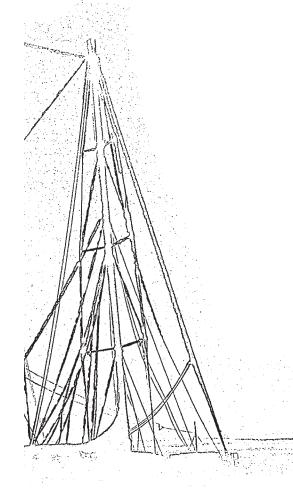
NORTH WAS HERE

ELLIE GA





NORTH WAS HERE ELLIE GA

Ugly Duckling Presse, 2018

At the beginning north was here. But it keeps changing. That's where we were. This is our world. We had a couple of trips outside of this map but not maybe more than four days altogether. These are pressure ridges. I tried to name them after things I know, like the national mountain of Norway. There is another one over there. And that one doesn't have a name.

This is the area where the polar bears used to hang around. They hung around for a week. Around some hummocks. A hummock is a big pile of ice.

That's Tartu. That's Helsinki. Copenhagen is not here. It broke up when we were building the runway.

It's not a long time ago that we saw our last bird. For us, a bird is like a big plane.

So where is New Helsinki? I keep thinking New Helsinki is over here. No, St. Petersburg is over here. This is almost melted. A lot has disappeared. It is a world that moves fast in fact. Like right now. During the summer the boat's position was north-this way. But that doesn't matter.

Tromso, Helsinki, they don't exist? Yes, they exist for me.

In fact, St. Petersburg is not there. It was just a visual moment.

Is there a name for this area? I'm not sure. Why? Because it is not there.

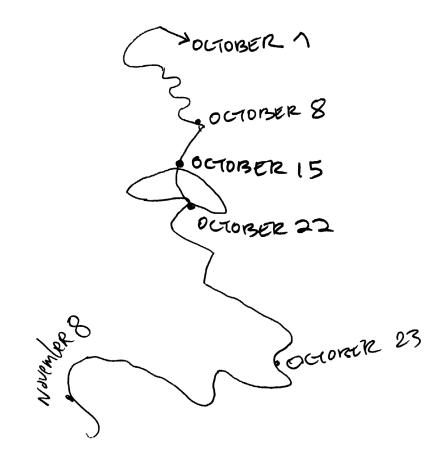
South was there. That's the limit. It is important and not important.

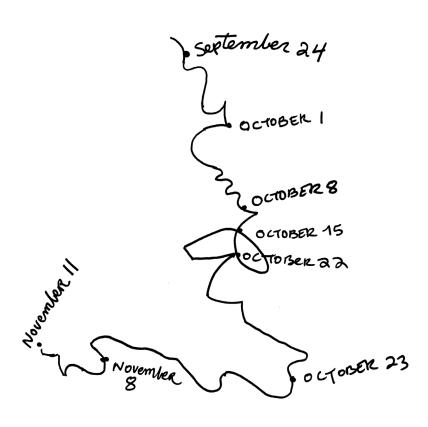
They never did replace Helsinki. We never put it back. It was never here. So there is no New Helsinki after all.



DRIFT DRAWINGS





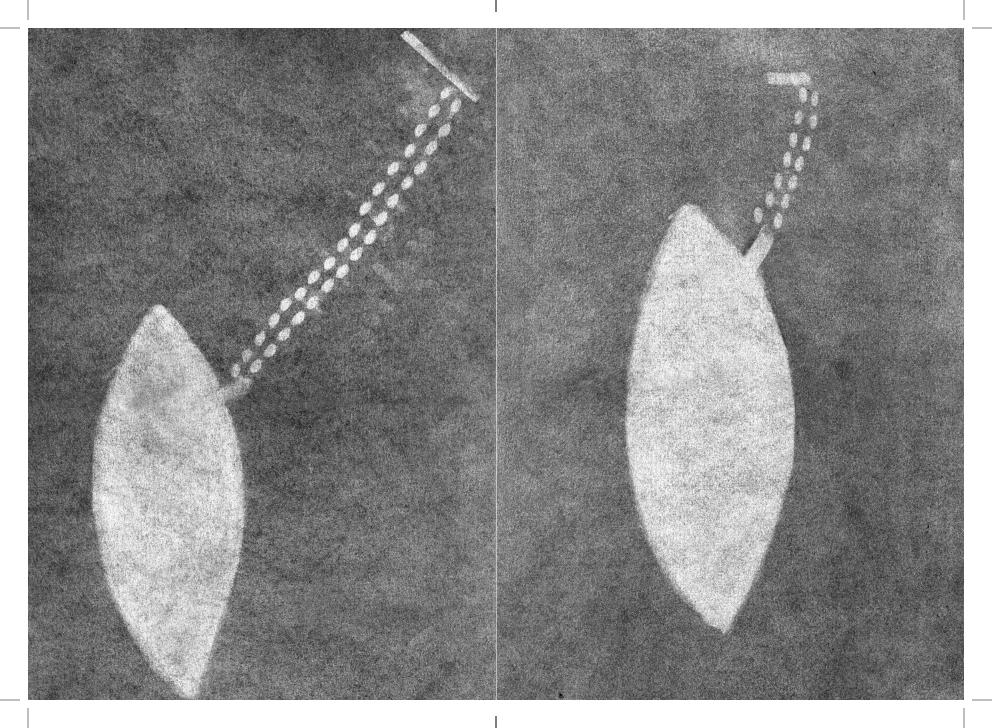


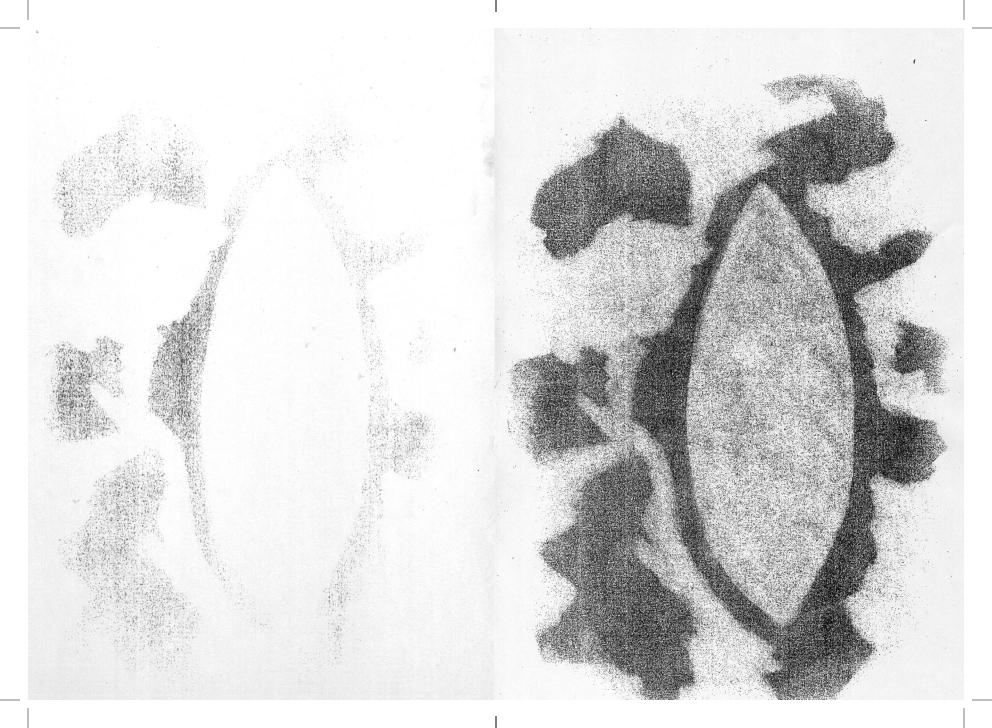
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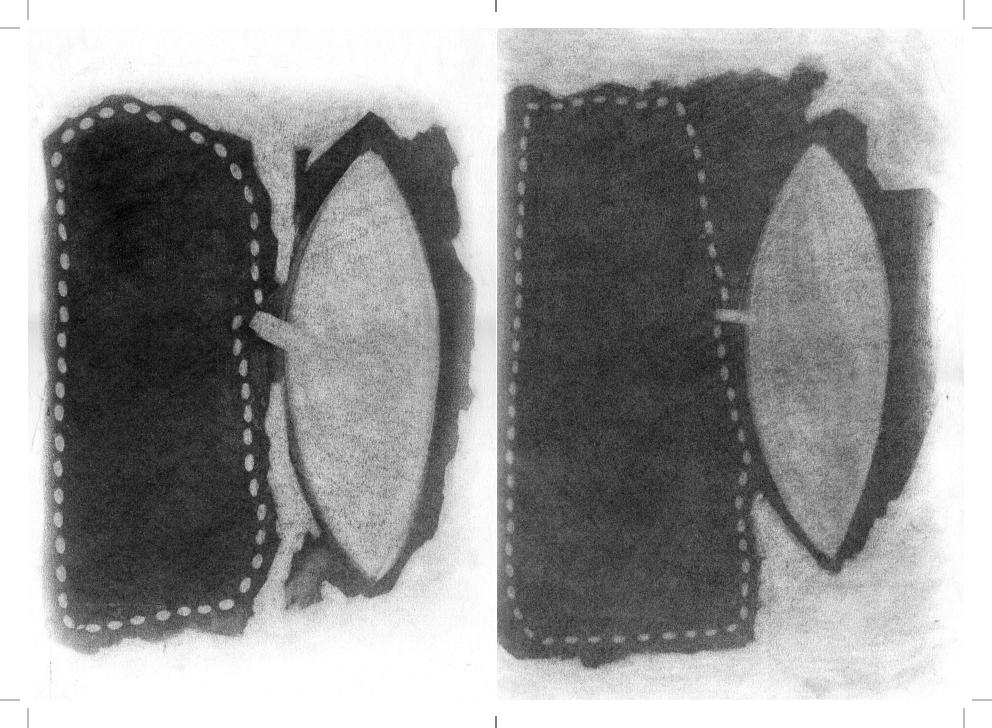
Although we are drifting, the ship's movement is often invisible to the human eye. We're just like the plankton (the only other form of life up here besides the occasional polar bear) as we have no control over our course, our direction, our arrival. Since the future eludes us it grows into an obsession. The majority of us, upon waking up, take the two steps down into the office and check the GPS coordinates, and the satellite pictures of Tara's path, as if we were reading the front page of the newspaper while drinking our morning coffee.



LOG OF LIMITS (SNOW WALKS)







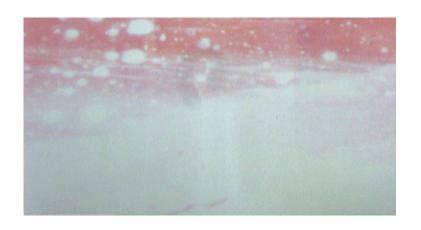


NORTH WAS HERE

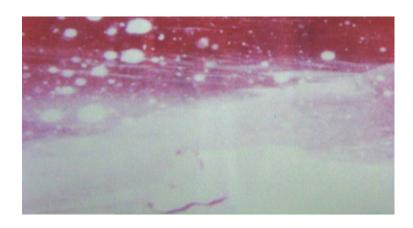






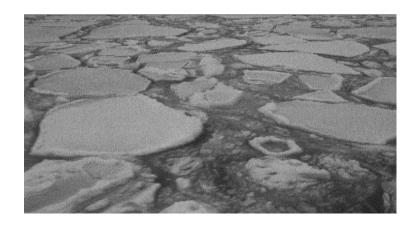






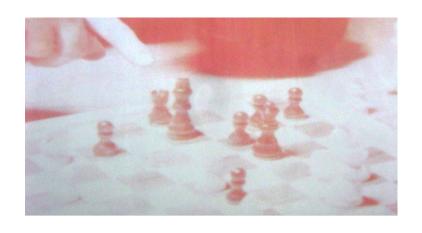








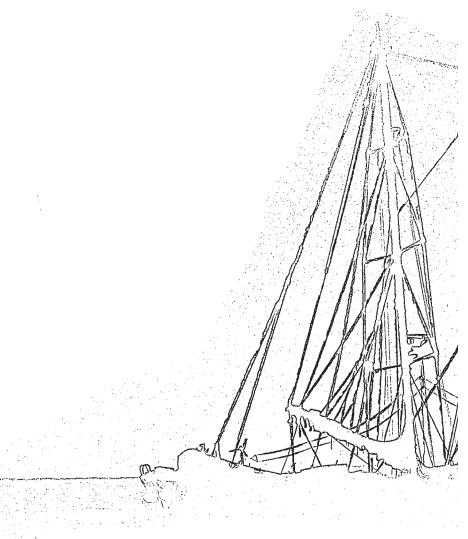








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