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Anna specialises in the Arctic region where she explores environmental topics based in remote and inaccessible areas. She has been a grantee of the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting, National Geographic and the International Women's Media Foundation.

The remote Arctic town that is melting away

As the Arctic loses ice at dramatic rates, people in Qaanaaq, the northernmost town in Greenland, are finding their homes, livelihoods, customs and very survival at risk.

Greenland's Qaanaaq, one of the world's northernmost towns, is among the world's first casualties in the battle against climate change. Many of the town's 650 inhabitants live on permafrost – ground that remains at sub-zero degrees Celsius for two or more consecutive years. Historically, permafrost has provided a solid foundation for buildings and infrastructure in the Arctic. But as the temperature has warmed, the ground has become less capable of supporting Qaanaaq's homes, which can become dangerous to inhabit. Vessels can only enter the harbour from July until September; the sea is frozen for the rest of the year. Goods from the outside world are only brought in twice a year, and Qaanaaq is the one of the last towns in Greenland where many people still survive by hunting on the sea ice, which is getting thinner and thinner and dangerous. The hunting season in Qaanaaq gets shorter by the year, and people have lost their lives because of the unstable condition of the sea ice.

Full project:

<https://www.anfilip.com/qaanaaq-greenland-at-the-frontline-for-the-battle-against-climate-change/>