Exploring the Theme of Human-Animal Kinship in Margaret Atwood’s Oryx and Crake

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Abstract
Oryx and Crake explored the theme of advancement of science and its challenges are distinct between human and animal. Atwood discusses the theme during a special way in her novel ‘Oryx and Crake’ published within the year 2003. It deals with the protagonist Snowman’s hindering mind about his past and annihilating present. The protagonist is revealed through his attitude with creature called ‘Crakers’ and his deportments throughout the novel. The most frightening thing within the novel is that the pigoons that Jimmy’s father helps to make as a genetic engineer at the Organ Inc Farms Compound. The novel is setting by post-apocalyptic and narrates the story of mankind’s demise as results of a worldwide epidemic deliberately caused by the idealistic scientist Crake. This novel highlights how the Crakers, a scientifically created race meant to out pace humanity, take over man’s place.

In the wake of scientific discoveries in nineteenth century’s major expedition of changes within the sector of literature passed off. After the Second warfare, many writers evoked the futuristic dealing of Earth, voyage, engineering and explorations of intelligent life in other world all don’t seem to be only in literature but also on media like movies, television serials and newspaper. Fantasy is also a communication and it had a tremendous development of literature and its impact on society. for example Mary Shelley’s “Frankeenstein”, R.L. Stevenson’s “Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde” and Jonathan Swift’s “Gulliver’s Travels” are exemplified the advancement technology. Robert A. Heinlein rightly opines, “In this complex world, science, the methodology, and so the implications of the methodology are central to everything the humankind is doing and to wherever we are going. If we blow ourselves up we are visiting jazz by misapplication of science; if we manage to remain from blowing ourselves up, it’ll be through intelligent application of science”.

Canadian fiction too echoed the identical feeling of fantasy. One among the foremost important writers of Canadian Literature is Margaret Atwood. She has forbidden many themes like parody, satire, humour, decries and inequities in global diplomacy and laments human-led destruction of the character. These major themes are explored within the novel ‘Oryx and Crake’ published within the year 2003. It deals with the protagonist Snowman’s hindering
mind about his past and annihilating present. The within of the protagonist is revealed through his attitude with creature called ‘Crakers’ and his deportments throughout the novel. The novel is setting by post-apocalyptic and narrates the story of mankind’s demise as results of a worldwide epidemic deliberately caused by the idealistic scientist Crake. This novel highlights how the Crakers, a scientifically created race meant to outpace humanity, take over man’s place.

Oryx and Crake explored the theme of advancement of science and its challenges are distinct between human and animal. Atwood discusses the theme during a special way in her novel. Atwood calls her pigs as pigoons are as intelligent creatures. Pigoons, as an example, are pigs that grow human organs and even human brain tissue for the aim of transplantation. The pigoon project creates pigs with fully functional human organ tissue, highly proof against disease, for the aim of organ transplants. Organ Inc Farms is currently perfecting a pigoon that will grow five or six kidneys—which is extremely desirable because it drastically reduces cost. All of this can be often explained to Jimmy when he’s the right age. Their partly human formulate makes it so people are uncomfortable with the concept of eating them. “However, he regrets telling the Crakers certain things; like that Rabbits and other creatures were sacred to Oryx, because now he can’t eat them”. It seems approximately cannibalistic.

The novel initially casts abuse on the human-animal kinship of transgenic species by employing the trope of cannibalism: thus the official claim of Organ Inc Farms that “none of the defunct pigoons ended up as bacon and sausages [because] nobody would want to eat an animal whose cells might be identical with a minimum of variety of their own” (23-24), the workers at the compound cannot help but realize “how often back bacon and ham sandwiches and pork pies turned up on the staff café menu” (24). They are the instance of infringing the divide between human and animal. The foremost distinctive blend of human and animal are Crake’s genetically engineered creation is termed as “The Crakers”. They have colour-changing in organs form of a baboon, a system alimentation style of a rabbit, and thus the smell of a citrus plant. The Crakers are a really interesting example because they’re humanoid, with certain human traits.

When Jimmy’s father reveals the success of his “neuro-regeneration project,” during which his team has “genuine human neo-cortex tissue growing in an exceedingly pigoon” (56), Jimmy’s mother oppresses this and leaves him. Then only Jimmy to enter the political underground. Her mother responds to her father’s professional enthusiasm by stating scoffing, “That’s all we’d like. More people with the brains of pigs. Don’t we have got enough of those already?” (56). Her objection to his work purposely confuses the direction of its boundary crossing.

The pigoons represent a considerable danger to Snowman after Crake’s virus wipes out the human population, and so the text raises the specter of cannibalism again to reiterate the threat that exogenous modernity presents to the settler subject-position: “Those beasts are 210 Sc/Élc clever enough to fake a retreat, then hang around the subsequent corner. They’d bowl him over, trample him, rip him open, and munch up his organs first. He knows their tastes. A brainy and omnivorous animal, the pigoon variety of them may even have human neo cortex tissue growing in their crafty, wicked heads” (235).

Though in very other ways exhibited within the book, the characters of the novel believe about the excellence between animals and humans are within the damaging world. Jimmy usually compares himself to numerous animals. Jimmy thinks that he isn’t scientifically gifted because the comparison makes out his feelings as inferior. He feels lesser like an animal because his lack of scientific genius. Jimmy neglects to eat pigoons meat. The corporate companies sell the pigoon meat for profit because of the environmental and climate changes they get very meager amount of natural meat. The hybrid variety only make benefit. Their greediness and scientifically advancement only make valuing the pigoons.
Crake, contrarily expects that human ingenuity and scientific curiosity is really an inferior, animal trait. He feels that the scientific human brain as a monkey brain and disdain scientific genius. He believes that those things which are traditionally revered as ‘distinctly human’ like love, art, language, self awareness, knowledge of mortality are a form of evolutionary mistake—he finds them to be “inelegant” solutions to the matter of life and survival. Crake cares the answer for those problems are preferred to be the invention of the Crakers. He examines to be superior genetic combinations of humans, plants, and animals that share either human intelligence or desire. So, he wants to unravel what he sees because the problem of masses by developing a virus that effectively wipes them off the face of the planet.

References
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