



FACULTY OF ARTS  
OF CHARLES UNIVERSITY  
IN PRAGUE



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Department of Anglophone Literatures and Cultures

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

**MA THESIS**

**Hybrid Bodies and Hybrid Identities in the Fiction of Octavia Butler**

Bc. Adéla Korejtková

“Hybrid Bodies and Hybrid Identities in the Fiction of Octavia Butler” is devoted to the theme of hybridity in *Xenogenesis* and *Fledgling*. The theoretical underpinning of the thesis is strong: Bc. Adéla Korejtková discusses the concept of hybridity as it has been explored by theorists such as Homi Bhabha, Donna J. Haraway, Sarah Wood and Robert Young, and she also builds on substantial criticism of *Xenogenesis* and *Fledgling* by Patricia Melzer, Jim Miller and Naomi Jacobs, among others. The candidate's reading of Butler's novels is fairly detailed and she certainly demonstrates her familiarity with the primary material she analyzes. In addition, the thesis is exceptionally eloquent and formally polished.

Certainly, in my view, the dystopian nature of the conditions in which hybridity emerges in *Xenogenesis* should be emphasized. There are also questions that could have been explored further; e.g if the Oankali may be seen as “colonizers, slaveholders [and] cyborgs,” as one chapter subtitle of the thesis suggests, can they also be seen as embodiment of neoliberal capitalism and could the entire trilogy be read as an allegory of globalization (which many critics have done, including several of those cited in the thesis)?

On the whole, however, “Hybrid Bodies and Hybrid Identities in the Fiction of Octavia Butler” is a well-researched piece of scholarship that addresses complex and current issues.

Proposed grade: Excellent (1)

Pavla Veselá, PhD.

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