

The first snow

The scenery feels peaceful. The White Mountains covered by new snow contrast with the cold blue fiords. The cold sea fog envelopes the valleys. Here in November the sun is low in the sky and the shades of the mountains are long.

This beautiful, peaceful scenery is the result of the first snow storm of the year. A few hours earlier, most of the southern Greenland was hit by a violent storm from the east. The storm from The Davis Strait brought along large amounts of snow with it. Everything came to a halt. The fishermen and the hunters had to stay in the port. The life in the settlements stands still. The people in South Greenland know how the snowstorms in this part of the country can be violent, even in the middle of a town.

I was on my way home. Already when I got on the plane in the capital of Greenland, Nuuk, we were notified that we might not reach our destination that day. My journey from Nuuk by plane went south to the Atlantic airport Narsarsuaq. From here a helicopter would bring me to my hometown

Qaqortoq. The pilots of the Dash-8 aircraft from Nuuk told us that they would fly us down to Narsarsuaq. Here they would recognize how the visibility and the wind had developed, and then we would, if we were lucky, come down on the air strip, otherwise they would have enough fuel to take the whole trip back to Nuuk.

I calculated that maybe we would be able to land in Narsarsuaq, but it was more uncertain that the last trip to Qaqortoq with the small helicopter could become a reality the same day. The storm and snowfall was still not over. I was not mistaken. We landed safely in Narsarsuaq, but here we went down to the small hotel. The whole day and night was spent indoors. I have previously tried to be detained by the weather, so this situation does not get me down. I am used to be traveling in the Arctic.

The day after the storm had passed, and I got a beautiful helicopter flight over the wilderness of South Greenland, now powdered by the beautiful new white snow.



East of Qaqortoq, South Greenland, November 2014