

Sunset in the bog

A Danish bog has an atmosphere of its own when day turns to night. The voices of the animal life can be heard over long distances and on a quiet summer day the sunset reveals an intense soundscape of life in the rush beds.

In the summer I often take a walk in the bog, Lille Vildmose, when the sun sets. The sunset above the long, flat expanse of stagnant black water, reeds and grass provides an explosion of colours and shades and to this must be added this intensive last breath of sound on the summer day from the life in the bog.

I had to be satisfied for watching and listening to the atmosphere of the African nature from the way that Karen Blixen describes it in her book *Out of Africa*. I think that the intense, exotic atmosphere at sunset here in the bog is similar to the atmosphere that Blixen

found in her Africa when she in the evening took her dog out just before bedtime. Many migratory birds prefer to fly at night, so maybe she unknowingly heard Danish birds on their way to their winter quarters?

The fact is that Denmark shares many of the migratory birds with Africa. Many birds here on the bog are in our dark winter strutting about somewhere down south - and often in Africa.

Blixen's farm in Africa may have been visited by Danish nightingales, redstarts, cuckoos, flycatchers and waders on their passage from the winter headquarters somewhere in the great nature of Africa.

The same birds which this warm summer evening in the Danish bog are making itself known with their final whistle before the nightfall really takes over.



Sunset in the bog, Lille Vildmose, July 2013