

The Intellectual Journey of Thomas Berry: Imagining the Earth Community. Edited by Heather Eaton. Lanham, MD: Lexington, 2014. Pp. xvii + 261. \$95.

The book traces the religious, cultural, and intellectual influences on the thought of Thomas Berry. It articulates the contextual factors that shaped the trajectory of his work in religious studies, environmental ethics, and religious cosmologies. Berry was an original intellectual figure who contributed to multiple currents of thought in historical and contemporary cultural studies of religion. His calls to reconstruct functional cosmologies captured the imagination of many people uneasy with religion's role in (post)modernity. Berry was a profoundly influential thinker on the evolution of religions as cultural forces, and any reader seeking to understand the sources of his rich thought will find this volume of essays a delight.

Each contributor knew Berry personally, either as a graduate student, colleague, or both. The chapters trace the influence of a specific intellectual domain on Berry and his subsequent public intellectual work. Topics range from Eastern and indigenous religious traditions to philosophy of history, cosmology, and epistemology. The result is a veritable archeology of Berry's thought, from Confucius through Giambattista Vico to Pierre Teilhard de Chardin. This collection is particularly useful in supplying what Berry, in his lyrical style, often failed to include: sources and explanations of how he arrived at his judgments. Berry's historical and cosmological vision is all-the-more impressive in light of the diversity of his influences.

The book has one curious lacuna: Berry's identity as a Roman Catholic priest in the Passionist Order. His priesthood is mentioned only in passing. Perhaps the contributors did not consider it a significant influence on Berry; regardless, it merits discussion in such a volume.

As an introduction to Berry's thought I do not recommend this book. Some of his foundational books—*Dream of the Earth* (2006) or *The Great Work* (2000)—would serve that purpose better. Nor would it be helpful as an overview of the impact of Berry's thought on others. But it will be of interest to those wishing to trace influences on Berry's thought.

Keith Douglass Warner, O.F.M.
Santa Clara University