

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

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The article is interesting and introduces the question of the consideration of animals in the literary discourse. In general terms, I think it would improve by overcoming a certain paradox: I understand that the author wants to emphasize the use of anthropomorphism as a feature of Ted Hughes' literature. So the poet breaks with the image of superiority of humans over other animals.

However, when thinking about anthropomorphism, this author falls into this same trap, because when he thinks that certain qualities (exclusively human) are attributed to other animals, he is emphasizing that these qualities go from the human to the animal. In this way, he obviates a form of anthropomorphism that is inverse, and that is used to talk about qualities that non-human animals possess, as virtues from which humans must learn.

An example to show this form of "inverse anthropomorphism" is *The Jakata*, a six-volume collection recounting stories of the Buddha's previous lives. The appearance of animals in this book serves, then, to make visible characteristic virtues that animals possess (I could put as an example the industriousness of ants.) This does not mean that some humans do not possess that, but an order is not established from humans to other animals (and therefore, it could not be considered anthropomorphism, despite the fact that the literary result is the same.) I think the article relates much better to this form of "reverse anthropomorphism", which should be included and emphasized in the introduction.

On the other hand, by contrasting the relationship between humans and the natural world, the reader could understand that we are not part of that world. I think it is in the spirit of this article, that the reader understands the opposite, that is, that we are interconnected beings. Perhaps it is a formal matter, but I think it should be taken care of.

From the end of the introduction there is an unnecessary repetition of content. I don't know if it is due to some formatting error. For example between paragraph 2 and 6 (about Hawk Roosting). Between paragraph 2 and 8 (On The Jaguar). Between paragraph 3 and 7 (On Pike). Between paragraph 4 and 9 (about The wind). In fact the last 6 paragraphs of this chapter seem to be repeated without meaning. And in the next chapter, as well as in the conclusions, the repetition of concepts is constant. A deep revision is recommended to remove the repeated parts.

It would be nice if the author delved deeper into the meanings attributed to the animal and how it questions the superiority of humans over other animals. The comparison with other authors or the search for other references would be very useful to understand the contribution of Ted Hughes. Also to understand how Hughes's texts can help us change our way of relating to other animals, towards more respectful models not based on use and domain.

In general terms, some more bibliographical references are missing, which provide the text with greater consistency. Perhaps some context on the performative nature of literature in matters of social justice, as is the case of the moral consideration of non-human animals.

With all this, my recommendation is to delve deeper into the text to answer more ambitious research questions. Also work on what is already written to avoid repetition of concepts (I think the latter is conditioning for the article).