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Project Title: Wet Landscapes and Water Veils: Place-Attachment, Displacement, and Loss in *Dreaming in Cuban* and *The Farming of Bones*

Abstract:

As figurative border areas, symbols of displacement, and literal barriers, bodies of water play a significant role in Caribbean American literature. Establishing a connection between theories of place and depictions of bodies of water in certain narratives offers a compelling lens through which these texts may be viewed. An analysis of *The Farming of Bones* by Edwidge Danticat and *Dreaming in Cuban* by Cristina Garcia reveals that the main characters, Amabelle and Celia, share a place-attachment that is directly connected to bodies of water. Although place-attachment is often depicted as a positive force, an examination of each novel suggests that displacement reassigns place-attachment as a destructive entity as depictions of water are colored by loss, waiting, the inability to live in the present, and resignation. This analysis suggests that further research examining bodies of water in Caribbean American texts may offer new insights into studies of place and displacement.