

VENTER PÅ STORM
WAITING FOR STORM

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Venter på storm

Øverst på den ramponerede flagstang sad raven. Jeg betragtede den i lang tid fra mit vindue. Fuglen havde svært ved at stå fast på sin lille platform, når der kom et vindstød. Den virkede ophidset og skræppede med korte mellemrum ud over husets tage.

Lige som jeg var fuglen optaget at holde øje med de forrevne, mørke skyer, der kom til syne ude i horisonten. Vejrforandring!

Jeg vidste fra vejrudsigten, at en storm var på vej. Raven vidste det nok også. Det er min overbevisning, at ravne ved meget mere, end vi antager, at de ved. Det er ikke kun i de gamle sagn, at den er blevet gjort til en klog fugl – raven ER en klog fugl.

Kommunalbestyrelsen havde aftalt møde i bygden Nanortalik i det sydligste Grønland. Mødestedet gik på skift mellem de tre største bosætninger i kommunen. Kommunens hovedkontor ligger i den største by Qaqortoq, så to Targa både og en helikopter transporterede hovedparten af mødedeltagerne ned til

Nanortalik. Nanortalik ligger firs kilometer syd for Qaqortoq.

Nu var mødet snart slut, og alle var bekymret for, om sejladsen hjem ville blive forhindret af stormvejret.

Vi sejlede til Nanortalik i det fineste efterårsvejr. Men nu forandrede vejret sig hurtigt. Stormene i Nanortalik kan være ekstreme. Vindstødene når ofte op over halvtreds meter pr. sekund, og så må selv de store skibe søge læ i vige langs kysten. Der er læ inde i den store skærgård, men stormen ude på Labradorhavet skaber store dønninger overalt i det indenskærs område.

Vi kom afsted. Den lange sejlads foregik i regnbyger, og de højeste bjergtinder omkring os, var allerede pyntet med nysne. Stormen indhentede os, inden vi nåede Qaqortoq, men skipper var erfaren, og den lille båd bevægede sig elegant igennem de større og større dønninger ude fra det store hav.

Waiting for storm

The raven sat on the top of the unpainted flagpole. A while I watched it from my window. When a gust of wind came, the bird had a hard time to remain standing on its small platform. It seemed excited and cawed with short intervals over the roofs of the village.

Just as I, the bird was busy to keep an eye on the ragged, dark clouds, that appeared on the horizon. Weather change!

From the weather forecast I knew that a storm was rising. I am sure the Ravens knew that, too. It is my belief that the Ravens know much more than we assume they do. It is not only in the old legends that it has been made a wise bird – the raven IS a wise bird.

The municipal council had arranged a meeting in the village of Nanortalik in southern Greenland. The meeting place alternated between the three largest settlements in the municipality. The head office of the municipality is located in the largest town Qaqortoq, so two Targa boats and a helicopter transported the majority of the participants

down to Nanortalik. Nanortalik is located eighty kilometres south of Qaqortoq.

Now the meeting was almost closed, and everyone was worried. Would the sailing back be impeded by the stormy weather?

We arrived to Nanortalik in the finest autumn weather. But now the weather changed quickly. The storms in Nanortalik can be extreme. Wind gusts often reach above fifty meters per second, and even the large ocean-going ships must find shelter along the coast. There is lee inside the large archipelago, but the storm out on the Labrador Sea creates large swells all over the coast.

We got along. The long sailing back home took place in rain showers, and the highest mountain peaks around us were already covered with new snow. The storm caught up with us, before we reached Qaqortoq, but the skipper was experienced, and elegantly the small boat moved through the larger and larger swells out from the big sea.



Sydgrønland, september 2014

South Greenland, September 2014



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KOLOFON

*Ugens foto: Venter på storm
Af Keld Jensen*

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COLOPHON

*Photo of the week: Waiting for storm
By Keld Jensen*

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