

# Contents

## Acknowledgements

1.	Introduction: AlterNative Spaces	9
1.1	Literary Criticism and Native Literary Spaces: An Overview	13
1.2	The Urgency of Space I: Thomas King's "Borders"	17
1.3	The Urgency of Space II: An Outline of this Study	21
2.	Interdisciplinary Encounters: Theorizing Concepts of 'Space' in Native Literature	26
2.1	Literary and Cultural Theories: Conceptualizations of Space	27
2.1.1	Stasis, Surfaces and the Blindness of the Reader	27
2.1.2	Going 'Beyond': Third Spaces and Heterotopias	32
2.1.3	Indigenous Concepts of Space	36
2.2	Place, Text, Culture: Constructions of Textual Space	40
2.2.1	Place and Space	40
2.2.2	Space and the Literary Text	43
2.3	Language and Spatial Practice	47
2.3.1	"Writing in the Oral Tradition"	50
2.3.2	The Experience of Space: Textual Bodies	57
3.	Spatial Histories: Leslie Marmon Silko's <i>Almanac of the Dead</i>	65
3.1	Mapping I: The Five Hundred Year Map	67
3.2	City of Thieves: Tucson, Arizona	74
3.2.1	(De-)Constructing the Body and the City	78
3.2.2	Making Do: Tactics of Survival and Spatial Transformation	83
3.3	Border Paradoxes: Textual Constructions and Disappearances	87
3.3.1	The U.S.-Mexican Border: Borderlands and Borderlines	87
3.3.2	Coyote Country: Border Crossings	91
3.3.3	Border Place and Transnational Spaces	99
3.4	Mapping II: The Almanac	110
3.4.1	Traveling North: The Journey of the Almanac	114
3.4.2	Material Prophecies: Charting Time and Space	117
3.5	AlterNative Spatial Histories?	121

4.	Body Spaces: Tomson Highway's <i>Kiss of the Fur Queen</i>	127
4.1	Stories and Structure: Productions of Textual Spaces	128
4.1.1	Music and Dance	128
4.1.2	The Fur Queen and the Weetigo	130
4.2	Weetigo Territory: Birch Lake Indian Residential School	134
4.2.1	Sexual Violence	138
4.2.2	Language Policies and Silences between Languages	143
4.3	Urban Spaces	147
4.3.1	Different Urban Texts: Winnipeg and Toronto	148
4.3.2	Story Spaces: The Monster and the Mall	154
4.3.3	Marginal Places: Gender, Power, and Sexuality	160
4.4	Staging Stories: Performance Spaces	169
4.4.1	Space, Performance, Narration	170
4.4.2	Textual Productions of Performance Spaces	173
4.5	Bodies, Space, and Cultural Politics	183
5.	Bears in the Cities: Gerald Vizenor's <i>Dead Voices</i>	186
5.1	Spatial Transformations: The Wanaki Game	195
5.1.1	"Stones": Story as Place of Beginnings and Intersections	196
5.1.2	Familiar Trails and Trickster Cards: Spatial Ensembles of the Wanaki Game	202
5.2	Deconstructing Urban Spaces: Animal Shadows in the City	208
5.2.1	The Narrated Body: Experiences of Space	211
5.2.2	Eucalyptus Grove and Flea Bench: Story Places	221
5.2.3	Save Them From Their Dead Voices: Tricking Institutions of Dominance	225
5.3	Mirrors and Windows: Thresholds of Spatial Transformation	233
5.3.1	Windows, Fences, and Cages: Arbitrary Boundaries	234
5.3.2	Bears in the Mirror: Material Metaphors	240
5.3.3	Transformations of the Body: Narrative Thresholds	244
5.4	Dead Voices, Living Story: Language, Experience, and Space	247
5.4.1	The Immediacy of Spatial Experience: Haiku Language	247
5.4.2	"Red Pinwheels in the Window": Haiku, Space, and Experience	250
5.5	Trickster Spatiality	256
6.	AlterNative Spaces? Concluding Remarks	259
6.1	A Multitude of Cities: Urban Spaces and Cultural Agendas	259
6.2	The "Literary Mode of Knowing" and the Return of the Reader	262
6.3	AlterNative Spaces: Storytelling and Cultural Intervention	266
	Works Cited and Consulted	269