

I feel you do celebrate differences between white women as a creative force toward change, rather than a reason for misunderstanding and separation. But you fail to recognize that, as women, those differences expose all women to various forms and degrees of patriarchal oppression, some of which we share and some of which we do not ... the oppression of some women knows

no ethnic nor racial boundaries, true, but that does not mean it is identical within the differences ... to deal with one without even alluding to the other is to distort our commonality as well as our difference. For then beyond sisterhood is still racism.

And, might we not add, beyond sisterhood is still classism.

References

- Lorde, Audre. *Sister Outsider*. Trumansburg: Crossing Press, 1984, p. 70.
Spelman, Elizabeth V. *Inessential Woman*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1988, p. 125.

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ANNE MARRIOTT

Retrospective

*Where did the train start?
All our eyes
were blind with blood and
sleep.
For miles a low mist covered the
ground.
We think we travel northward
speculate: is there an engineer?*

*Odd things lie beside the track —
clues to locality?
There was a doll
eyeless in gravel
a fishing-rod left spearing
a wide stream, prune-coloured
just now a store, steps worn
wood hammered on
to cover its cracked windows.*

*Late afternoon now. Some passengers begin
to take down coats and bags
their final station imminent?
Outside a blade of sun
cuts out a single aspen.
It confirms our season —
all the leaves still gold
all of them tinged with grey.*

(from *Aqua*, Wolsak and Wynn, 1991)

CALL FOR PAPERS

Ontario History is soliciting papers for a forthcoming special issue on women's biography.

The main focus of this issue will be the presentation of biographies of women who were active in Ontario; yet papers which take up theoretical and methodological issues in writing the biographies of women will also be welcomed.

Papers should be no more than 7,000 words; shorter pieces will be considered.

The deadline for submission is 1 April 1992.

Prospective contributors should follow the detailed author's guide available from the Ontario Historical Society.

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