

A Walk on the Edge: Where Winter Meets Water

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The winter sun hangs low on the horizon as I make my way to Victoria Park. This daily ritual of walking along the shore at dusk has become my way of understanding island life in Prince Edward Island. Coming from Hong Kong, I'm drawn to this liminal hour when day surrenders to night, when the frozen harbor takes on the colors of sunset. Today, as the temperature drops and shadows lengthen, I set out to explore these edges—both the physical boundary where land meets ice-bound sea, and the temporal threshold where winter holds us suspended between years.

冬日的斜阳低垂天际，我踏上去往维多利亚公园的小径。这黄昏时分的海岸漫步已成为我理解爱德华王子岛生活的仪式。来自香港的我，总被这昼夜交替的临界时刻吸引——当白昼向夜色俯首，冰封的港湾便浸透在暮色里。此刻寒潮渐起，暗影绵延，我决意探寻这片边缘地带：既是陆地与冰海相接的实体边界，亦是岁末寒冬将我们悬置于时光门槛的微妙时刻。

To walk the winter shore of Prince Edward Island at sunset is to experience a kind of edge-dwelling unknown in my hometown of Hong Kong. The frozen harbor before me marks more than just the edge of land—it defines a new understanding of islandness. In Hong Kong, our waters remain perpetually fluid, our winters brief interludes of mild chill. But here in Victoria Park, where the path traces the water's edge, winter transforms both landscape and identity as day edges into night.

在爱德华王子岛的冬海岸追逐落日，于我恰似体验香港故里未曾知晓的边缘栖居。眼前冰封的港湾不仅标记着陆地的尽头，更重塑着我对“岛屿性”的认知。香港的海水终年流转，冬日不过是温凉的小插曲；而维多利亚公园这条依水而建的步道，却在昼夜交替中改变着地貌与身份认同。



A crow perches on a weathered trunk, dark against the dimming harbor waters. Like the bird, we islanders are both separated and connected by the water that surrounds us. In Hong Kong, the surrounding sea remains a constant highway, but here, winter creates a different relationship with our borders. The frozen water paradoxically brings the community closer as we gather to witness each day's end.

暗色港波中，寒鸦独立于沧桑的树干，如一幅水墨剪影。与这飞禽相似，我们岛民既被水域分隔，又被其紧密相连。香港的环海是永恒通途，此地的寒冬却为边界赋予全新意义。冰封水面以矛盾的方式凝聚社群——我们因见证每个黄昏的谢幕而相聚。



The setting sun illuminates the ice-locked harbor, turning it into a vast plain of gold. This transformation of water into solid ground shifts my whole understanding of islandness. Unlike Hong Kong's year-round liquid boundaries, PEI's winter edges become crossable, though no less defining. Standing here, I realize that being an islander is as much about adapting to change as it is about geography. Each sunset becomes a lesson in transformation.

沉落的夕阳将冰锁的港湾镀成金色原野，海水凝为陆地的奇迹彻底颠覆我的岛屿认知。不同于香港终年流动的边界，爱德华王子岛的冬日边缘虽仍定义着疆界，却变得可以穿越。驻足于此，我方悟岛民身份不仅关乎地理，更在于顺应变迁。每场落日都是蜕变的

启示录。



Along the boardwalk, couples and families gather for the evening spectacle. The snow-covered rocks that armor our shore speak to a defensive nature of island life I never knew in Hong Kong's perpetual summer. Each stone, each drift of snow, marks the line where we've chosen to meet the sea on our own terms. This is winter's gift—the quiet moments at day's end to contemplate our relationship with our boundaries.

木栈道上聚集着赏暮色的眷侣与家庭。覆雪岩礁护卫着海岸，昭示着香港永恒夏日里未曾知晓的岛屿防御本性。每块礁石、每簇积雪，都铭刻着我们与海洋对话的方式。这是寒冬的馈赠——在昼夜交替的静谧中沉思我们与边界的契约。



As darkness approaches, the city's lights begin to twinkle along the shore. The church spires and historic buildings of Charlottetown huddle together against the cold, their windows glowing with warmth. Unlike Hong Kong's vertical sprawl, this horizontal spread of lights reminds me that winter shapes not just our landscape but our ways of coming together. We build differently here, our communities arranged to weather the edge seasons that mark the year's transitions.

暮色四合时，沿岸渐次亮起城市星火。夏洛特敦的教堂尖顶与古老建筑在寒风中偎依，窗棂透出暖光。不同于香港的垂直蔓延，这横向铺展的灯火提醒我：寒冬不仅塑造地貌，更定义相聚的方式。此处的建筑别有匠心，社区布局经得起标记岁月更迭的临界季节考验。



The day's final moments bring a spectacular display of clouds striped across the sky like fish scales. Here at the edge of winter, unlike Hong Kong's subtle seasonal shifts, nature writes clear promises of change across the sky. "If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?" Shelley's words take on new meaning here, where winter's edge sharpens our appreciation for the cycle of seasons.

白昼终章在天幕铺开鱼鳞状的云霞。不同于香港含蓄的季候流转，此处的寒冬边缘将蜕变的诺言挥洒得淋漓尽致。“冬天来了，春天还会远吗？”雪莱的诗句在此获得新生——冬之锋芒反而磨砺出对四季轮回的珍视。

In winter, Victoria Park becomes a gallery of edges, each one a lesson in the art of transition. The frozen harbor teaches us that boundaries are permeable, that what divides can also connect. The snow-laden path shows us how edges guide us even as they constrain us. And the winter light, painting everything in shades of dawn and dusk, reminds us that edges are not endings but spaces of transformation, where one state of being flows seamlessly into another.

寒冬里的维多利亚公园犹如边缘艺术的展厅。冰封的港湾告诉我们：边界是可渗透的，阻隔亦可成为纽带。积雪小径展示着限制与指引的辩证。而冬日天光以晨昏之色涂抹万物，提醒我们边缘并非终点，而是嬗变的空间——存在之态在此悄然流转。

Winter in PEI has taught me that edges are spaces of promise. The frozen harbor is both barrier and bridge, the snow-covered shore both boundary and gathering place. At this temporal edge between years, winter's intensity makes us peculiarly attuned to the hope of renewal. Each frozen sunset carries within it the promise of tomorrow's light, each shortened day holds the seed of summer's return. This cycle of transformation, so much more dramatic than Hong Kong's subtle seasons, has reshaped my understanding of what it means to dwell at the edge. This is what it means to walk the edge in winter: to witness the confluence of elements, to feel the pulse of the island even in its quietest season, and to understand that edges are not where things end, but where they begin to change.

爱德华王子岛的寒冬教我领悟：边缘即希望之地。冰封港湾既是屏障亦是桥梁，雪岸既为边界亦是相聚之所。在这岁末的时光门槛，凛冬让我们格外敏于感知新生的希望。每轮冰封落日都孕育明日之光，每个短昼都暗藏夏日的归期。这远比香港含蓄季节更壮阔的蜕变轮回，重塑了我对边缘栖居的理解。寒冬边缘漫步的真谛，在于见证元素的交响，感受岛屿在最寂静季节的心跳，领悟边缘并非万物终点，而是蜕变的序章。

To be an islander in PEI's winter is to understand that edges are not endings but beginnings. Each sunset over the ice-bound harbor reminds us that our identity is defined not by limitation but by anticipation. We stand at the edge of winter, knowing spring waits within its depths. The water's edge, whether liquid or solid, marks not where our world stops, but where our capacity for renewal begins. This is what winter on an island teaches: that at every edge—of land, of season, of year—we find not just an ending, but the promise of transformation.

在爱德华王子岛的冬季做岛民，意味着领悟边缘并非终点而是起点。冰封港湾上的每一轮落日都在提醒：我们的身份不由局限定义，而由期许铸就。我们立于冬之边缘，深知春天蛰伏其中。水陆交界处——无论液态或固态——标记的并非世界的尽头，而是我们重启新生的起点。这便是岛屿寒冬的启示：在每一处边缘——陆地的、季节的、年岁的——我们找到的不仅是终结，更是蜕变的承诺。