



FACULTY OF ARTS  
Charles University

Department of Anglophone Literatures and Cultures

Supervisor's Report on MA Thesis

**Moving the Frontier of Conscience:  
Representations of Animal Ethics in  
Selected Works of Contemporary Anglophone Literature**

by Zuzana Holečková

10 May 2022

This is a wonderful thesis. It is explorative, insightful, well organized, and well argued. It brings together close readings of a range of contemporary anglophone novels, even as it engages persuasively with issues of contemporary cultural theory and philosophy. Zuzana was not satisfied to skate over the surface of these ideas, but also examined their provenance in earlier generations of philosophers. The student approached the work with both diligence and imagination. She responded excellently to criticism, adjusting her approach as the need arose. When one encounters a thesis that covers well several novels from different national traditions and employs a relatively new critical approach, it is sometimes difficult to see how much thought and work went into the organization: it all seems so smoothly done. That the challenge is largely invisible is a tribute to the student. I particularly appreciated the deft way that she incorporated Indra Sinha's novel. Ostensibly, it is not related to the area, but Zuzana's reading of the book hints at the way such a posthuman reading can be brought to literary works that do not announce this thematic in an obvious manner. Both the works of fiction and the conceptual framework broadened my horizon, and I was illuminated at every turn by the student's writing. I am grateful to Zuzana for inviting me to work with her on this thesis. It may seem strange that this report is so brief – yet she has already incorporated my queries and criticism. I recommend a grade of **1/výborně**.

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