

# **“BOUNDARIES ARE ALL LIES”: THE FLUIDITY OF BOUNDARIES IN LINDA HOGAN’S THE BOOK OF MEDICINES**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Linda Hogan’s *The Book of Medicines* contains poems which can heal our injured or broken relationships with the world around us. This article approaches these poems in the light of Hogan’s conception of boundaries as being fluid because they are artificial and cannot separate creatures from establishing direct communicative links with the world around them. It explores four interrelated issues that reflect the interconnectedness obtaining between everything and all creatures in the universe: Hogan’s view of maps and cartography, the barriers that buildings and walls create between human beings and the world, her notion of crossing boundaries and liquefying the obstructions that create misunderstanding and lack of communication between creatures, and her vision of ruptures as spaces which heal and unite.

**KEYWORDS:** Book of Medicines, Boundaries, Cartography, Confluence, Convergence, Cracks, Crossing, Healing, Interconnectedness, Linda Hogan, Naming, Regeneration, Ruptures