

SO AWESOME

IT was a glorious day in tiny Salatiga when Angela awoke. In her zombie state she rose and packed what little was left to be packed, ate supermie, and bounded out the door to a promising morning. With this simple beginning did Angela start her grand adventure. In brief, abrupt format will she now enclose to you the events that transpired:

Woke up, bus ride, arrive at port, onboard, beautiful ride but threw up thrice, finally Karimun!, so hungry, another boat ride (a nice one), lunch! (nom nom), get to our paradise motel, jump in the water, venture with Sarah and Natasha to snorkel on the side of the isle, snorkle, we try to make it back to the motel in time for the boat taking the class to a snorkel site but they left without us, so we commiserate with Vartika and Hyeji who stayed behind and eat snacks, then feeling refreshed went back to our own snorkel spot with our boards and fins, taking notes, freaking out, exploring with childish wonder until Nat's head hurt.

Hyeji and Var joined us to snorkel—Nat and Var went back early though—so me, Sarah and Hyeji made our way to the motel snorkeling by ourselves. We make it to find everybody chillaxing in some way: playing Frisbee, enjoying the small waves in the bay, journaling, showering, taking in the wide spread coloring sky. The most beautiful sunset we ever beheld undid itself for all to see as the afternoon waned. The ocean and its islands fell silent as the light-weight orb of pale yellow floated into its waiting morning stars below the horizon. We cheered a goodbye when it sank. ☺ Then we found our way back to the motel, and I took a long awaited shower. FABULOUS. Me, Nat and Sarah chilled on our front porch, journaling a little. We moved to play some cards under a pavilion waiting for supper—which came so slow to us hungry humans. But, it came, and it was so GOOD. it satisfied me so well. Fish and rice, with a huge mug of hot tea while sitting on a cement block right at the ocean's edge surrounded with wholesome company. No place better. That night me, Icha and Mar took in the dazzling sky on the pier. The moment we had was so special, and never had there been more stars. I like to image a similar sky is what Abraham tried to count when God promised innumerable descendents. ☺ We slept well in our bungalow—but only after i saved the day with my awesome skills. Our fan was making intolerable screeching, which i remedied with my handi-dandi hair tie, fixing the fan! Peace at last.

SUNDAY was a rainy morning. I woke up, woke up the others in my room and went out to the beach with my bible to sit on an inviting log. I read a chapter in Isaiah while enjoying the almost icy salt breeze on my face. i was joined by others

soon after and it was sweet just sitting with people I love in that grey morning. Breakfast was announced. Everyone gathered to hear Mr. Thornton and pray. During the prayer however, I was violently attacked by a centipede!! I was very calm though. i was praised for my valiant respose. ☺ When breakfast and more yummy tea were settling in our tummies we packed and said goodbye to our paradise motel. We piled on the boat, luggage and all. I sat next to Sunghyun. Who said after it started to sprinkle rain, "I'm beginning to have second thoughts about this trip.." I laughed at him. "Why dongseng??" He sat, but started to laugh too, "We're gunna die.." "What?!" "We're gunna crash and die, Angela." We were both laughing.

The boat pushed off. The motors we deafening. We putted for a lazy hour or so. Many napped. But when we reached the first snorkel sight, we were all awake. We jumped in! I was kinda scared because the sea floor was much beneath me. I got over my fear quickly when i put on my mask and look around underwater. Everything was clear, and quiet. My breathing was the only audible accompaniment to my onset. Me, nat and Sarah stuck close together as we ventured slowly around the reef. We screamed less now used to the new environment. We were pretty boring this first time—it was the next snorkel sight that we became more adventurous.

We climbed onto our boat and putted another hour or so to a neighboring island. We ate lunch on the boat and thereafter jumped in again. It was just me and Sarah this time. We were moving faster now around the coral; somehow, it seemed like there was more to see. We dove to touch coral, pick up shells and play with just about anything we thought looked interesting. I broke off some of my favorite coral; some from an ominous glowing blue hyacinthus-like coral and some from a blooming pink cerealis-like coral. (Come to find i was breaking the rules, not just coral. :P) We played a while, but soon enough we were called back to boat.

And so to the last place for the day we putted. Having snorkeled the whole morning, i felt pretty much like a pro now. When it was announced that there was a drop off at this next place we were approaching, immediately me and Sarah decided, "BEELINE." And so with Bree and Mar, who also had the same thought as us, did we make straight for the white buoy marking the drop off. It wasn't as scary as i expected, but it was indeed fascinating. We explored the area; diving some, playing in the networks of coral hugging the plunge. By this time though, the coral beneath me began to lose some of its wonder. So, with this unfortunate attitude did we swim to the boat, get some life jackets; proceeding to sit in them

and delightfully lounge in the water. It was pleasant to be loving tossed by the waves, not expending any energy. I think perhaps the loss of wonder came from the loss of mere life in me. It takes a lot out of you to snorkel!! And this time people seemed to return without being yelled for. We were a tired crew. We pulled ourselves a finale time out of the water and into the boat, laid ourselves out on the bow and slept in the cooling rays.

I was the first one to wake up. Next to me, on either side was Icha, Sarah, Sunghyun and Kohl. I had never felt better. What i felt--waking up rested on a putting boat, with the sky endless both in front and above me, mild salt air for me to breath, the course wind playing with my hair, and the best exhausted company around me. I wish i could wake up like that again. But it was a one-timer, and that's what makes it special. ☺

It was the plan to go to the shark pit, but seeing how crowded it was we decide to just go first thing in the morning instead. So, to the dock we went and unloaded. We moved into our hotel. Woke up the next morning, went to the sand bar, showered, hopped on the next boat, arrived in Jepara—went home! (this is terrible. Soon to be expounded on this weekend. ☺ thank you mr. Thornton!)

LIFE LIST

Menjangan Kecil = shore Geleang Island = I Cemara Kecil Island = II
 Gosong Cemara = III Gosong Seloka = IV
 all organisms found between 1-12 feet

Dwarf-spotted grouper - I, II, III, IV	Spaghetti worm – all five
Lined dottedback - I, III	Sabellastarte indica – I, II, IV
like Indian bannerfish – I, III, IV	Tectus pyramis (pyramid topsnail) - IV
Beaked coralfish – I, III, IV	Nepthea – I, IV
Bicolor chormis – shore, II, III,	Cushion seastar – I, II, III, IV
Neon damsel - I	like Linkia quildinqii - II
Klunzinger’s wrasse – all five	Holothuria nobilis – III, IV
like Fox face – I, II	Synapta maculate - shore
Spotted porcupine fish - III	Black spotted isle – shore, II
like Scleroriephthya – all four	Funnelweed – shore
Fungia concinna – all five	Sea grass – shore
Porites – all five	Clown fish – shore, I, III, IV
Acropora sp. – all five	Sea anenomi – all five
Favites sp. – shore, II, III, IV	Dome coral – all five
Mushroom coral – I, II, III, IV	Millepora- all five
Leptoseris mycetoseroides – all five	Long spined sea urchin – all five
Acropora noblis – all five	Dascyllus – all five
Acropora valenciennesi – all five	Fire coral – all five
like Acropa secale –II, III	Laminar coral – all five
Acropora loripes – I, II, III, IV	Cerealis coral – all five
Acropora Formosa – all five	Crispy coral - all five
Staghorn – all five	Blue linkia seastar - shore, II
Acropoa hyacinthus – all five	Morray eel – shore, II
Acropora latistella – all five	Lion fish - shore
Anacropora forbesi – II, III, IV	Favia pallida – all five
Giant Clam – II, III, IV	Echinopora pacificus –shore, III
Sarcophyton – all four	like Echinometra mathaei – shore, II
Mushroom coral sp. 4 – all five	like Mespilia globules - shore
Mushroom coral sp. 5 – all five	Atriolum robustum – all five
Scleronephya sp. 1 – II, IV	Banded pipefish – shore, shark pit
Melithaea sp. 2 - IV	Gold-banded fusilier – shore, IV
Acropora cf. abdita – II, IV	Behn’s damsel – shore, I
Leptoria Phrygia – all five	Pacific gregory – shore, I, IV
Psaudroceros tristriatus - II	Great barracuda - shore

