Contents

Acknowledgments — VII

F	'n	re۱	ΝO	rd	 IX

1	Introduction —— 1
1.1	American Studies, Black Women, Literature and the Right to Say
	Something About All of These — 1
1.1.1	Claiming American Studies — 2
1.1.2	Language, Literature, and American Studies — 7
1.1.3	Violence and Trauma —— 10
1.1.4	Globalization, Capitalism, Migration, and Social Inequality — 17
1.1.5	A Minor Literature —— 21
1.2	Race and Literature —— 24
1.2.1	African-America —— 24
1.2.2	Slave Narrative —— 28
1.2.3	Writing as Agency – the Bildungsroman —— 32
1.2.4	A Child's Perspective and Subaltern Studies — 39
2	From Intersectionality to an Ecology of Knowledges –
	The Knowledges of Literature —— 42
2.1	Intersectionality —— 46
2.1.1	A Critique of Intersectionality —— 50
2.1.2	Intersectionality, Decolonial Thinking, and the Ecology of
	Knowledges —— 52
2.1.3	Epistemologies of the South —— 55
2.1.4	Sociology of Emergences — 59
2.1.5	Sociology of Absences — 61
2.1.6	Intercultural Translation —— 65
3	Danticat and Kincaid —— 68
3.1	Jamaica Kincaid — 69
3.1.1	Fiction, Autobiography and Truth Telling in Jamaica Kincaid — 74
3.1.2	Mother-Daughter, Mother-Island —— 82
3.1.3	How do you get to be this way? —— 91
3.1.4	Daffodils — 103
3.2	Edwidge Danticat —— 109
3.2.1	Daffodils and Adaptations —— 114

3.2.2 3.2.3 3.2.4 3.2.5	Ou byen? Are you all right? PTSD and representation — 121 You're a good girl, aren't you? – Control and the Female Body — 124 Trauma and the Body — 137 Ou libéré? Trauma Recognition, Working Through and Paths For Healing — 143
4	Morrison and hooks —— 165
4.1	Toni Morrison —— 166
4.1.1	God Help the Child — 169
4.1.2	How else can we hold on to a little dignity? – Colorism as
412	Violence — 178
4.1.3	What you do to children matters — Children's trauma Representation —— 190
4.1.4	The nicest man in the world —— 208
4.2	bell hooks —— 216
4.2.1	Silences — 221
4.2.2	Heirlooms, toys and books - education through Objects — 231
4.2.3	We are women together. Womanhood, sexuality and race. — 244
4.2.4	A Door Closing in a Room Without Air - Domestic Violence and
	Childhood — 260
4.2.5	They Need to be Valued —— 268
5	Conclusion —— 282
6	Works Cited —— 286
Index -	— 295