

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR- 59471

Title: Desire in Transition: Understanding Human Desire for Sex Dolls in Jeanette Winterson\'s Frankissstein: A Love Story ,

Recommendation:

Accept after minor revision

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓		
Techn. Quality			✓	
Clarity			✓	
Significance	✓			

Reviewer Name: Dr. Abdul Haseeb Mir

Detailed Reviewer's Repot

General Overview

This manuscript presents a literary-critical and theoretical examination of Jeanette Winterson's 2019 novel *Frankissstein: A Love Story*, focusing on how technology alters biological desire, intimacy, and human subjecthood. The paper investigates the conceptual transition of human erotic desire from biological human partners to synthetic, non-biological entities (specifically sex dolls and AI "sexbots" embodied by characters like Ron Lord).

The author constructs a multi-layered theoretical framework combining Humanism, Posthumanism (Hayles, Nayar, Clarke), Behaviorist Psychology (Skinner, operant conditioning), Freudian Psychoanalysis (libido, object substitution, reality principle), Consumer Culture Theory (Baudrillard's simulacra, Marcuse's repressive desublimation), and Feminist Theory. Through textual analysis, the manuscript outlines how corporate consumerism and tech-culture marketize loneliness, replacing reciprocal human emotional ties with customizable, compliant, and transactional synthetic partners.

Overall, the manuscript offers a timely, highly relevant, and intellectually rich critique of posthuman intimacy. It provides a compelling interpretation of Winterson's novel, connecting fictional narratives with contemporary debates on technological colonization and artificial companions. Minor revisions are required to correct formatting, improve flow, refine figure references, and address typographical errors prior to final publication.

Key Strengths

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1. **Strong Theoretical Integration:** The author successfully synthesizes diverse theoretical perspectives—from behavioral psychology and Freudian libido theory to posthumanism and Marxist/Althusserian critiques of consumer culture—to analyze the shift toward object-oriented desire.
2. **Close Textual Engagement:** The paper engages deeply with Winterson's text, using key character interactions (e.g., Ron Lord, Dr. Ry Shelley, Victor Stein, Claire) to illustrate how the commodification of artificial intimacy functions in practice.
3. **Structured Analytical Framework:** The inclusion of comparative thematic matrices (contrasting Humanist vs. Posthumanist perceptions of desire) effectively clarifies the paper's core arguments.

Recommendations for Improvement

To enhance readability and ensure publication-grade presentation, the author should make the following minor adjustments:

1. Standardize and Correct Typographical/Grammatical Errors:

The manuscript contains a number of minor typographical glitches and grammatical slips that require proofreading:

- In the Introduction (line 23), change "In his fictions" to "In her fictions" (referring to Jeanette Winterson).
- Correct minor spelling errors throughout the text (e.g., line 121 "human essence" spacing; line 131 "pleasure bots"; line 201 "humanism" heading alignment; line 266 "hikes the demand").
- Fix citation punctuation and spacing issues in the reference callouts.

2. Refine Visual Layout and Textual Flow Around Tables/Flowcharts:

- On page 2 (lines 59–61), the flowchart text ("Original Object (Repressed) / Artificial Objects...") is slightly distorted in layout. Converting this into a clean, standard text diagram or cleanly formatted block list will improve readability.
- Ensure uniform column alignment across the two comparative tables ("Perceptions of Desire" on pages 3–4).

3. Tighten Section Transitions and Theoretical Focus:

While the paper touches upon Althusser's Ideological State Apparatuses (ISAs) and state-mandated population policies (lines 270–276), this detour into government policy feels slightly disconnected from the novel's primary focus on consumerism and market-driven sexbot franchises. Either connect this brief observation more directly to Winterson's text or streamline the discussion to maintain focus on posthuman desire and intimacy.

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4. Ensure Citation Consistency in References:

Verify that all works cited in the text (e.g., Baudrillard, Marcuse, Skinner) are fully detailed in the Works Cited section, maintaining consistent MLA/APA reference formatting throughout.

Final Evaluation and Verdict

This paper presents an insightful and well-supported posthumanist critique of Jeanette Winterson's *Frankissstein*. The literary analysis is convincing, and the theoretical framework is applied effectively.

The manuscript is **accepted with minor revisions**. Completing the requested proofreading pass, fixing minor table formatting, and standardizing the reference list will render the paper fully ready for publication.

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