

Sonenberg, Maya (1989)

Cartographies.

University of Pittsburgh Press.

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reviewed by Jeremy Crampton,

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"The distance imagined to lie between texts of information and texts of pleasure is exactly that: *imaginary*. There is none, the distinction is false, the chasm lies elsewhere."

—Denis Wood 1987

I bought this book, not because it had the "right" kind of title, but because of a quotation from the title story that was used as a come-on in an advertisement in *Harper's*: "it has always been this way with the mapmakers. From their first scratches on the cave wall to show the migration patterns of the herds, they have traced lines and lived inside them." What better definition of cartography and mapmaking could there be? (I recommend its use in all intro cart courses. I further recommend the title story as required reading for all advanced cart courses: there are a hundred and one points of departure.) Sonenberg's definition has everything; the use of maps to help understand the world and profit from it, emphasis on the centrality of maps in people's lives, and the structure of maps themselves as a bunch of lines representing the world. But what really catches my attention is the possibility of a dual interpretation of the last phrase, "living inside the lines." Cartography can be seen as both desirable and undesirable; lines help us to understand the world, yet our lives and imaginations are also constrained by lines, by borders, by limits, *by maps*.

Sometimes outsiders see things that insiders miss. Let's hope that Sonenberg doesn't become a geographer; if she did we'd be left standing. Her raw material, her points of departure into character

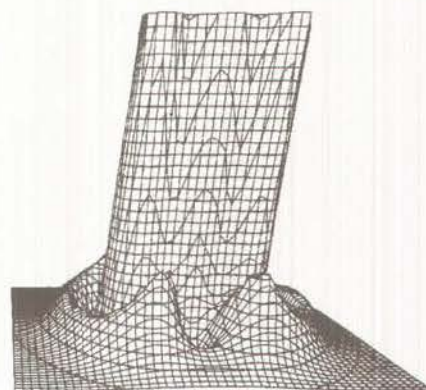
development are often geographic, and certainly cartographic. Even the dust jacket is wise: "a love affair is evoked entirely within the metaphors of mapmaking. . . . Bodies, faces, the emotional distance between lovers, the setting of the table or a mountain to be climbed: all are maps to be pondered and read, just as all maps, so pondered, reveal new stories." Maps as narrative? Now where have I heard that before?

Flynn, George W. (1989). **Chemical cartography: finding the keys to the kinetic labyrinth.** *Science*, 246 (24 Nov.) pp. 1009-1015.

reviewed by Alan M. MacEachren,
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Cartography by chemists! We'd better stay on our toes if we want to play a leading role in scientific visualization. In an article dealing with the use of lasers to take spectroscopic pictures of collision between molecular reactants, Flynn draws several analogies to topographic mapping in producing a 3D fishnet "map" of the global potential energy of interaction between H and CO₂.

The paper, as one would expect, deals primarily with the chemical reactions under study, but with its emphasis on the shape of interaction offers an interesting example of a landform description analogy to the role of graphics in non-geographic visualization. The author goes as far as stating that, "The potential itself is akin to a map of the terrain through mountains and valleys where elevation is a measure of energy instead of height." The logic being used is, of course, the same as that followed in early applications of isarithmic mapping to demographic information in the nineteenth century. In describing the 3D representation itself, Flynn draws heavily on the topographic analogy.



The H-CO₂ interaction is highly repulsive (an energy of at least 110 kJ/mole) everywhere (the "foothills" before the tall mountains except along a line perpendicular to the OCO axis at the C atom. Here there is a small plateau with an energy of 54 kJ/mole, and beyond this a well or valley corresponding to stable H-CO₂ where H is attached to the C atom.

From a cartographic perspective, "Chemical Cartography" is just one of many examples of scientific visualization in which cartography plays a role. Cartographers should have much to offer to disciplines in which the use of visualization tools is only now becoming an accepted part of scientific inquiries. Are we ready to meet the challenge?

cartographic artifacts

VIDEO REVIEW

Maps: From Quill to Computer

New Dimension Media, 85985
Lorane Highway, Eugene, OR
97405; (503) 484-7125. Available
for rent (\$45/day) or purchase in
1/2" VHS (\$280), 3/4" VHS (\$300)
or 16mm (\$475) formats.
reviewed by Cherie A. Semans,
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The primary emphasis of the 26-minute film *Maps: From Quill to Computer* is on recent technological developments in mapping, including aerial photogrammetry, satellite imagery and computer-generated maps. These modern