REFLEXIVE REFLECTIVE METHODOLOGY  
FOR HERMENEUTICS AND PHYSICS  

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Themes  

Interpretation and Understanding  
Intuition and Cognition  

For Sunnie D. Kidd hermeneutics is the philosophy of interpretation and understanding. It is an approach to an integral understanding of being-in-the-cosmos.  

Interpretation represents one of many possible meanings and understanding changes through further interpretation. Sunnie was fond of saying “at this time I am seeing this.” This means that one makes an interpretation within a present understanding that changes though further interpretation. This is transcending current horizons that change through understanding on an ongoing continuum.  

Interpretation includes the connectedness of past and present horizons into fusing a new horizon of what is understood. Horizons are not discrete but are on an ongoing continuum. On the human dimension it is this connectedness of all horizons that changes us culturally by bringing values and meaning to life.  

One’s current horizon depends on one’s cultural situatedness. The historicity we live in and languages we speak constitute our way of being. Language is sedimented and speech stirs the sedimentation of language. It is being-speaking.  

Interpretation of a text depends on the cultural situatedness of the writer and reader. It is an embodiment of the writer’s style, the writer’s consciousness and unconsciousness, the said and the unsaid.  

For a traditional view consciousness is consciousness of something other than oneself. Intentionality is primordial. Consciousness is attention à la vie. With Sunnie’s approach it is our reflexive reflective nature that pushes us over the horizon with intuition as the primordial ground for intentionality and cognition. The reflexive is intuition and the reflective is cognition.  

It is with intuition that one breaks through existing boundaries. This intuition is then looked at in a different way with the cognitive. The cognitive does not verify that which is already known. Cognition looks at
that which is already seen. Intuition is whole and cognitive is part of the whole. With both hermeneutics and physics one does not merely observe but participates. In hermeneutics one uncovers the given, the said, to perceive directly with intuition to the unsaid. The unsaid is expressed in words but symbols are not the thing itself. The symbols in physics one uses are words and mathematics. With physics one goes beyond ordinary conceptions, beyond thought to the view of reality as one with intuition. If possible then the physicist confirms, sometimes with much temporal gap by another physicist, that which was originally seen with intuition. In physics one does experiments to look at that which has already been viewed through intuition.

Physicists place great emphasis on imagination. Sunnie was fond of saying that imagination is located within intuition. Ontic imagination is that which reproduces images of things previously intuited. Ontological imagination is that which produces the intuitionable. This is seeing the unity through intuition.

Physicists use the scientific method in that each experiment is to be observable or imperceptible but traceable, measurable or theoretically there but not actually measured by a fixed method and repeatable or a pattern in that another physicist can set up the same experiment. But that which cannot be done drives physics. This push is based on intuition but still not yet seen by cognition. Intuition moves with the flow of things as do particles spontaneously move and cognition attempts to still that which moves. Rational ideas about the world that we live in are deficient. If we did not have theoretical physics we would not have the vision for discovering-describing-disclosing that which is possible.

In Science it has been now acknowledged by astronomers that solar showers rain down on objects that can bring about change in orbit and spin. This has been known for some time. But never seen. Now tiny stellar shoves on spinning asteroids have been observed and measured. They start to spin faster. Asteroids rotate and its brightness increases and decreases directly related to how fast it is spinning.

In Sunnie’s article: “Our Way Out: Spirituality Travel Light” she saw that light is energy for travel:

One can travel light. Light is throughout not merely the universe but the cosmos. It transcends from one dimension to another, let me say, quickly. As a matter (pun intended) of fact light is energy. This means that we can go with it . . . energized with light a vessel will emerge on the other side and then can reenergize with light. One can go from light to dark to light. Light and dark are rhythms of Inbetweenness.
Notes

1) Although hermeneutics and a naturalistic approach from a traditional view exclude and presuppose one another the common themes of a reflexive reflective methodology for hermeneutics and physics are: interpretation and understanding; intuition and cognition.

2) Imagination is rooted within intuition which is primordial to cognition. At the root of thought experiments is intuition.
