

Review of: "Mimicking Humanity: The Use of Anthropomorphism in Ted Hughes' Nature Poetry"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

"Mimicking Humanity: The Use of Anthropomorphism in Ted Hughes' Nature Poetry" stands out as a balanced, well-written article on the topic of anthropomorphism in the poetry of Ted Hughes (1930-1998). Structurally sound and fine-tuned (the text is divided into clear and coherent sections: "Introduction", "Anthropomorphism in Ted Hughes's Poetry", "The Blurring of Human and Animal in Hughes' Poetry", "Hughes' Anthropomorphic Characters", and "Conclusion"), the article puts forth a detailed analysis of specific anthropomorphic characters and their symbolic relevance within the wider scope of Hughes' poetic universe. The choice of the poems under scrutiny is indisputably pertinent (*Hawk Roosting*, *The Jaguar*, *Pike*, *Wind*, *Thistles*, *Owl*, and *The Horses*), although some readers may consider that the "corpus" comprises too many poems: too many poetic compositions to be analysed in full depth within the natural limitations of an academic article. The analysis of anthropomorphism as a powerful literary device is rather persuasive and well argued. One final remark/suggestion: since the author alludes throughout the article to (and I quote) "the interconnectedness of all living beings and challenging traditional hierarchies between humans and nature" as one the key cornerstones of Hughes' poetry, perhaps it would have been useful to make use and flesh out explicitly the conceptual framework of critical posthumanism (and its examination of productive entanglements and intersections) as a suitable tool to analyse Hughes' poems and their significance. See, for instance, Stefan Herbrechter's *Posthumanism: A Critical Analysis* (2013), and Rosi Braidotti's *The Posthuman* (2013). All in all, though, an extremely stimulating piece.