

Part IV

Vectors of Interdependence

To this point in the book, I have focused on explicating dualisms in modern thinking, and on showing how they operate in largely *post hoc* fashion to define more-than-human beings as inferior in their capacity to engage in close relationships with humans. By supplanting such dualistic views with a foundationally relational ontology, I've also attempted to show that there is nothing standing in the way of the possibility for human-nature closeness. Having laid this ontological groundwork, the remainder of the book focuses on exploring the two main vectors of interdependent closeness that I articulated in Chap. 4—feelings and thoughts. In the next two chapters, I'll show in more depth how dualisms operate in distorting the possibilities for each of these elements, and offer alternative views such that they become components of the possibility for closeness.