

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT
BA THESIS
Elizabeth Bishop: The Map of her Life and Work
Bc. Lucie Nováková

Although the thesis under review was completed rather quickly, it builds on several months of research and manages to draw on the work of a good number of Bishop's critics and biographers, including Steven Gould Axelrod, Bonnie Costello, Lorrie Goldensohn, Victoria Harrison and David Kalstone, among others. The text is well-structured and the prose is straightforward, with a few relatively minor errors. Its objective—to discuss Bishop's “two most formative relationships with her fellow poets, namely Marianne Moore and Robert Lowell” (Abstract)—is undeniably achieved, both through short biographical sketches of the two relationships in question and through short analyses of selected poems. The discussion of all the poems, from “Roosters” to “North Haven,” could have been more detailed; however, given Bc. Nováková's overall objective, her time constraints and the scope of a BA thesis, these rather distant readings are more than sufficient.

During the defense, Bc. Nováková could perhaps think about other poems that in her view illustrate the mutual influence of Bishop, Moore and Lowell as well as suggest who else might have inspired Bishop's work.

Proposed grade: 1 (výborně) or 2 (velmi dobře)

Pavla Veselá, PhD.
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