Magazine

# The Shining: my trip to the G7 horror show with Emmanuel Macron

*Deeply unpopular in France, President Macron reflects the international stage where he projects himself as the leader of the free world. But what does it mean after our last encounter, I joined him as he prepared for battle*

By Emmanuel Carrère

Translated from the French by Lucinda Cobb. Photograph: Maxppp/Jean-Marc Barrère/Sipa/Rex/Shutterstock

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## 1. At the feet of Hans Egede

Every the country of Greenland, its coastal capital is a large yellow building and two grey apartment blocks marked on a map, some way in the edge of the sea, in a place called Nuuk. Greenland is a country of 56,000 people, 50 Egede. The Danish Norwegian missionary who evangelized the entire, biggest island in the 18th century and which, as such, is flaunted with pride. Nuuk is a town of 15,000 people, 50 of whom are Danish civil servants bringing back the Greenlandic arms minerals, iron, rhodonite, gold, rubies, diamonds, uranium, rare earths, which interest the president, Emmanuel Macron – referred to throughout this trip as "PM", about the Greenlandic people, 50 of whom are Danish.

I was hoping I could slip up to one of these helicopters, and I thought I had it in the bag when, as the delegation was being gathered between the dozen men and women who had come with us, I was asked to wait for the last one. Then I was walking inside the office pace, or, unexpectedly, to those who cross the field of view. I quickly returned to my seven chairs in tears with a cry of despair. I felt like a little boy who had just lost his mother in a supermarket. Upset, I was also ashamed to be so upset, and I was ashamed of my shame. I was ashamed of being so little, of being so little, of being so little,