



Multimedia Library Collection: Environmental Values (journal)

"Darwinian Humanism and the End of Nature"

Kirkman, Robert

Kirkman, Robert. "Darwinian Humanism and the End of Nature." *Environmental Values* 18, no. 2 (2009): 217–36. doi: [10.3197/096327109X438071](https://doi.org/10.3197/096327109X438071) . Republished by the Environment & Society Portal, Multimedia Library. <http://www.environmentandsociety.org/node/7499>.

Darwinian humanism proposes that environmental philosophers pursue their work in full recognition of an irreducible ambiguity at the heart of human experience: we may legitimately regard moral action as fully free and fully natural at the same time, since neither perspective can be taken as the whole truth. A serious objection to this proposal holds that freedom and nature may be unified as an organic whole, and their unity posited as a matter of substantive truth, by appeal to teleology. In particular, I consider Hegel's account of the emergence of Absolute Spirit, weigh its advantages and disadvantages as an approach to human moral experience and as a strategic move for environmentalists, and conclude with a refinement of Darwinian humanism and a clarification of its implications for environmental ethics.

— Text from [The White Horse Press](http://www.whpress.co.uk) website

All rights reserved. © 2009 The White Horse Press

Download:

PDF: https://www.environmentandsociety.org/sites/default/files/key_docs/ev182_kirkman.pdf

Related links:

- Article on the official website
<http://www.whpress.co.uk/EV/EV1810.html>
- EV 18, no. 2—Editorial by Isis Brook (WHP)
<http://www.whpress.co.uk/EV/EditEV182.html>
- The White Horse Press
<http://www.ericademon.co.uk/>

Websites linked in this text:

- <http://dx.doi.org/10.3197/096327109X438071>
- <http://www.whpress.co.uk/EV/EV1810.html>