



# Cricket Writing Culture: How the Interwar Works of J.M. Kilburn for the Yorkshire Post Transcended the Boundary Between 'Journalism' and 'Literature'

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## Abstract

In many ways one of the most innovative writers of his age, the interwar work of the cricket writer, J.M. Kilburn, for The Yorkshire Post was so unique that it transcended the boundary between 'journalism' and 'literature'.

His brand of writing pushed the definition of 'journalism' to a point where journalistic traits were lost; in its place he used literary styles and techniques, allowing for the application of literary analysis to an art form which Kilburn made his own between 1934 and 1939.

This is a study of his work as Yorkshire (and England) cricket correspondent for The Yorkshire Post from across the six seasons before the outbreak of the Second World War, a time of great political, social and cultural upheaval, but also one of unmitigated success, on a sporting front, for the White Rose.

It is argued in this thesis that Kilburn, in transcending the boundary between literature and journalism, actually created a hybrid genre – a form of writing created out of styles pulled from the literary and journalistic worlds, and mixed together to create something unique to Kilburn.

His career began with the kind of flourish that would grace his writing over a forty-year tenure working for The Yorkshire Post, one of the largest publications in the country: cricket writing commendation from the great Sir Neville Cardus – the man seen as the most influential in the history of cricket writing – imbued onto Kilburn a status of high quality which he would always keep.

A bookworm childhood complimented by many hours sat on the boundary edge of Yorkshire cricket grounds ensured the foundations of Kilburn's unique trade were well ingrained; a year spent roaming Finland polished his descriptive skills, and the posting of his travel pieces during this time endeared him to The Yorkshire Post's then-editor Arthur Mann, whose vision it was to have as his chief cricket writer a man who could couple sound judgment with an ability to carry his readers from their living room to the field of play using only the elegance of the written word as a means of transportation.

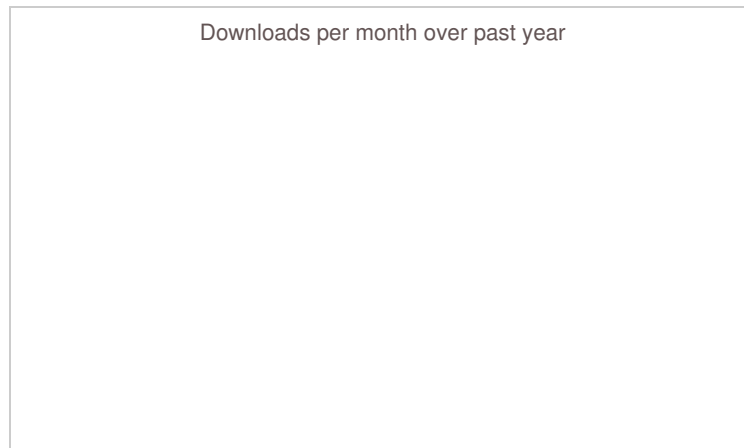
For example, Kilburn uses what Roland Barthes describes as a 'narrative luxury' (in Furst, 1992, pp135-136) in his writing – a technique used by literary figures – as well as using characterisation by taking individual players and creating mythological, almost godlike figures out of them. His style echoes that of a generation of writers which Hynes (1976) labels as 'the Auden generation', a group whose prose goes beyond what has been seen before, to transform the written word out of a passive state and into an active role, tackling the era's various cultural crisis.

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During the more than four decades he spent writing for The Yorkshire Post, Kilburn was never tempted away to a larger, national title like many of his contemporaries. His name is not nearly as well known as the likes of Sir Neville Cardus, R.C. Robertson-Glasgow or E.W. Swanton, all of whom were active during the majority of his career, but Kilburn's unique disregard for his profession's conventions made him one of the most interesting cricket writers of all time. This is the story of his early, interwar career at The Yorkshire Post.

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Literature and culture are deeply interrelated and both have a strong relationship with each other, because during years and from the oldest of time, literature embodied culture; The first literary work in English language that conveys cultural context about life is written in Old English which appeared in the early Middle Age, and here we mean "Beowulf" from Anglo-Saxon literature, which is a heroic epic poem. Usually, many writers would like to write about heroine epic poem or stories in the Old English, telling the story of how the heroes destroyed the evil and 7 Ibid. p15 restored their g Reporters constantly struggle with what and how much to tell Reporters constantly struggle with what and how much to tell. Sometimes the facts are clear. Other times, journalists must rely on their own judgment. A retired minister in a small town does not return from a fishing trip. Presentation on theme: "Peeping Tom Journalism"— Presentation transcript: 1 Peeping Tom Journalism. 2 Reporters constantly struggle with what and how much to tell Reporters constantly struggle with what and how much to tell. Sometimes the facts are clear. Rosa Lopez was a maid working quietly and anonymously until she became a key witness in the O.J. Simpson trial. Suddenly, she was the focus of intense scrutiny. Lopez was hounded by cameras and reporters everywhere she went. There are more than 200 countries in the world and even more nations. The world is open now and at your work, during your business trips and studies or just through the Internet you can be involves in the multicultural communication. Someone thinks that for efficient conversation good communicational skills and language proficiency (usually, in English) are enough. However, it's not is easy. Knowi. Understanding culture and language go hand in hand. Art and language rely on each other to define worldviews. As a kindred part of culture, language is inseparable from art. Understanding art is intertwined with understanding culture and language. Related Post: Did You Know Your Language Changes How You See Color? Mythology. The songlines show how understanding culture unlocks the depth of indigenous languages on the Australian continent. Many of these languages are disappearing, and with them, their cultures. Idioms. Try on these other examples just for the fun of understanding culture: Korean: A dragon rises from a small stream. Korea is a small nation, but from humble beginnings rise great things. Most articles and scholarly pieces on network journalism have discussed common issues such as the implications of technology on journalism, engagement of citizens in journalistic work, citizen collaboration with the professional journalists, and the roles of professional journalists in networks. According to Jarvis (2007), network journalism links journalists and the public to share facts, questions, answers, ideas, and perspectives. Finally, we compare these two modes to understand how the future of community and values might change over the next 30 years. View. Show abstract.