Throughout their marriage, Sylvia Plath and Ted Hughes engaged in a complex and continually evolving poetic dialogue about writing, love, and grief. Although scholars have commented extensively on the biographical details of Plath’s and Hughes’s marriage, few have undertaken a literary analysis of these poets’ work. *The Grief of Influence* reappraises this important literary partnership. Through close readings of both poets’ work and analysis of new archival sources, Clark reveals for the first time how extensively Plath borrowed from Hughes and Hughes borrowed from Plath. Clark shows how each poet forged a voice both through and against the other’s, and offers a new assessment of the twentieth century’s most important poetic partnership.

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