

REPRESENTATIONS OF THE HUMAN LIFE COURSE AND NATURE CYCLE IN LATE MEDIEVAL ENGLISH POETRY

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***Abstract:** The paper concentrates on representations of the human life course and nature cycle in late medieval English lyrical poetry. The time of individual human experience is seen both from pagan and Christian perspective; Christian and pagan traditions clash dramatically and compete mostly in these topics: (i) youth – spring – love; (ii) old age – winter – death. The nexus between human ontogenesis and the course of the year was very important and is widely mirrored in the late medieval poetry. There are many reasons why late medieval English poetry is a fascinating body of English literature.*

***Key words:** Middle English literature, medieval lyrics, English poetry, temporality, human life*

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