

The earth road (I)

- A place which gives confusion



by
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The earth road – a place which gives confusion Fladen, Kongerslev

An earth road in the Danish landscape is often characterized by two deep ruts surrounded by a beautiful roadside with all sorts of wild flora and insects. Between the ruts the more robust plants has captured a place.

In the Danish landscape we see earth roads everywhere. It is the farmer's way out to his fields. The earth roads are often bordered by a hedgerow, consisting of all kinds of tree species, but almost everywhere we have the view to the farmer's fields from the earth road.

This earth road is unique because of its surroundings. As an earth road it is quite common. A beautiful sunken road which has existed for hundreds of years. But the surroundings of the earth road bring confusion. A walk on the earth road brings me through the whole gamut of emotions.

The earth road starts out by the road which pasts by the farm Solbjerggården. A road sign is bearing the inscription 'Fladen'. Previously it was a road up to a farm that located on the place named Fladen (the sheet). The farm

was demolished long ago.

At first sight, a walk along this earth road seems not to be particularly attractive. The nearest buildings are a large pig farm. The earth road leads right past a pig house that stinks of organic fertilizer. The industry gives us a lot of cheap food, but ugh! It stinks, and it is not encouraging to think about how the animals are trying to survive inside the windowless shed.

When I quickly made it past the pig house the conditions change to the better. The stench of organic fertilizer disappears, and now I can feel the smell of the wild flora that surrounds the earth road and the crop at the farmer's field.

I have walked and ride my bicycle on this earth road all the way back in my childhood. One of my classmates lived in the farm at the end of the road. It was a weird place. I remember that we were afraid of a polecat which lived in their barn. Near the farm there was a mysterious house. Here lived a hermit who everyone said was weird.

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Up here I find all kinds of animals. Small herds of deer, fox cubs and also a great horned owl can be found here. In the autumn the open fields are home to large flocks of lapwings and whooper swans. In an area with some grave mounds from the Bronze Age the cattle feed off a field.

A first time visitor gets a surprise. Suddenly a deep hole appears at the right side of the earth road. A huge gap has appeared after decades of industrial digging of chalk.

This is where you start to feel confused. The beautiful earth road with the beautiful surroundings and now down in the deep a white

plain with big yellow bulldozers that plough up the chalk. But it is like nature has accepted the human intervention. There are plenty of flora and fauna here. Great Horned Owl has chosen to nest on the slope down to the quarry. A pair of foxes has raised their young in a fox hollow inside the steep slope.

Further on at the end of the earth road an even larger hole appears. Here the farm, which I visited in my childhood, once was located and surrounded by fields. It is all gone now. Instead the earth road ends here on the edge of yet another giant chalk pit.



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Quit

The earth road

Thumbnails





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