

**Toward Golden Pond (A)**  
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# Toward Golden Pond (A)

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## ***"Hawk Roosting" and "Golden Retrievals"***

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Hughes and Doty utilize prepositional phrases and onomatopoeia, respectively, and both employ personification and appropriate tones to display contrasting views of the world; the hawk is representative of condescension, arrogance, and power, whereas the the golden retriever symbolizes those who find happiness in simplicity.

## "Hawk Roosting"

I sit in the top of the wood, my eyes closed.  
Inaction, no falsifying dream  
Between my hooked head and hooked feet:  
Or in sleep rehearse perfect kills and eat.

The convenience of the high trees!  
The air's buoyancy and the sun's ray  
Are of advantage to me;  
And the earth's face upward for my inspection.

My feet are locked upon the rough bark.  
It took the whole of Creation  
To produce my foot, my each feather:  
Now I hold Creation in my foot

Or fly up, and revolve it all slowly -  
I kill where I please because it is all mine.  
There is no sophistry in my body:  
My manners are tearing off heads -

The allotment of death.  
For the one path of my flight is direct  
Through the bones of the living.  
No arguments assert my right:

The sun is behind me.  
Nothing has changed since I began.  
My eye has permitted no change.  
I am going to keep things like this.

## "Golden Retrieval"

Fetch? Balls and sticks capture my attention  
seconds at a time. Catch? I don't think so.  
Bunny, tumbling leaf, a squirrel who  
joy—actually scared. Sniff the wind, the

I'm off again: muck, pond, ditch, residue  
of any thrillingly dead thing. And you  
Either you're sunk in the past, half of  
thinking of what you never can bring

or else you're off in some fog concealing  
—tomorrow, is that what you call it?  
to unsnare time's warp (and woof!), I  
my haze-headed friend, you. This sh

a Zen master's bronzy gong, calls you  
entirely, now: bow-wow, bow-wow, b

# ***"Hawk Roosting"***

## ***Prepositions***

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- "I sit *in the top of the wood*" (1).
- "Now I hold Creation *in my foot*" (12).
- "For the one path of my flight is direct /  
*Through the bones of the living*" (18-19).



# ***"The use of Onomatopoeia in "Golden Retrievals"***

- "woof!" (Doty 11)
- "bow-wow, bow-wow,  
bow-wow" (Doty 14)
- Proves the dog's simple  
mindset

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# Personification in Both Poems

## *"Hawk Roosting"*

- Personified by means of the poem being told from his point of view
- "Creation in my foot" (12).
- The convenience of the high trees" (5).
- High class member of society.



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## *"Golden Retrievals"*

- Similar form of personification, yet different goal in personifying him
- Retriever idolizes his master, Hawk is relentless towards his victims



# Contrast of Tone from Poem to Poem

## *"Hawk Roosting"*

- Condescension and Arrogance
- End-Stop Lines
- Structure is vital



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## **"Golden Retrievals"**

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- Content tone
- Caring dog, tries to cheer up his master
- The lowest of all social classes is happy regardless of what the situation happens to be.

