the summer, we probably won’t even make it through this winter.”

charlie wade frowned and asked, “Without fuel, are you doomed?”

“Yes,” Matsushita Heikichi said casually, “If we run out of fuel, we won’t last two days before we freeze to death.”

charlie wade sighed inwardly. This elder seemed to be a heartless executioner who didn’t care about the lives of these people in order to achieve his goals, and was even hastening their deaths.

He became even more curious: what was that person looking for in Antarctica?

