

Human and Non-human Connections in E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial and Wall-E
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Through careful comparison and analysis of E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial and Wall-E, this essay explores the many ways directors Spielberg and Morris use the commonalities found in their films to question social constructs around otherness. The essay demonstrates how both films use what is familiar—namely television, animals, and plants—to develop empathy in the audience and humanize non-human life. Lastly, my essay observes how both films overtly celebrate differences and being different. Both texts subtly challenge societal norms, centered on human and non-human connections, that are continually changing in the worlds of the films as well as the world outside them.