SITUATING KNOWLEDGES, TELLING STORIES AND MAKING KIN: GEOGRAPHICAL ENCOUNTERS WITH DONNA J HARAWAY

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Donna Haraway has been a constant presence in geographical thought and practice over the past 40 years. From her early and very influential essay on Situated Knowledges, to her more recent engagements with the Anthropocene in 'Staying with the Trouble', her work has become a key reference point for questioning the production of geographical knowledge. In this brief reflection I want to trace the influence of Haraway's thought on geographical scholarship, exploring how it both shapes our disciplinary histories and provides a critical lens upon them. I will examine the impact of her philosophy on feminist, postcolonial and more-than-human scholarship, considering how geographers have been drawn to particular elements of her approach and perhaps neglected others. I will further use the example of Haraway to emphasise how in many ways the history and philosophy of Geography is always a multi-disciplinary exercise, shaped as much by thought and practice from beyond our disciplinary boundaries as it is by key 'canonical' thinkers found within them. Furthermore, such boundary crossings are key if we are to respond to calls for more pluralist histories of geographies, sensitive to other-than-Anglo-American voices and non-human agencies in shaping how we encounter and engage with disciplinary pasts. As Haraway (2016) herself recently wrote, 'It matters what matters we use to think other matters with; it matters what stories we tell to tell other stories with; it matters what knots knot knots, what thoughts think thoughts, what ties tie ties. It matters what stories make worlds, what worlds make stories.'

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