

The detail in the chaos

What we simplify to be the order of nature is a chaos of events and conditions we never will be able to fully understand and predict. The human weakness and dense ignorance becomes more understandable as we move around in the vast Greenlandic wilderness.

This day in September we are sailing in The Qooroq Ice Fiord near the glacier. It makes a huge impression to view this landscape created over millennia by the ice and the meltwater. But often we also find the most beautiful expressions of the landscape in the smallest details.

The water around the boat is coloured azure and is muddy. It is almost fresh water from the huge melt-down from the Greenlandic Ice Sheet, and the colour of the water is due to the vast amounts of very fine silt, which the ice has scraped from the underground beneath the ice sheet.

In this huge landscape, I notice a little beautiful detail close to the gunwale of the boat: Among this chaos of melting water, small and large ice crystals and silt in the azure coloured water, a small stem of seaweed has come to the surface after being plunged out of its habitat at the bottom of the fiord. For me the little stem surrounded by melting water, silt and ice becomes a symbol of the chaos of coincidences in which we human beings are living.



*The Qoonoq Fiord,
near Narsarsuaq,
South Greenland,
September 2017*

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