

Stories of Home: Place, Identity, Exile

Content

Stories of Home: Place, Identity, Exile by Devika Chawla.

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Notions of home are of increasing concern to persons who are interested in the unfolding narratives of inhabitation, displacement and dislocation, and exile. Home is viewed as a multidimensional theoretical concept that can have contradictory meanings; homes may be understood as spaces as well as places, and be associated with feelings, practices, and active states of being and moving in the world.

In this book, we offer a window into the distinct ways that home is theorized and conceptualized across disciplines. The essays in this volume pose and answer the following critical and communicative questions about home:

- 1) How do people “speak” and “story” home in their everyday lives? And why?
- 2) Why and how is home—as a material presence, as a sense and feeling, or as an absence—central to our notion of who we are, or who we want to become as individuals, and in relation to others?
- 3) What is the theoretical purchase in making home as a “unit of analysis” in our fields of study?

This collection engages home from diverse contexts and disparate philosophical underpinnings; at the same time the essays converse with each other by centering their foci on the relationship between home, place, identity, and exile. Home—how we experience it and what it that says about the “selves” we come to occupy—is an exigent question of our contemporary moment. *Place, Identity, Exile: Storying Home Spaces* delivers timely and critical perspectives on these important questions.

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