

SPREED The Long and Cold Trip.

By Ella

"Aaaaaaaah," I hollered when the house started to wobble around but it was only me making an cartwheel, but then suddenly I really did start to dance back and forth an tremble upside down. I think I looked crazy but then I just disappeared away from everything, my mom, my dad, my brothers and all my stuff. I didn't even bring Polarn, my stuffed animal.

I was a bit cold and I felt something mushy and wet under my feet and boots, I put my tongue out like a dog and felt something chilly on my tongue, but then it melted away as fast as my brother can eat a banana, and that is very fast. There was a person walking by with a big smile on the face I recognized him as Fridtjof Nansen. Everybody that he saw he said hello to and told the person about the great adventure he was going on, he also asked if they wanted to come along on his adventure, almost everybody said no because they had other work to do on their farms. When he asked if I would like to come along I said "yes" I don't know why it just flew into my mind that whispered I should go. I walked up to him again and said "yes I want to follow you on the trip". First he looked to the ground and ground but then he whispered, "well ok but don't tell anybody that you can follow me". He told me more about the trip and that we were going to cross the whole Greenland inland ice on skies.

We got ready for the trip at Fridtjof's house with his wife Eva Sars helping us. Later the team got to the boat with all the food and supplies. I walked inside of the boat and exclaimed "WOW", I was surprised how large the boat was. I thought we were going to row to Greenland not sail with a huge boat and so much supply on the boat. We left the port and started sailing away from Norway to Greenland, in a huge boat that I have always dreamed to sail in. I have dreamed many things but this is the top one on my list. I really like dreaming about things that I like.

The sky was shining blue with some ice in the ocean. The jackets were big and warm with lots of fur. The first days my face was green and I stood on the hull with my jacket tight around my body. I did not feel spectacular the first days. I did not want to go any further, I wanted to go back as fast as I could to my house with: cartwheels, and the big fire without the parka and Big socks.

After a few days I didn't feel awful or sick any more. The bad thing was that the boat was moving, so much so I could not jump around and do my cartwheels and gymnastics. After a while I thought it was interesting to see how the people that lived before me had it.

When we were eating one day I noticed how good the food was. "I really want to bring some food home" I told the crew. Than the question I always feared came, "where are you from?" all of the people on board asked, "I, I, I come from eeeeh, a far away place called wonderland where everything is made out of candy and toys". "Okay that was a good joke ha ha ha" they tried to get out of their mouths but they couldn't. Now they probably think i'm a clown, I thought. The next day I did something wrong they couldn't stop laughing, I am the clown here on the boat. I started to sleep in my bed (the beds are very uncomfortable for me I don't want to sleep in them), well after an hour or so I did sleep very hard, as cute as a puppie.

All the days passed very rapidly, after all those days they thought I was really nice and I learned how to do a lot of things and also how to be funny. One day when we were sailing it was extra cold, we started to see icebergs that just got bigger and bigger. We landed on land or on ice. We took the skies on and started skiing toward disco bay, with

six of his strongest men including me even though i'm not very strong. The skiing was hard at first then I got better. Fridtjof was much faster than me on skiing, or than everybody because he started to ski when he was a little little little kid. The days were fine with lots of Sun.

This day when we were skiing we saw a huge Polar Bear it was the biggest Polar Bear and the only I have ever seen. I ran with the skies trying to find a tree but I only found tundra so I needed to think about it but I couldn't the bear was after me so fast. I ran with the team to an icicle and ran to the top. I helped the rest of the team up on the huge icicle, when I thought about what I did, I did not like the idea because I knew the icicle could burst open or melt in any second, but I also knew that the bear could get tired any second now, and that is what happened. The bear roamed away with his clumsy body and big paws. He went into the water and swam away and we never saw that cute little bear again (well not little bear).

What a bad and complicated voyage and trip with only ice and ice and snow and snow for one month. The food is gone so we survive on polar bear meat and walrus blubber. I hated it but you get what you get. Fridtjof especially did like the food because he was so interested to reach his goal. Actually he didn't eat anything. Now when we ate dinner I understood why we were doing this trip we were trying to find out if Greenland was made out of ice. I didn't understand why I thought they almost were doing it for fun and maybe discover some things but not this it was impossible to explore this but they said it was possible so I thought that to. We planned all day long while we were skiing. Fridtjof took the front and we went faster but then suddenly he stopped he heard ice cracking "This is the best place to do our investigation on" Nansen said happily. We started to dig, it was hard to dig in the hard ice. We used ice axes that were very expensive so we did not want to lose them when we started we understood that it was not going to work. So we were just going to get over greenlands inland ice with skies, that was a good idea you could get famous for that too.

I woke up in the middle of the night and saw the green lights in the sky, the Aurora Borealis, Fridtjof sat there in the light lonely thinking about his wife and five children that he loved. I went up to him and did not know what to say I just sat there beside him and looked up at the Aurora. It was a very still and calm night. I also felt very lonely I wanted to get back to my mom and dad and my brothers. I missed Polarn, my stuffed animal, that I couldn't bring. At last I asked "is something wrong"?. "I am just thinking about my children I have 2 daughters and 3 sons". He looked very sad. I also think I looked sad too but I did do my best to help him not to feel and look too sad. So I made some good jokes, he did not move a bit he sat there smiling a weak smile. "Think about when you get home your wife and when you get to see your interested children, when you need to tell your story over and over again". He did not answer again, but he did look happier, so I was happy with what I did,

The sun rised in the sky and we were already on our skies. We skied almost for the whole day when we stopped and saw ashen clouds in front of us. We were not shore if we could continue. Fridtjof that was so young didn't know he was only about 27 years old. After some doubt he decided to stop and sleep the whole night. We were woken up by the wind whistling and rustle in our ears. All of us thought this was going to be the worst day but the next day it was worse and the next day it was even worse but the fourth day it was the worst day of all. It continued to be very dreadful weather. It was frightening

We didn't go anywhere, for a long while we waited. When we started again We had more hope because we understood we were so close to our goal so we went faster

and faster until we went super fast. We knew that the last boat had gone for the year so we needed to wait until spring starts. While we were waiting Fridtjof studied Inuits and Eskimo culture.

In spring a boat came to pick us up we had a good journey home but I was also sad because I knew that when we get to the port I will need to say goodbye to everybody in the team. When we got there I sneaked away without anybody seeing me. I made some cartwheels and turned around and svosshhhhhhhh I was home again.

This felt really good, I went to the library and read and learn more about Fridtjof. I read that he had two wives and received the nobel prize for peace. He also made another journey to the north pole with the ship Fram, that he froze in the ice so he drifted to the north pole but it did not work very well. He did not reach the north pole but it was a good trip. Fridtjof died in his home in Poghalda near oslo.

THE END