

The case of Anti-Christ?

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My question to Izumi here is the following. As Izumi points out in [1, Section 4.6], the claim that the predicative approach is justified by the existential presupposition of the reference of a proper name faces difficulties with uses of proper names in fictional contexts. His proposal to circumvent the obstacles is to appeal to rewriting such cases in belief contexts. Still, it presupposes that there is some possible world in which the reference of such a proper name exist. It is not guaranteed in some cases in everyday languages, while the presupposition is accepted in the modern formulation of possible world semantics.

Reference

[1] Yu Izumi (2012) The Semantics of Proper Names and Other Bare Nominals. Doctoral dissertation, University of Maryland.