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BORETHNOGRAPHY – HOW AND WHY ETHNOGRAPHERS GET BORED. Analysis of field boredom by boredom studies.

Every journey has its boring moments, even scientific expeditions conducting with curiosity and cognitive passion. It is best seen in Malinowski's Diary, but not only. There is a group of anthropologists which books contain such information explicitly, for instance, Nigel Barley ("The Innocent Anthropologist," "A Plague of Caterpillars," "Not a Hazardous Sport"), Paul Rabinow ("Reflections on Fieldwork in Morocco") or even in "Tristes Tropiques" by Claude Lévi-Strauss. These authors show that ethnographer work, or even any scientific field, is irreversibly corrupted by boredom, lethargy, stupor, nostalgia, existential emptiness, etc. It is an intrinsic specimen of such a profession.

In the presentation, some examples of field boredom will be presented. The analysis of this phenomenon based on sociological and psycho-physical factors will be examined. The results of the speaker's previous research on academic boredom will be included. It will show some functions that boredom can fulfill in the field, including the necessity of boredom existence in searching for key informants among local people (Rabinow).

The second issue that will be raised in the presentation is the invisibility of field boredom. Different forms of writing ethnography (van Maanen, "Tales of the Field") will be implemented into the analysis.