

We sat on the Gluppö beach, July 2007. Tove and I were running by the sea with our divers masks. We collected shells and munched on cinnamon buns. The previous years we have been here have been a bit different, it is not something we notice, we're busy having fun. In the middle of everything we find a shell we have never seen before. Dad! Mom! What kind of shell is this? We ask. It has strange wavy edges and is a bit like an oyster. We give them the shell and run away to search for more. It was just like when you pick trumpet chanterelles, when you find one you suddenly find them all. Tove doesn't contemplate over it, she's not even been alive for a decade. I'm barely older than a decade and I'm not considering it that important to think about either. But I know mom and dad are discussing and speculating over the new shell.

Mom and dad had already found this kind of shell before, when walking on Veddö. They soon determined that it was a newly established species and not just an anomaly. After a more thorough search they also agreed that the shell belonged to the invasive species *Crassostrea Gigas*, the Japanese Giant Oyster, it had as Tjärnö Marine biology laboratory confirmed earlier in the year, come to Bohuslän.

During our time in the Fjällbacka archipelago we saw how the number of oysters increased every passing summer. It became more and more certain that the Japanese oyster was becoming a part of the west coast fauna.

I returned to Musöfjorden in the summertime of 2016, after almost ten years away. My girlfriend and I are walking on the Veddö shore just like my parents many years ago. We take out the camping kitchen to eat an early lunch. Baked beans with Soy sausages, then a kettle with coffee. It starts to rain the middle of July's worst summer heat. The atmosphere is practically screaming to discharge. But there's only rain. When we're walking along the shoreline I note that the Oysters lie everywhere.

Later when I'm snorkelling in Långsjöviken I have a hard time finding living *Ostrea Edulis*, the original oyster species. I find several shells gaping, empty, dead.

How did these oysters come to Skagerrak? *C.gigas* was considered a fitting species for aquaculture. Early 70s spat was introduced in Denmark, a project that was discontinued in the late 90s. The rest of the oysters were left as it was assumed they would not reproduce and endure without human involvement due to the climate. The abandoned aquacultures spread and the population established itself in Skagerrak in the mid 00s. The new oyster has proven very resilient, despite the wolf winter of 2009/2010 the population is

still going strong. Long lasting instances of cold temperatures are not to expect as long as the climate changes continue. And I will never be 12 years old again.