

Preface

*My joy is when people are working with my work.*¹

In the summer of 2018, I finished writing the book that was the consummation of my long-standing interest in bell hooks's writings, and bell hooks the person. Working on it had also been the story of my writing as a feminist researcher. After bell hooks's unexpected death in December 2021, I realized how little I had managed to write about her, and how much I owed to her both academically and personally. Her writing, her approach to life and her committed feminism all made me find in her the companion and teacher in the world of academia I'd always longed for. Although I sometimes disagreed with her, it was always a creative disagreement, which then enriched my capacity for seeing and "reading" the world. And now, she is gone... Her words remain. I don't want them to fade. Hence the idea of publishing this book was born. Here the core of the 2018 Polish edition has been updated, revised and completed. In this way, I want to bring back the memory of bell hooks and her postulate to "speak with your voice," which led me to create this book. R.I.P.

¹ bell hooks with Theaster Gates and Laurie Anderson, *Public Art, Private Vision*, 2015. Retrieved June 30, 2023, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fZ3WJoNC4IU&t=2814s>.