

Chapter 7140

Brovnen was 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, Brovnen suddenly understood what kind of life Victoria had lived for the past few hundred years.

She was an empress surrounded by tens of thousands,

Even hundreds of thousands of people!

And she sat on that throne for hundreds of years!

If only he could have the chance to live as freely and happily as she for hundreds of years.

In the sub-zero temperatures, Kikuchi Kohei managed to break out in a sweat.

The sweat fell onto his eyelashes, where it froze into ice crystals in the cold wind,

Eventually forming two thick, icy eyebrows on his eyelids.

He rushed to Brovnen, knelt on one knee, and said,

"Reporting to Guanghan Zhenren, all members of the Showa Station are ready!"

Brovnen frowned and questioned, "Say it again, what station?!"

Kikuchi Kohei then noticed the three Chinese characters on the stone tablet behind Brovnen and quickly corrected himself,

"Reporting to Guanghan Zhenren, the members of Wu Han Gong Zhenren are ready!"

Brovnen was satisfied and coldly said,

"Since you are ready, then let's begin!"

Kikuchi Kohei, like a conductor of a symphony orchestra, turned to look at the crowd, waved his hands, and the crowd shouted in extremely strange accents,

"Zaixia Canjian Gong Han Zhenren!"

The crowd shouted with great enthusiasm,

And the white mist they exhaled rose up at the same time,

Merging into one, which was quite a spectacular sight.

Brovnen was momentarily stunned, thinking that he had misheard.

He was Guanghan Zhenren; how could these Japanese people insist on calling him Gong Han Zhenren?

He initially thought these Japanese were deliberately being disobedient,

But then he realized that didn't make sense.

They'd already been given psychological suggestions.

Even if he made them stand naked in minus fifty degrees Celsius, they wouldn't hesitate for even half a second.

It was clearly a language barrier.

So, with a dark face, he said to Kikuchi Kohei,

"From today onwards, teach them to speak Chinese for six hours every day,"

"And each person is only allowed three hours of sleep!"

Kikuchi Kohei immediately replied loudly, "Yes, sir!"

Meanwhile, tens of thousands of kilometers away, the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology was unaware that members of their two research teams,

Along with the crew of their only heavy icebreaker, they had become Brovnen's lackeys.

Since learning that the research vessel had safely arrived in Antarctica,

They hadn't paid much attention to the research teams, assuming they were only carrying out routine tasks and that these professionals would smoothly complete the handover of personnel and supplies in the next few days.

Three days later, when the research team members' Chinese proficiency had significantly improved,

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 repaired on-site before it could begin its return journey.

Officials from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) were puzzled.

How could a brand-new research vessel break down so soon after arriving in Antarctica?

Normally, minor mechanical problems wouldn't affect normal navigation and were repaired on the go.

But this vessel was completely immobilized and required repairs in Antarctica.

They immediately contacted the research vessel, expressing their biggest concern:

"Can it return before the coastline freezes beyond its icebreaking limit?"

Captain Matsushita Heikichi replied:

"It's unpredictable."

"Please prepare for the possibility that the research vessel may not be able to return this winter."

MEXT immediately erupted in chaos.

Leaving dozens of people and a ship stranded in Antarctica wasn't particularly dangerous,

As the ship and research stations had ample supplies, enough to keep them there until the Antarctic summer.

The crucial question was: who the hell could afford the embarrassment?

While the news of the research vessel's departure didn't garner widespread attention,

It did attract interest from polar enthusiasts and the families of the expedition team.

If they didn't return, it would be a disgrace to the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) if the news got back home.

It would be a disgrace to the entire Japanese scientific community if it got international attention.

This wasn't just the MEXT being overly anxious.

There was precedent.

Not long ago, two American astronauts were stranded in space for 286 days due to a Starliner malfunction,

Their planned eight-day mission ended in a shocking 286-day ordeal.

The image of one of the astronauts, emaciated to the point of being skin and bones, shocked the world.

With American astronauts stranded in space and Japanese researchers stranded in Antarctica, this would be a major blow to MEXT.

Although the tradition of seppuku (ritual suicide) for those primarily responsible for the disaster is less common in Japan these days,

The tradition of suicide by hanging still exists.

For example, Yasuhiro Sato, the person in charge of the Fukushima nuclear accident,

Knew he had made a grave mistake and ultimately chose to atone with his death.

If a major blunder occurred during the polar expedition, resulting in an international scandal, the pressure on the person in charge,

While not as immense as that of Yasuhiro Sato, it would still be at least 70-80%.

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 request the Antarctic expedition team members and research vessel crew to inform their families that they were on a secret scientific mission in Antarctica and would not be able to return home for a short period.

They also requested that they maintain a unified narrative and never mention the ship's malfunction.

To appease everyone and ensure full cooperation, they even offered a ten-times-daily-pay rule:

For every day they stayed in Antarctica beyond the original plan,

They would receive ten extra days' wages, continuing until their return.

The expedition team members and crew had completely submitted to Brovnen and were truly indifferent to money.

When Brovnen asked them to agree, they immediately and without hesitation agreed.

The unanimous and prompt agreement from everyone moved the high-ranking officials of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology to tears several times.

They believed their researchers' dedication was unparalleled in the world.

Reassured, they immediately announced that Japan would launch its largest and longest-running Antarctic winter scientific expedition in history, leading the Japanese public to believe there was some major discovery that couldn't be revealed yet, causing a frenzy of excitement online.

Little did they know, it was all the work of Brovnen, the "Real Person of the Moonlit Night."