

## Chapter 7148

Maria continued:

"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."

Charlie thought Maria's words made sense, so he said,

"I'll ask someone to help me find out what's going on."

"If they are planning to conduct large-scale scientific research in Antarctica this winter, it will be a problem for us."

Maria nodded and said, "Young Master,"

"Are you going to ask Miss Ito for help?"

"Yes."

Charlie smiled and said, "Nanako has a lot of influence in Japan."

"Her people should be able to figure out what big moves the government is planning in Antarctica."

Then, while calling the three of them back to the research station,

He used a satellite phone to call Nanako.

The call connected, and Nanako asked with surprise and delight,

"Are you calling me from Antarctica, Charlie?"

"Yes," Charlie smiled,

"I'm still under the aurora borealis in Antarctica, heading back."

"How romantic,"

Nanako exclaimed, then asked,

"Is there something you need me to do?"

Charlie said directly, "Nanako,"

"I hope you can help me investigate what the Japanese government 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."

"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 immense power not only in the private and financial sectors,  
But also in various government departments and even within the cabinet.

Although Japan's Antarctic expedition was highly classified,

This level of secrecy was like a thin sheet of paper to the Ito family—easily pierced.

So, Nanako quickly called back and told Charlie,

"Charlie, I just had someone look into it."

"This scientific expedition to Antarctica, on the surface, is the largest in history."

"But it was actually caused by an accident."

"An accident?"

Charlie asked her, "Do you know the specifics?"

Nanako replied, "Yes."

"A newly launched research vessel transported the winter expedition team to Antarctica."

"They planned to unload the personnel and supplies and then return with the summer expedition team."

"However, because they needed several days to transport supplies, the ship's propulsion system suddenly malfunctioned."

"And couldn't be repaired in a short time."

"Now the ship is stuck in frozen ice."

"Far exceeding its icebreaking capabilities,"

"So both the crew and the ship are stranded there."

"To avoid a scandal, they announced it was intentional."

Charlie frowned even more deeply and said,

"If twice the number of personnel are stranded in Antarctica,"

"Then supplies and fuel should be quite scarce."

"Why would they be so extravagant, using helicopters directly?"

"Could you ask on that side again what mission the helicopters are carrying out?"

"Shouldn't the expedition team here report to Japan?"

Nanako said, "Charlie, please wait a moment."

"I'll ask about the helicopters."

"Okay, Nanako, thank you for your hard work."

Charlie waited a while, and Nanako called back,

Somewhat shocked, saying,

"Charlie, the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology said they didn't see any takeoff record for the helicopter."

"If what you just saw was really the helicopter from the Japanese research station,"

"Then it can only mean they deliberately concealed the helicopter's movement information."

Charlie was even more puzzled.

First, the research team was stranded.

Second, the research team secretly called for a helicopter without telling their home country—this didn't seem like normal at all.

So he asked Nanako,

"Isn't the Japanese research vessel stranded?"

"Do you have its location coordinates?"

"I want to go there and take a look!"