

The restless nature

Our meeting shall take place in the southernmost town in Greenland, Nanortalik. The small town is located only about ninety kilometres from Cape Farewell. The waters around Cape Farewell are known to be very difficult. The inhabitants of Nanortalik often witness violent storms which are formed in the Atlantic Ocean, and are moving north towards Cape Farwell and South Greenland.

Our boat ride from the biggest town Qaqortoq is approximately seventy kilometres. We were lucky on the voyage to the south. The sea was calm and we could sail in the open waters outside the skerries much of the distance.

But after a few days stay in Nanortalik, the weather has changed. We have already seen the first front from a low pressure moving from south to north. Storm and rain sweeps over the small houses and the streets of the town. It is best to stay indoors.

We are now on the last day of the visit, all

restless. The weather forecast is analysed carefully. Will we be able to get back home before a new storm moves over southern Greenland? The heavy swells from the Davis Strait are already sending sea spray from the waves over the rock-bound coast around Nanortalik.

The meetings will be closed sooner than planned. By mid-afternoon, we are ready to go. It seems like a relief when we are all on board, and the boat takes off out of the harbour. If everything goes according to the plan we will get back home in a few hours.

Even here inshore the sea seems rough and the big swells get the boat roll violently, as it moves forward in the sometimes rough sea. Even a larger vessel we meet pitch heavily.

I feel restless waiting to reach my hometown Qaqortoq. The restlessness seems also to affect the nature. The seabirds look like in an impatiently and aimlessly fly above the rough sea.



Birds at sea, South Greenland, September 2014