

Contents

INTRODUCTION

**Multispecies Chronotopes: Keywords for Thinking Creatively
Beyond the Human**

Babette B. Tischleder | 11

VEGETAL LIFE AND PLANT POETICS

Cleveland Select

Judith Fetterley | 33

Blood on the Kitchen Table

Ulla Haselstein | 43

Flowers

Kirsten Twelbeck | 53

Arboreal Encounters in Richard Powers's *The Overstory*

Birgit Spengler | 65

PHOTO SERIES #1

The Lives of Trees

Birgit Spengler | 91

SONIC BUGS AND LYRICAL BEASTS

Skunk

Karen L. Kilcup | 107

“The Citizenry of All Things Within One World”: Mary Oliver’s Poetic Explorations of Kinship

Katja Sarkowsky | 109

Strange Animals in Stylish Habitats: Marianne Moore’s Poetry Revisited

Sabine Sielke | 123

The Beetles—Greatest Hits: The Rhythm ‘n’ Sound of Insects

Bernd Herzogenrath | 141

Robert Lowell’s Hidden Cats: From *Lord Weary’s Castle* to *Dolphin*

Astrid Franke | 151

Zoological Encounters

Susanne Scharf | 161

PHOTO SERIES #2

Urban Animals

Babette B. Tischleder | 163

POLITICAL ECOLOGIES IN A MULTISPECIES WORLD

Notes on Thoreau’s Posthuman Democracy

Johannes Voelz | 181

Sacred Pact or Overkill? Human-Bison Relations in North American Mythologies

Gesa Mackenthun | 195

Hands: Transdifferent Encounters between Human and Nonhuman Animals

Helmbrecht Breinig | 211

**Immanence is Bliss: The Ecological Imagination
in Thomas Pynchon's *Gravity's Rainbow***

Magda Majewska | 225

**The Decline of Humanity in a Post-Animal World:
The Animal Motif in Cormac McCarthy's *The Road***

Yvonne Wiser | 241

ART WORK

Uninvited Collaborations with Nature

Nina Katchadourian | 255

WITH AND BEYOND NONHUMANS: ENCOUNTERS, EMPATHY, ENTANGLEMENTS

**“Strange Matings” and Cultural Encounters: Octavia Butler’s Fiction
as “Companion Species” to Theory**

Maria Holmgren Troy | 263

More Than Human? Dracula’s Monstrosity

Susanne Scholz | 277

**“Revealing the Wellsprings of Power”: An Essay on the Social
Function of Humor in “The Wonderful Tar-Baby Story”**

Christa Buschendorf | 291

Empathy with the Animal

Christine N. Brinckmann | 303

**Martin Usborne’s Dogs: On Entangled Empathy in *The Silence
of Dogs in Cars and Where Hunting Dogs Rest***

Claudia Lillge | 311

**Paws of Courage: The Heroization of Dogs in Contemporary
American Culture**

Simon Wendt | 321

Acknowledgements | 335

Biographical Notes | 337

