



## Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize 2021 Written entries 2021

---

### Uffing and Puffing

It's not exactly that I'm jealous,  
but,  
put Uffington Castle into 'Google'  
and it is your picture that comes up first.  
You,  
a mere horse.  
Me,  
a castle!

.....Could it be that I require  
more imagination to evoke  
an image of what was there  
before my structure broke? .....

It's like I sit in your shadow.  
Why,  
when it's you that lies below?  
Your lovely manicured completeness  
gives you that whiter than white glow,  
whereas,  
sheep pass the time of day on me  
(and more besides).  
I carpet all who come  
whilst you give children rides.

It's not exactly that I'm jealous,  
but  
it would feel good if  
just one of those who walked on me  
said that it was I  
that they had mainly come to see!

Alright, I admit that I do sit in your shadow,  
so to speak...  
but, I was once majestic in my peak,  
and now you see me no longer in my prime  
a grazing mound that can't survive  
the ravages of time.

It's not exactly that I'm jealous  
well,  
maybe that's not true,  
but, basically my jealousy  
won't change my point of view  
because,  
we have been close companions  
for many years you and I,

and,  
I do have greater grandeur  
when I'm looked at from the sky.

*Peter Wild*

---