

## What we are currently reading ...

### “Bad Feminist” by Roxane Gay (2014, HarperCollins Publishers)

Roxane Gay’s book can be read as a collection of moving and entertaining, personal stories, always with a feminist notion but without the prerequisite of reading tons of feminist theories before understanding them. One essay about “Scrabble” is such a piece, on the surface very entertaining, but can also be read as text about academic careers, which also means: moving from one university (city) to another, leaving friends and family behind, searching for ways to get connected with people to not only work, sleep and eat.

However, Roxane Gay’s book is most importantly a very well written book about feminism and the necessity to recognise diverse ways of feminism in order to fight against misogyny and anti-feminism instead of debating whether or not some feminists have read all the important books and talk about the ‘right’ feminism. To tell it with Roxane Gay’s own eloquent words (p.318):

*“No matter what issues I have with feminism, I am a feminist. I cannot and will not deny the importance and absolute necessity of feminism. Like most people, I’m full of contradictions, but I also don’t want to be treated like shit for being a woman. I am a bad feminist. I would rather be a bad feminist than no feminist at all.”*

### “Between the world and me” by Ta-Nehisi Coates (2015, Penguin Random House LLC)

Ta-Nehisi Coates’ book is a beautifully written letter to his son, answering questions about what inhibiting (and living in) a black body in today’s US America means. His explanations on ‘race’ and racism and “the process of naming ‘the people’” (p.7) is very relevant for all kinds of social categories, which are the basis for hierarchies in society. Moreover the author embraces ‘black beauty’ and connects US American history with very personal stories of his family with one concern, to keep his son safe.

When the book was published unarmed ‘black teenagers’ (again and again) have been killed by US-American police, so Ta-Nehisi Coates’ words about “lynching” remain painfully relevant (p.42):

*“‘White America’ is a syndicate arrayed to protect its exclusive power to dominate and control our bodies. Sometimes this power is direct (lynching), and sometimes it is insidious (redlining). But however it appears, the power of domination and exclusion is central to the belief in being white, and without it, ‘white people’ would cease to exist for want of reasons.”*

## What we tweeted about ...

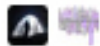


Queer STS  
@QueerSTS

We had a good year, lots of traveling, met lovely, queer(-minded) people. We wish you all a happy new queer-year!



LIKES  
2



8:40 PM - 31 Dec 2015

<https://twitter.com/QueerSTS/status/682647561791008772>



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Frauenrechte & Feminismus dürfen nicht instrumentalisiert werden um Rassismus zu legitimieren. [@marthadear](#) [@ZDFheute](#)

[View translation](#)

ZDF heute



RETWEETS 51    LIKES 40



10:06 AM - 8 Jan 2016

<https://twitter.com/QueerSTS/status/685387056474906624>



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Judy Wajcman: “technologies are crystallisations of society, they are frozen social relations” [aeon.co/essays/digital](http://aeon.co/essays/digital) ...  
^[@ThomasBerger42](#)

RETWEETS 7    LIKES 4



9:35 AM - 12 Feb 2016

<https://twitter.com/QueerSTS/status/698062809242931200>



About the queer potential and social justice issues of technology:

[queersts.com/2016/02/29/abo](http://queersts.com/2016/02/29/abo) ...

\*shiny new website\*



RETWEETS 12 LIKES 8

5:41 PM - 29 Feb 2016

<https://twitter.com/QueerSTS/status/704345641498091520>



Finding Foucault.



RETWEETS 9 LIKES 12

1:29 PM - 17 Mar 2016

<https://twitter.com/QueerSTS/status/710442980474286080>