

**REPRESENTATION OF NATURE IN MAKOTO SHINKAI'S
WEATHERING WITH YOU: AN ECOCRITICAL STUDY**

THESIS

By:
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**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK IBRAHIM MALANG
2026**

REPRESENTATION OF NATURE IN MAKOTO SHINKAI'S

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THESIS

Presented to
Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Sarjana Sastra (S.S.)

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UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK IBRAHIM MALANG

2026

STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP

I state that the thesis entitled *Representation of Nature in Makoto Shinkai Weathering with You: an Ecocritical Study* is my original work. I do not include any materials previously written or published by another person, except those cited as references and written in the bibliography. Hereby, if there is any objection or claim, I am the only person who is responsible for that.

Malang, May 6th 2026

The Researcher



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Wahbah Zuchayly

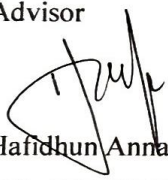
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This is to certify that Wahbah Zuchayly's thesis entitled *Representation of Nature in Makoto Shinkai Weathering with You: an Ecocritical Study* has been approved for thesis examination at Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang, as one of the requirements for the degree of Sarjana Sastra (S. S.)

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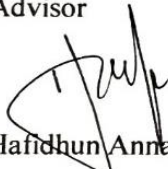
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MOTTO

“I caused my mother exhaustion during her pregnancy and put her life at risk to bring me into this world. My father worked tirelessly day and night to provide for my every need. There is no way I can live a life that means nothing.” (Researcher)

“Allah does not require of any soul more than what it can afford. All good will be for its own benefit, and all evil will be to its own loss.” (Q.S Al-Baqarah: 286)

DEDICATION

There is no most precious sheet in this thesis report except the dedication sheet, here the researcher dedicates this thesis to kind-hearted and dearest people, this dedication goes to:

1. My beloved parents, Ayah M. Salim and Umik Nur Sa'adah for their endless support and encouragement in pursuing the researcher's dreams.
2. My Siblings, M. Rizqi Ziyad Barqi and M. Alwy Salim, for being the best brothers ever in the researcher's life.
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6. All of family Ma'had Sunan Ample Al-Aly Islamic State University of Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang.

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Wahbah Zuchayly

ABSTRACT

Zuchayly, Wahbah (2026) *Representation of Nature in Makoto Shinkai's Weathering with You: an Ecocritical Study*. Undergraduate Thesis. Department of English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Islamic State University of Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Advisor: Hafidhun Annas, M.Hum.

Key word: Eco-critic, Climate Crisis, Ecological Values, Anthropocentrism

With the increasing of environmental problems representation in literary studies, especially in the context of climate narratives that feature ecological issues. This research uses the English translation of the novel Makoto Shinkai *Weathering with You* which presents a depiction of the climate crisis condition, climate disaster, and anthropocentrism. This research purposefully to find nature representation, attempt to comprehend ecological values, and reveal anthropocentric traits by applying Cheryll Glotfelty's ecocritical approach theory. This research applies the literary criticism method with an ecocritical approach, and the main data source is the Makoto Shinkai *Weathering with You* novel English translation version. The data is analyzed based on Cheryll Glotfelty's ecocritical theory that supports deeper analysis, focusing on three main criteria, including: Nature Representation, Ecological Values, and Anthropocentric Traits. The results reveal that *Weathering with You* presents nature through the climate crisis condition. Similarly, *Weathering with You* presents the ecological values within the society, including interconnectedness, environmental awareness, and ethical responsibility. In addition, the novel *Weathering with You* reveals the anthropocentric traits of the characters within the narrative. This study concludes that the novel *Weathering with You* functions as both a speculative fiction narrative and a powerful ecological critique. The researcher suggests that further interdisciplinary studies can apply other ecocritical theories to cultivate our understanding of climate crisis narratives.

صلختسم ثحبال

زهيلي، وهبة (2026) تصوير الطبيعة *Weathering with You* لمكوتو شينكاى: دراسة نقدية بيئية. أطروحة بكالوريوس. قسم الأدب الإنجليزي، كلية العلوم الإنسانية، جامعة الدولة الإسلامية مولانا مالك إبراهيم في مالانج. المشرف: حفيظون أنس، ماجستير في العلوم الإنسانية.

الكلمات المفتاحية: النقد البيئي، أزمة المناخ، القيم البيئية، الأنثروبوسنترية

مع تزايد تناول المشكلات البيئية في الدراسات الأدبية، لا سيما في سياق السرديات المناخية التي تسلط الضوء على القضايا البيئية. يستخدم هذا البحث رواية "ماكوتو شينكاى *Weathering with You*": (النسخة الإنجليزية) التي تقدم تصويرًا لحالة أزمة المناخ، والكوارث المناخية، والأنثروبوسنترية. يهدف هذا البحث إلى العثور على تمثيل الطبيعة، ومحاولة فهم القيم البيئية، وكشف السمات الأنثروبوسنترية من خلال تطبيق نظرية النهج النقدي البيئي لـ شيريل جلوتفيلتي. تطبق هذه الدراسة منهج النقد الأدبي من منظور النقد البيئي، ومصدر البيانات الرئيسي هو النسخة الإنجليزية المترجمة لرواية *Weathering with You* للكاتب ماكوتو شينكاى. ويتم تحليل البيانات استنادًا إلى النظرية النقدية البيئية التي طرحها شيريل جلوتفيلتي، والتي تدعم إجراء تحليل أعمق، مع التركيز على ثلاثة معايير رئيسية، وهي: تمثيل الطبيعة، والقيم البيئية، والسمات التي تركز على الإنسان. وتكشف النتائج أن رواية *Weathering with You* تعرض الطبيعة من خلال سياق أزمة المناخ. وبالمثل، تعرض الرواية القيم البيئية داخل المجتمع، بما في ذلك الترابط والوعي البيئي والمسؤولية الأخلاقية. بالإضافة إلى ذلك، تكشف رواية *Weathering with You* عن السمات الأنثروبوسنترية للشخصيات داخل السرد. تخلص هذه الدراسة إلى أن رواية *Weathering with You* تعمل كسرد خيالي تخيلي وكنقد بيئي قوي في آن واحد. يقترح الباحث أن الدراسات متعددة التخصصات الإضافية يمكن أن تطبق نظريات نقدية بيئية أخرى لتنمية فهمنا لروايات أزمة المناخ.

ABSTRAK

Zuchayly, Wahbah (2026) *Representasi Alam dalam Novel Weathering with You Karya Makoto Shinkai*: Sebuah Studi Ekokritik. Skripsi Sarjana. Jurusan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Humaniora, Universitas Negeri Islam Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Pembimbing: Hafidhun Annas, M.Hum.

Kata kunci: Ekokritik, Krisis iklim, Nilai-nilai ekologis, Antroposentrisme

Bersamaan dengan meningkatnya representasi masalah lingkungan dalam studi sastra, terutama terkait konteks narasi iklim yang membahas isu-isu ekologi. menggunakan terjemahan bahasa Inggris dari novel Makoto Shinkai, *Weathering with You*, yang menyajikan penggambaran kondisi krisis iklim, bencana iklim, dan antroposentrisme. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi representasi alam, memahami nilai-nilai ekologi, serta mengungkap ciri-ciri antroposentrisme dengan menerapkan teori pendekatan ekokritik karya Cheryll Glotfelty. Penelitian ini menerapkan metode kritik sastra dengan pendekatan ekokritik, dan sumber data utamanya adalah novel Makoto Shinkai *Weathering with You* versi terjemahan bahasa Inggris. Dalam studi ini data dianalisis berdasarkan teori ekokritik Cheryll Glotfelty yang mendukung analisis yang lebih mendalam, dengan fokus pada tiga kriteria utama, yaitu: Representasi Alam, Nilai-Nilai Ekologis, dan Karakteristik Antroposentris. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa *Weathering with You* menggambarkan alam melalui konteks krisis iklim. Selain itu, *Weathering with You* juga menampilkan nilai-nilai ekologis dalam masyarakat, termasuk keterkaitan, kesadaran lingkungan, dan tanggung jawab etis. Selain itu, novel *Weathering with You* mengungkap ciri-ciri antroposentris para karakter dalam narasinya. Studi ini menyimpulkan bahwa novel *Weathering with You* berfungsi ganda sebagai narasi fiksi spekulatif sekaligus kritik ekologis yang kuat. Peneliti menyarankan agar studi interdisipliner lebih lanjut dapat menerapkan teori-teori ekokritik lainnya untuk memperdalam pemahaman kita terhadap narasi-narasi krisis iklim.

TABLE OF CONTENT

THESIS	i
STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP	Error! Bookmark not defined.
APPROVAL SHEET	Error! Bookmark not defined.
LEGITIMATION SHEET.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
MOTTO	iv
DEDICATION	vi
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	vii
ABSTRACT	x
صلختسم ثحبال.....	xi
ABSTRAK.....	xii
TABLE OF CONTENT	xiii
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION	1
A. Background of the Study	1
B. Problems of the Study	11
C. Significance of the Study	12
D. Scope and Limitation.....	12
E. Definition of Key Terms	13
CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE	16
A. Ecocriticism as Literary Criticism.....	16
B. Ecocriticism by Cheryll Glotfelty.....	19
1. Anthropocentrism	22
2. Ecocentrism	23
C. Representation of Nature.....	25
D. Ecological Values	28
1. Interconnectedness	30
2. Environmental Awareness.....	31
3. Ethical Responsibility	33
CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHOD	35
A. Research Design	35

B. Data and Data Source.....	36
C. Data Collection	36
D. Data Analysis	37
CHAPTER IV FINDING AND DISCUSSION.....	38
A. Nature Representation in Makoto Shinkai's <i>Weathering with You</i>	38
1. Abnormal Rain	41
2. Extreme Weather	45
3. Environmental Instability	52
4. Environmental Disaster	59
B. Ecological Values in Makoto Shinkai's <i>Weathering with You</i>	63
1. Interconnectedness.....	65
2. Environmental Awareness.....	69
3. Ethical Responsibility	73
C. Anthropocentric Traits in <i>Weathering with You</i>	77
CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION	85
A. Conclusion	85
B. Suggestion	86
BIBLIOGRAPHY	88
CURRICULUM VITAE	94

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This section discusses the background of the study including previous study, problem of the study, significance of the study, limitation of the study, and definitions of the key terms.

A. Background of the Study

Environmental problems and their effects have become a significant threat to the people and the environment (Misra, 2024). The rapid advancement of urbanization and industrialization, in relation to the disparity between human activities and the natural environment, has resulted in a notable impact on climate change, pollution, and environmental degradation. Environmental problems not solely have a serious impact on the balance of nature, but also on human beings. As in the research conducted by Zhang, et al (2022) states that the impact of globalization, considered part of environmental problems, can affect economic and social progress, threatening health, safety, and livelihoods. One of several environmental problems that often occurs in the world nowadays is climate change. Climate change is one of the threats to environmental issues which is quite crucial for the world community (Mulyadi, 2022). The consequences of climate change on environmental issues here are rising temperatures, extreme weather events, flooding, loss of biodiversity, and

urban climate crisis. As one of the causes of climate change, especially with the increasing rapid urbanization, urban climate crisis has become urgent issues to be addressed (Das et al., 2024). As an approach to literature, ecocriticism with environmental problems focus on how literary works depict nature and represents human attitudes towards the environment. In addition, bearing in mind the growing importance of environmental awareness today, the research of nature representation in literature becomes increasingly crucial, especially the significance of literature in cultivating environmental awareness and fostering a collective responsibility toward nature (Radhakrishnan, 2025).

Various attempts have been made in dealing with the environmental problems to shape human awareness in maintaining the balance of nature, but there are still a number of people who are careless of their surrounding environmental phenomena. Literature not only depicts the natural world but also on how these representations influence and reflect societal attitudes towards the environment. Moreover, literary works have the power to evoke emotional responses, foster empathy towards the environment, and inspire action (Tajane et al., 2024). Plays, novels, short stories, poems as literary works can deepen and lead to wider consciousness of climate and contribute to the development of more progressive environmental policies (Schneider & Mayerson, 2018). Thus, literary works play an important role in depicting an environment that portrays current environmental problems.

Furthermore, literature is not only a medium for conveying environmental problems through its narrative structure, but also one of the most essential bridges for ecological awareness and understanding. Ecocriticism is the study that emerged as an interdisciplinary study in examining human-nature relationship, it is questioning how nature is represented through literary works that highlight the human culture and physical world (Glotfelty & Fromm, 1996). The advancement of ecocriticism study has rapidly increased in the analysis of nature, especially in scrutinizing the depiction of the unstable, damaged, and exploited nature. Cheryll Glotfelty, as one of the pioneers of ecocriticism, has made significant contributions to the advancement of knowledge concerning environmental representation in literature. In his seminal work entitled *“Ecocriticism: literary studies in an age of environmental crisis”* (1996), Glotfelty highlights how eco-critics as the unified of critical movement, scrutinize anthropocentric worldview and its attitudes or action that accompany it, moreover emphasize how ecocritics support interconnectedness and interrelationship between human-nature, as well as the values embodied in literary works.

Japanese literature, such as novels and animation, have long been concerned with the interconnectedness and interconnection between human and nature, Makoto Shinkai, as a film maker and novelist, who has several literary works often highlights environmental phenomena through his works as the metaphors for human emotions and societal issues. One of his English

translated works entitled *Weathering with You* (2019) novel, emerged as a representation of natural conditions: continuous rainfall which leads to the severe flood that is depicted in Tokyo. This Makoto Shinkai's novel *Weathering with You* initially highlights the story of the main character, Hodaka Morishima, who escapes to the city of Tokyo, which is experiencing continuous rainfall. Especially when Hodaka meets Hina Amano, a girl who has the power to control the weather. In this novel, Hina's ability as a "sunshine girl" presents how natural forces exist to fulfill human desires. However, due to Hodaka's love for Hina, this causes problems for the balance of nature, leading to disaster for Tokyo.

Basically, *Weathering with You* reveals how nature is an active entity that has power over itself, and humans cannot control it. This novel also provides the depiction of valuable lessons, highlighting how climate crisis can have a negative impact on humans' daily lives, offering the depiction of the environmental degradation, relationship between humans, and the environment under extreme weather, particularly the impacts of urban mismanagement which leads to the urban climate crisis in Kantou, Tokyo. This is not only a problem in Japan, but also throughout the world, including Indonesia, which is also facing the effect of the climate crisis due to global warming, climate change, and deforestation. These environmental issues have resulted in the La Niña phenomenon and a negative Indian Ocean Dipole, which cause heavy rainfall and flood disasters (Zu et al, 2024). Therefore, the researcher is interested in analyzing this novel further

regarding the relationship between humans and nature in Makoto Shinkai's novel *Weathering with You* through the lens of Glotfelty's (1996) ecocriticism theory.

In the context of extreme climate crisis against the human world in the novel *Weathering with You*, the interconnection between human-nature can be primarily examined in the theory of nature representation which is proposed by Cheryll Glotfelty (1996). The condition of nature depicted in the novel calls for human awareness and physical endurance due to the extreme climate change. Ecocriticism proposed by Glotfelty (1996) focuses on ecocriticism as the study of the relationship between literature and the physical environment. In addition, ecocriticism emerged as a means of nature representation through literary works and desire to be a part of the solution by exploring how literature reflects, influences, or even responds to environmental issues and attitudes towards them (Garrard, 2014). Thus, such representation demonstrates how literature shapes human interaction with the environment, and can influence ecological awareness and activism through its analysis. Through the representation of nature in the form of climate crisis and extreme weather condition: particularly continuous rainfall, Makoto Shinkai's *Weathering with You* encourages its readers to reflect on the consequences and actions that will affect nature.

In the following discussion, researcher refers to several studies that have explored the analysis related to environmental issues and nature representation. It plays an important role in deepening and analyzing

ecocriticism theory, particularly Cheryll Glotfelty's ecocritical lens. The presence of such previous studies provide perspectives and distinctions in the research to be conducted, helping the researcher to find uniqueness in the current study. Moreover, new insights are also provided by these several studies that support this research theoretically and contextually. In addition, some of the reviewed studies examined the interconnectedness between human and nature in literary works or films whether it is Indonesian or English.

The research conducted by Rizvi (2025) explores how Wordsworth challenges the nature/culture dichotomy and presents nature as an active, self-conscious entity through his poem titled *The Prelude*. The research highlights that through vivid imagery presented in the poem can subvert the anthropocentric view towards nature. Further, the research also examines how the poem can create ecological awareness and see nature as a moral and spiritual agent capable of providing catharsis. The research findings examine that nature serves as a moral teacher, shaping human character to affirm their interconnectedness towards nature. While Mohammed (2024) using an ecocritical approach by Cheryll Glotfelty, examines nature's representation and values of Maja Lunde's *The History of Bees*, addressing the human actions that have consequences on the environment, and calling for engagement and moral action to accept nature's beings, particularly the bees. It emphasizes that the human-nature interconnection should be

grounded in environmental wisdom that can be expressed through care and respect for the environment to ensure sustainability.

Meanwhile, nature's representation can also be viewed from disaster or phenomenon, including climate change, pollution, and also global warming, and also climate crisis. For instance, a research conducted by Anugrah and Adiwinata (2025) analyzes Tere Liye's *Hujan* novel. It examines how human and nature are interconnected. The findings highlight that human actions affect the environment which leads to environmental degradation including pollution, habitat destruction, and the disastrous impacts caused by human exploitation. Khattak, et al (2023) offers a contrasting perspective by Cheryll Glotfelty theory of ecocriticism. Mostly the research of ecocriticism suggests that interaction between humans and nature is destructive. Thus, the research analyzing the novel *Hatchet* is revealed through the Brian's actions as the main character seem to be destructive acts towards nature such as cutting down trees, taking and eating turtle eggs. But, this research reveals how Brian's actions are not motivated by his desire to destroy or exploit nature, but his actions are merely motivated by the intention of survival and adaptation to the altered environment. Therefore, this research tries to explain that not all human-nature interactions are destructive and presents the possibility of a more balanced relationship between human needs and nature conservation, because many human actions basically reflect a natural reciprocal relationship.

Several studies have examined the ecocritical analysis conducted by previous researchers using the Japanese version of the novel *Weathering with You*, but with different focus. Seruni (2022) explores the *Tenki no Ko* novel by Makoto Shinkai, using an approach to the sociology of Marxist literature. Unfolding the finding that the novel offers different perspectives and significance understanding related to the social reflection in Japan. The social reflection in this novel reveals that the *Tenki no Ko* is not merely a fantasy story, but also a reflection of the social reality of urban Japanese society, particularly in relation to economic inequality, class conflict, and systemic injustice. In contrast, Loinar et al (2024) examines the novel *Tenki no Ko* by using Robert J. Sternberg's theory of love, focusing on how the romantic relationship between the two primary characters is subject to examination as a result of the various conflicts that the protagonists confront with a view to preserving that relationship. The findings of the study indicate that in order to sustain a relationship, there exists a multitude of components that must be present, including intimacy, passion, and commitment. The three components are interconnected and serve to define the concept of a perfect love relationship as experienced by Hodaka and Hina. Similarly, Mulyadi's (2022) research analyzed the anime version of *Weathering with You* from an ecocritical perspective, focusing solely on the representation of environmental problems in the film. This study employs literary ecocritic theory to reveal how extreme climate change, such as endless rain, floods, and temperature anomalies, reflects the consequences

of environmental imbalance. The findings indicate that the anime functions as an environmental critique, in which the director aims to encourage viewers to become more aware of ecological conservation and the impact of climate change on human life.

Building on the findings of research conducted by Yiğit (2023) which analyzes *The Wall* (2019) novel unfolding the findings that environmental issues and climate disasters not only give an impact to the environment, but also weaken family structures. It is also the tradition of the nuclear family that is beginning to crumble: marriages are declining, parent-child bonds are weakening, and many people are refusing to have children because they believe the world is uninhabitable. Therefore, a recent research conducted by Muhlisin and Rahayu (2024) also analyzes the *The Wall* (2019) novel. It highlights how *The Wall* novel represents the climate change that is perceived as a serious problem for human and nature life themselves. It also explains the future of human life who are anxious about the impact caused by climate change, one of which is hunger. Therefore, this research emphasized that *The Wall* novel tries to warn humans that they must change their mindset to be more ecocentric and be wise to what action they do to the environment.

In addition, a common thread across the literature is the concern with environmental issues, several studies have explored ecocritical concerns such as apocalypse as the environmental issues. The research conducted by Morsy (2023) analyzes the depiction of apocalypse in *Weather* and *The*

High House which is caused by human anthropocene nature. The *Weather* and *The High Houses* novel addresses the depiction of apocalypse consequences of climate change over the world, especially in New York. The findings show that through the characters of each novel represented as the climate activists who emphasize humans to sustain preservation of nature. It highlights how important the role of humans is to change from anthropocentric to be ecocentric. Yawale (2023) also examines *The Road* novel by Cormac McCarthy that portrayed the world of post-apocalyptic. The research reveals the fragility and complexity of the natural world and the consequences of its destruction which leads to the collapse of social life and human relationships. It also reveals how the Father as the character of the novel tells his son to recognize the importance of environmental sustainability in maintaining human life. This research also tries to critique human exploitation towards the environment which leads to the destruction of human and societal life.

In summary, in accordance with the previous studies mentioned and explained above, previous studies mainly discuss interconnectedness of human-nature, nature representation and its exploitation. Meanwhile, Makoto Shinkai's *Weathering with You* novel was chosen because it highlights and portrays the environmental disaster faced by humans in Tokyo, Japan because of climate change phenomena. Due to the phenomena of climate crisis in Tokyo that impacts humans' everyday activities, finally it led the researcher to examine and explore how nature is represented

through the climate crisis phenomena, especially continuous rainfall and the consequences of climate crisis on humans.

The present study focuses on a specific aspect of climate crisis research, namely how nature is represented in the novel in the form of climatic condition as an environmental crisis from the ecocritical perspectives proposed by Cheryll Glotfelty. Furthermore, this research examines the ecological values expressed in the novel and explores the anthropocentric traits of the characters within the novel. Therefore, this research aims to address the existing research gap by analyzing nature representation through the condition of the climate crisis, in which nature is not merely represented as a narrative background, but as an active agent that reveals human attitudes toward nature and their ecological implications. By employing Glotfelty's ecocritical framework, this research offers novel insights into how *Weathering with You* represents nature through the theme of climate crisis and its consequences for humans, while simultaneously contributing to a more in-depth understanding of human-nature relationships in contemporary literary works.

B. Problems of the Study

The present study seeks to provide the notion of nature representation through the climate crisis phenomena. Thus, three research problems have been formulated as follows:

1. How is nature represented in *Weathering with You* novel?
2. What are the ecological values in *Weathering with You* novel?

3. How are anthropocentric traits in the *Weathering with You* novel?

C. Significance of the Study

The research is expected to provide the representation of nature through climate crisis phenomena in *Weathering with You* novel theoretically and practically. By providing valuable insight to the analysis of ecocriticism in the novel *Weathering with You*. Theoretically, this research is expected to facilitate readers' understanding of ecocriticism, particularly how the interconnectedness of human-nature can be represented through literary works. In addition, it is also performed so that further research can analyze the field of ecocriticism more comprehensively.

Practically, this research purposefully aims to broaden understanding about the subject of ecocriticism, as represented by Cheryll Glotfelty. The outcome of this study will be advantageous for readers seeking a better comprehension of eco-critical studies.

D. Scope and Limitation

This research, specifically focuses on Makoto Shinkai's *Weathering with You* novel and examines the representation of nature according to Cheryll Glotfelty ecocritical perspective. It also focuses on ecological values, anthropocentric traits towards nature contained in the novel. The research is limited to the exploration of nature representation, ecological values, and anthropocentric traits. Thus, the narrative text in the novel is also limited in terms of its depiction of nature.

E. Definition of Key Terms

The following definitions of key terms are provided by the researcher to enhance understanding:

1. Ecocriticism

An interdisciplinary study that emphasizes the relationship between human and nature through literary texts. Das & Youngs (2019) stated that ecocriticism is concerned with the relationship between cultural texts and the environment. Similar to feminist criticism, which looks at texts from a gendered perspective, and Marxist criticism, which looks at how texts are produced and by which economic classes, ecocriticism is a way of studying literature that focuses on the Earth (Glottfelty & Fromm, 1996).

2. Climate Change

The term “climate change” refers to a wide range of physical phenomena as well as a public policy concern and is often used interchangeably with the term “global warming” (Weber and Stern 2011, cited in Bandh, 2022). It refers to any significant variation in climate metrics, for instance temperature, precipitation, or wind that persists over an extended timeframe, decades or more. There are several most significant environmental challenges faced by humankind which are caused by climate change including, drought, fire, flood, and rising water levels, etc (Alavipanah, et al 2022). Therefore, in addressing the challenges of climate change, an approach to the climate adaptation strategies is needed to protect both the environment and human as a living being.

3. Climate Crisis

The term “climate crisis” is gradually and rightly replacing the term “climate change,” which refers to the natural phenomenon marked by ongoing fluctuations throughout Earth’s history (Limaye, 2021; Maipas & Kavantzias, 2024). Additionally, it is currently accelerated by human intervention and action towards the earth, leading to an unprecedented global warming and environmental crisis. However, the term “climate crisis” is more appropriate when we discuss mitigation and adaptation rather than “global warming” or “climate change”, encompassing various human causes and environmental impacts linked to climate issues (Haueis, 2024). Therefore, the term “climate crisis” here is appropriate to replace the term “climate change” when we are discussing and addressing the impacts of this ongoing phenomenon, conveying the urgent need to address the issue and encouraging immediate action on climate change impacts.

4. Nature Representation

Discussing ecocriticism, the term “Nature Representation” generally refers to how nature or the natural world is represented, understood, or given meaning in various contexts, including art, science, and culture. It includes visual portrayals, symbolic meanings, and interaction between human and nature in the literary texts. Through nature representation, it is a frequent practice among authors to depict nature through personification, presenting it as a living presence that interacts with human characters within the narrative, emphasizing their interconnected relationship (Tajane et al.,

2024). This literary device serves to underscore the profound interconnectedness between humans and the natural world.

5. Anthropocentric

According to Glotfelty (1996) the term anthropocentric in the context of ecology is a perspective that prioritizes humans above all, leading to the domination, domestication, violation, and exploitation of nature for human benefit. Therefore, this is contrary to the biocentric perspective that considers all living entities to possess equal value. In addition, anthropocentrism fosters the exploitative relationship between humans and the environment by prioritizing human advancement and economic growth over ecological balance. Literary texts that depict anthropocentric values usually represent environmental damage that portray it as an outcome of modernization, urbanization, and human desire.

6. Ecological Values

Ecological values refer to the ethics of the community, encouraging the exploration of ethical responsibilities toward the natural world and remaining sustainable practices (Hebbar & Mallya, 2024). Additionally, ecological values promote that nature is not merely a backdrop, but also as a living being that must be valued. In the context of ecocritical approach, it focuses on how nature is represented, how the human and nature are interconnected, and how human actions serve a negative or positive impact towards the surroundings.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter aims to explain the literature review as the basis for theory and analysis of this research. The objective of this chapter is to describe the theories used in this research.

A. Ecocriticism as Literary Criticism

Ecocriticism is a branch of literary criticism, often referred to as the green study that examines the relationship between human and physical environment, concerning the crucial matter between culture and nature (Barry, 2020). It examines the representation of literary works towards nature and how it shapes human and non-human interconnection. Also, how human views of nature and towards environmental issues. Ecocriticism also considers how nature is depicted literally and metaphorically in certain literary works in various genres and topics (Heise, 1997). Furthermore, it investigates the comprehensive understanding of the concept of “nature” which relates to its definition, the values attributed to it or denied it and the reasons for these attributions, and also the ways in which the relationship between humans and nature is imagined.

In addition, ecocriticism is not merely assessing how literary works emphasize the harmony between humanity and nature but also emphasizes on the destruction to nature caused by the modern world which is directly

responsible by humans (Fenn, 2015). It explores how ecocriticism, as a literary and cultural approach, highlights environmental issues, including climate change, deforestation, and human exploitation of nature (Radhakrishnan, 2025). Ecocriticism also cultivates readers about ecological awareness and fosters collective responsibility towards nature. Therefore, it is closely related to ecological values, environmental ethics, and socio-political issues, including industrialization, urbanization, colonialism, and capitalism influence human relationship with nature.

As an interdisciplinary field, ecocriticism does not merely focus on the analysis of literary works, but also in broader literature, including film, pop culture, arts, environmental philosophy, and ecological contemporary issues, for instance climate change that causes a number of environmental problems, including continuous rainfall. The main purpose of this study is bringing awareness to the environmental problem that the world faces today, and it can be achieved if humans learn it and know the concept of environmental values. Thus, ecocriticism encourages a sustainable future, by striving hard to keep the Earth in good condition so that the Earth's basic life support system remains lively and good for future generations (Das, 2020).

According to Buell (2009), states that ecocriticism has evolved in two waves. The first wave focused on nature as a physical environment separate from humans, and has the primary goal of protecting nature from damage caused by human cultural activities. At this phase, the term

“environment” is conceived primarily as the natural environment, not a system that encompasses human and non-human interconnection, thus the relationship between nature and culture is still seen as separate or not integrated. Further, the purpose of the first-wave is to promote environmental conservation which focuses on the earthcare, criticizes who destroys nature, and contributes to efforts to preserve the biotic community or life on earth. Then, the second-wave of ecocriticism focused on social ecocriticism and environmental justice that take urban and degraded landscape just as seriously as "natural landscape". It leads to the mutual relationship between human and nature and how ecocritics examines texts about nature should be conceived. Paswan (2019) states that “ecocriticism is a means to study literature that focuses on the earth and helps people understand who they are, where they stand, how they should treat Mother Nature, etc”.

Ecocritical study, therefore, serves as a medium to analyze literary works that reflect, depict, and portray nature through literature. It aims to understand and sees literature not only as a reflection of human experience with nature, but also as a tool in shaping and strengthening ecological awareness and human attitudes towards nature. Meanwhile, the relationship between ecocriticism and the natural sciences has typically been characterised by a considerable degree of ambivalence where ecocritics, like environmentalists in general, are dependent on insights from the fields of biology, ecology, and chemistry in order to make claims about the state of

nature (Buell, et al 2011). However, some ecocritics perceive that science and technology as the basis of ecological issues by claiming that science reduces nature to a mere object to be studied and manipulated by an observer who is detached from its context and human's capacity to inflict harm upon nature amplified by science.

B. Ecocriticism by Cheryll Glotfelty

The emergence of ecocriticism is in the latter decade of the 20th century, which emerged as a new way to read the writing of nature. "Ecocriticism is the study of the relationship between literature and the physical environment" (Glotfelty & Fromm, 1996). It examines how literature works through an ecological perspective, understanding how literature represents, expresses values, and brings awareness to environmental issues. Ecocriticism is a study of ecology that interprets literary works to explore embedded vision in it, and this approach draws on theoretical insights of ethics, ecosophy, environmentalism, Anthropocene, Apocalypse, Deep ecology, and posthumanism (Pradhan, 2024). By examining these insights, ecocriticism is a tool for environmental discussion which raises awareness of issues that are related to the environment.

According to the edited book by Cheryll Glotfelty and Harold Fromm entitled *The Ecocriticism Reader: Landmarks in Literary Ecology* (1996), ecocriticism is the study of ecology and literature that began to appear in 1990s in some universities. By the emergence of this study in the mid of 1990, it calls for understanding of public awareness towards

ecological degradation and sustainable nature to provide an ethical and conceptual foundation in the relationship with the earth. Therefore, as stated by Glotfelty and Fromm (1996), this study emerges to foster a greater presence of environmental concern and awareness in literary disciplines. By combining literature and ecology, ecocriticism expands the notion of the literature that is also characterized as a distinct study from the other critical approach which focuses on the relationship among writers, texts, and the world.

In addition, while analyzing ecocriticism, it is crucial to examine how nature is represented in literary text. Taking the focus on elements of nature including weather, forest, river, mountain, animal, and other elements. Furthermore, Glotfelty focuses on the interconnectedness between humanity and nature, which discuss how literature reflects environmental issues, cultural perceptions of nature, and human attitudes toward the natural world. As Wajid (2025) states “ecocriticism seeks to foster a harmonious relationship between humanity and the natural world, critiquing exploitative cultural practices and advocating for sustainable alternatives”.

Ecocriticism also emphasizes recognizing current environmental issues and human environmental awareness through literature. It addresses important environmental issues in response to the global ecological crisis by examining the deep ecological implications of values in literary texts (Oppermann, 1999). Accordingly, ecocriticism aims to investigate the

potential of literary texts to function as instruments in raising ecological awareness and promoting responsible action towards nature. Moreover, ecocriticism is not concerned merely with the interpretation and representation of the natural world, but also steps must be taken to ensure the preservation of nature from damage or deterioration (Nuri, 2020). As Glotfelty (2003) stated that ecocriticism is defined as the paradigm shift from a human-centric to an earth-centric focus, and from an internal to an external focus. As such, it is not solely an attempt to analyse nature in literature. It is a step towards a more biocentric worldview, an expansion of ethics and the concept of the global human community to include non-human life forms and the physical environment.

It is evident that ecocriticism opens a way to explore literary works in a deeper and broader way in analyzing contemporary ecological issues. Ecocriticism also plays an important role in offering analytical tools in order to achieve a comprehensive understanding of the multifaceted relationship between the external and internal worlds. It also provides better environmental awareness and action for a more sustainable future. Moreover, in the context of the future of ecocriticism as stated by Glotfelty (1996) that “in the future we can expect to see ecocritical scholarship becoming ever more interdisciplinary, multicultural, and international”. By integrating ecocritical analysis with other disciplines, it suggests that ecocritical scholarship is expected to be not merely broader in theory and methodology, but also more culturally and globally inclusive, so that it can

capture diverse perspectives on the relationship between humans and the environment around the world. Based on the framework of ecocriticism theory proposed by Glotfelty (1996), the relationship between humans and nature can be comprehended through two main perspectives, as follows: anthropocentric and ecocentric.

1. Anthropocentrism

According to Glotfelty (1996) the term anthropocentric in the context of ecology is a perspective that prioritizes humans above all, leading to the domination, domestication, violation, and exploitation of nature for human benefit. Therefore, this is contrary to the biocentric perspective that considers all living entities to possess equal value. Additionally, the term anthropocentrism in literature is commonly represented through narratives that depict nature as a passive background for human life or as an object to be utilized for human desires. As posited by Shams and Akter (2022), anthropocentric behaviors can lead to disasters in the future, as numerous scientific discoveries and business ideas have caused immediate harm or possible long-term concerns to the ecological system.

Furthermore, the anthropocentric view in the context of ecocriticism is a philosophical view that considers humans to be the core or most important beings in the universe. Ecological critics believe that anthropocentric thinking has created ecological issues such as pollution, climate change, deforestation, urbanization, and industrialization (Droz,

2022). Thus, anthropocentrism fosters the exploitative relationship between humans and the environment by prioritizing human advancement and economic growth over ecological balance. Literary texts that depict anthropocentric values usually represent environmental damage that portray it as an outcome of modernization, urbanization, and human desire. Therefore, the merging of literature and ecocriticism encourages and provides a paradigm shift that human and non-human entities are interconnected and interdependent (Rianti, 2026).

In addition, ecocriticism not only analyzes how anthropocentrism is harmful, but also sees it as a paradigm that needs to be changed in relation to a more sustainable human-nature relationship. According to Erkan (2024), the dominance of this anthropocentric view is destroying the entire biosphere, and this situation needs to be changed immediately with the help of ecological awareness. Therefore, human-centered values must be replaced by ecosystem-centered values to prevent global environmental disasters. Moreover, ecocriticism, as a critical lens, has emerged as a powerful interdisciplinary approach aimed to uncover and critique the anthropocentric assumptions embedded within literary narratives by highlighting their ecological and ethical implications, serving as a means to foster ecological awareness (Shamim et al., 2025).

2. Ecocentrism

The term ecocentric as posited by Glotfelty (1996) is a means of reading literature that recognizes the intrinsic value of the non-human

world, regardless of its benefits to humans. While early Romantic naturalists did not fully adopt ecocentric ethics, their concern for nature became an important foundation for modern environmental ethics, demonstrating that ecocentrism was born out of an evolution of thought. Unlike the anthropocentric view that sees humans as the center of everything, ecocentrism argues that nature also has intrinsic value that is equally important to preserve, not just as a means to fulfill human needs (Washington et al., 2017). Therefore, the ecocentric view encourages the resolution of environmental crises and helps to foster a concern for environmental balance.

In the context of literature, an ecocentric view is an important element in the ecocritical approach. As Glotfelty (1996) said, literature and the environment are interconnected. Thus, this view shifts the focus from humans to how humans and nature are interconnected, rejecting the view that nature is merely a backdrop to human life. This shift in moral concern also aims to prevent humans from continuing to destroy the environment that should be preserved (Erkan, 2024). As a result, literary works that convey ecocentric values play an important role as a tool for criticizing human behavior that exploits nature. Through an ecocentric lens, these works often reveal the destructive impacts of anthropocentrism, such as the exploitation of natural resources, environmental degradation, and ecological crises. This critique is often presented through the author's representation of

nature in their literary work to raise awareness of the importance of protecting nature and the environment (Sing, 2023).

In addition, the ecocentric narrative, which portrays the universe as an active participant rather than a mere backdrop, has been a significant focus in ecocriticism for several decades (Dhungana, 2025). Ecocentric view does not imply the complete removal of human influence, but rather the positioning of humans and nature as equals, with both possessing the right to preserve harmony rather than asserting dominance over all. Thus, narratives that promote ecocentric values challenge the anthropocentric paradigm, which often prioritizes human needs and ignores the intrinsic value of nature as a non-human agent. Therefore, an ecocentric perspective on the environment promotes the preservation and balance of ecosystems, in which every living thing has intrinsic value that must be maintained (Tete, 2022). Thus, this view encourages a reading of literature that emphasizes and highlights the interconnectedness, interdependence, and ethical responsibility of humans towards the environment.

C. Representation of Nature

Ecocriticism is the medium of literary criticism that takes the focus on relation to and representation of nature writing as the object of analysis (Crane, 2019). Thus, ecocriticism is defined as literary criticism that examines the representation of nature and landscape in cultural texts, with focus on the attitudes towards nature. Glotfelty (1996) argues that in literature, nature is considered as an active participant, not merely as a

background of the human world, it relates to how nature is represented in literary texts, values are expressed, and how human culture is connected to the physical world. Moreover, nature is always seen as a background that shapes human experience with nature, whether it remains sustainable or destroys nature.

Furthermore, representation of nature in literature is often accompanied by a number of cultural issues, including but not limited to considerations of race, gender, ethnicity and identity. In addition, social issues such as global systems of hegemonic power, operations of imperialist systems of political, economic and cultural domination, oppression of non-human animals, and marginalised sexualities and genders have been identified. Therefore, it raises the emergence of a new branch of ecocriticism, including postcolonial ecocriticism, environmental justice ecocriticism, urban ecocriticism, and the new feminist ecocritical studies (Malik, 2020). On the other hand, representation of nature also serves social critique that urges challenges for anthropocentric (which place human as the center) views and encourages the ecocentric view (encompasses an inclusive conception of all creatures and elements of nature as constituents of a unified system).

In addition, nature representation in literature also serves as a reflection of the spiritual and emotional experiences of humans towards nature. In this paradigm, nature is depicted as the medium of reflection and peace. On the other hand, nature can also be regarded as a threat to human

life, representing elements of danger and unpredictability, representing how humans experience fear and anxiety of the forces of nature which are uncontrollable. By reading these complicated and multifaceted representations of nature in literature, where nature can both be a danger and healing for humans. Glotfelty (1996) emphasizes that through literary works can increase public awareness and enjoyment of the environment by highlighting environmental conditions that happen in the contemporary world through the imagination of authors.

Further, some major points about representation of nature including anthropocentric, which place humans as the center of the world and excludes the value of nature) and ecocentric (which considers nature as the center of the world). In the context of ecocentric representation of nature, it highlights that nature is seen not merely as the resources for human life, but also as a system of life that is interconnected and complex. In some cases, representation of nature also reflects a critique towards overexploitation of nature, raising for sustainability and nature preservation. As posited by Garrard (2014) ecocriticism is taken for granted to overcome anthropocentrism which caused ecological degradation.

In accordance with Cheryll Glotfelty's theoretical framework, representation of nature is characterised by its comprehensive and sophisticated nature. Nature itself is not merely a narrative text, but also plays a significant role in influencing ecological thinking through its works and scholars. It investigates how this approach can influence the

understanding of the impact of human action towards nature while scrutinizing its consequences. This helps to encourage readers to cultivate environmental ethics and global ecological awareness.

D. Ecological Values

In the context of ecocriticism, ecological values refer to the ethics of the community, encouraging the exploration of ethical responsibilities toward the natural world and remaining sustainable practices (Hebbbar & Mallya, 2024). According to Garrard (2004) in ecocriticism, ecological values are attitudes and beliefs that treat the environment as an entity that must be respected, protected and considered ethically in culture and politics, rather than merely as a resource for human interests. Ecocriticism can also help to define, explore and even solve ecological problems more broadly. Furthermore, ecology itself is not merely a scientific study, but also as a framework that is used by ecocriticism as an ecological literary criticism which grew into activism, and led to the spread of eco-consciousness and awareness (Al Fawareh, et al 2023). The values depicted in literature itself are often represented to promote the interconnection between human and nature, evaluate human action towards nature, and influence human responsibility towards environmental issues that are caused by humans. Moreover, in the analysis of ecocriticism, it is often used as an instrument to scrutinize or promote destructive behaviour towards the natural environment.

Additionally, ecological values, as one of the important element in ecocritical study, serve as the foundational principles for comprehending the role of nature in literary texts and cultural studies, and the manner in which nature narratives or representations can influence perceptions of society towards the environment. Therefore, the ecological values promote that nature is not merely a backdrop, but also as a living being that must be valued. In the context of ecocritical approach, it focuses on how nature is represented, how the human and nature are interconnected, and how human actions serve a negative or positive impact towards the surroundings. Therefore, ecological values play an important role in depicting the harmonious relationship between human and nature, which urges an action or the urgent need to respect nature and maintain its sustainability (Tošić, 2006).

Furthermore, the ecological values in ecocriticism are often depicted as the ethical and philosophical principle that leads human interaction with nature. It emphasizes a shift from anthropocentrism to ecocentrism which respects the environment. According to Garrard (2012) through the elements of literary works, including language, imagery, and symbolism, describing the ecological values and ideas. Literature that is characterised by an ecological awareness is frequently marked by the highlighting of issues such as pollution, climate change, the exploitation of natural resources, and the ethical responsibility of humanity towards nature. In relation to the ecological values, it emphasizes the expression in literature

that frequently demonstrate themselves through themes of coexistence, humility, and restoration. Thus, nature is not merely depicted as the background of human activities but also as a dynamic entity that necessitates empathy and ethical consideration. As Glotfelty (1996) hypothesizes, the awareness fostered by these representations supports the notion of an earth-centred paradigm. From all the descriptions of the ecological values above, it is also essential to acknowledge the three aspects of ecological values that are of particular significance: interconnectedness, environmental awareness, and ethical responsibility.

1. Interconnectedness

As one of the ecological values aspects, interconnectedness examines the interconnection between human and nature that is considered as connected to each other in which no entity can exist independently without relying on other factors (Shinde, 2016; Yu et al., 2020). This notion emphasizes that human life is not separated from the ecological system, in which they are connected and integrated to each other in the ecosphere. In the ecosphere here, there is a reciprocal interdependence of one life process upon another, and there is a mutual interconnected development of all of the earth's life systems (Rueckert, 1996). Therefore, human action towards nature or the environment, whether it is destructive or supportive, will have an impact on the environment (Meeran, 2024). For instance, extreme climate change as one of environmental issues is depicted as the wilderness of nature that cannot be controlled by humans, it not solely affects the global

condition but also the human itself (Nuri, 2020). Thus, through this one of ecological values, interconnectedness invites humans to respect nature and maintain harmonious relationships with each other.

Additionally, interconnectedness in ecocriticism is in line with the ecocentric approach to ecology, which is based on harmony, balance, and cooperation. Moreover, it identifies the underlying causes of the ecological crisis, namely the relationship between society and nature, as well as the internal structure of society (Banerjee, 2021). Through this understanding, it promotes a step in bringing awareness to the environmental issues we face in this contemporary world. Consequently, ecocriticism, understood as the study of environmental impacts on literature, employs an ecological values framework grounded in interconnectedness. This enables it not merely to provide interpretative insights into depictions of human-nature relations but also to encourage a re-evaluation of the ethical stance of human beings in relation to the wider ecological system.

2. Environmental Awareness

In ecocritical analysis, environmental awareness is considered as deep ecology in raising human awareness towards nature through literature or action. The concept of environmental awareness refers to the knowledge, mindset, sensitivity, and the potential of becoming alert to something (Scholz, 2011). It emerges and provides a first tight definition of environmental literacy as a necessary aptitude for human systems to sustain and to adapt to environmental change. Additionally, environmental

awareness refers to a conceptual knowledge and awareness which closely connects to the action in which an intention and value plays an important role (Pata & Metsalu, 2008). It is related to the relationship between human and nature as living beings on how human action provides an impact to nature. Therefore, it is crucial to foster environmental awareness to promote sustainable behaviour in addressing the urgent challenges of pollution, climate change, and biodiversity loss (Khasanah et al., 2024). Moreover, by examining literary works through an ecocritical lens can provide deeper comprehensiveness related to the aspects of nature and society. Therefore, the notion of environmental awareness does not only provide an insight of environmental issues, but also as a medium to foster in building and shaping societal perceptions and attitudes towards nature.

Furthermore, environmental awareness is depicted in the literary works, with an attempt to scrutinize the exploitation of natural resources, environmental damage, and human apathy towards nature. Therefore, the existence of environmental awareness is conceived as crucial for the sake of ensuring the sustainability of the Earth and its natural resources, whereas humans are not regarded as the primary source of all values but extends to all species of organisms that inhabit it (Rahman et al., 2022). Ecocritical literary works are frequently characterised by the use of narratives, which are employed to provide a reflective, critical, and re-imaginative perspective on the relationship between humankind and the natural world. It also highlights how contemporary authors are integrating environmental themes,

encompassing environmental degradation, climate change, biodiversity loss as well as ecological justice, into their literary works (Shamim, 2025).

In addition, environmental awareness provides a notion related to the relationship of all living beings in this world. It raises an awareness of human action that their small action can provide an impact to nature. In the context of ecocriticism, this value aligns with the ethical responsibility, which encourages humans to take the step in maintaining the sustainability of ecological decline by reducing their actions that exploit ecosystems. Accordingly, the ecocritical paradigm encourages readers to comprehend environmental issues and to promote positive action that can enhance human relationships with nature and ensure the sustainability of ecosystems for future generations (Usman & Nina, 2025).

3. Ethical Responsibility

In ecocritical analysis, ethical responsibility is considered as the moral responsibility to increase human awareness towards nature (Iovino, 2010). Furthermore, this ecological value challenges the anthropocentric to realize that they are not merely the center of the universe and utilize natural resources. Moreover, this notion demands greater ecological responsibility that every human action towards nature must be ethically and morally carried out with due consideration for the consequences of such actions for non-human nature entities (Boothroyd, 2022; Duc, 2023; Yuliawati & Utami, 2024). Therefore, we realize that every entity has its own purpose in the world, regardless of whether it benefits humans or not, humans have a

responsibility to protect it (Keraf, 2010). This suggests that any human action which results in the exploitation and disregard of the value of nature should be regarded as a violation of the ethical responsibilities that humans should uphold in order to ensure the sustainability of the natural world.

Furthermore, ethical responsibility holds the notion that every human action should consider the sustainability of nature itself, not merely the desire to destroy it. Thus, it encourages humans to change their view towards nature, from seeing nature as unlimited resources to preserving its richness for future generations. As stated by Garrard (2004) that as long as we, as a human, still believe that the planet we live in has a future and not about to end, after all, we are likely to take responsibility for it. In contrary, as stated by Pečenković (2023) that in contemporary society, there is a disharmony between humankind and the natural world. Therefore, it is imperative that a harmonious relationship is re-established in order to enhance the quality of human life. In addition, this responsibility in order to convey a message for human beings to be wise and respectful in interacting with nature.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

The following chapter will provide a detailed discussion of the research methodologies employed by the researcher in the present study. The present chapter comprises several sub-chapters, including those which address the following: research design, research instruments, data and data sources, data collection, and data analysis.

A. Research Design

In this study, the researcher uses a literary criticism with ecocriticism approach by following Cheryll Glotfelty theory. Literary criticism itself is the discipline of interpreting, analyzing, and evaluating works of literature (Gillespie, 2010). It is intended to get an in-depth understanding in the context of nature representation, which is described in the novel *Weathering with You*. The data collection methods employed in this research include literary study and literature review. Literary study is employed to closely examine the novel in order to identify nature representation through climate crisis condition, ecological values, anthropocentric traits in the novel. Furthermore, the literature review encompasses a comprehensive examination of scholarly articles, journals, and relevant academic sources that support the theoretical framework and analysis of the study. This research analyzes *Weathering with You* by applying Glotfelty's ecocritical theory, which emphasizes the relationship

between literary texts and the physical environment. The focus of this theory is on how literature represents nature in the form of climate crisis, reflects human attitudes toward the environment, and what ecological values are expressed.

B. Data and Data Source

In this study, researcher aimed to collect the data from *Weathering with You* novel. In which, the data source was taken from sentences written in the novel. In addition, the researcher collected, analyzed, and described the data by following Cheryll Glotfelty (1996) theory. The data was in the form of phrases, sentences, and paragraphs. This can include direct quotes, character, description, and dialog. This novel is the English translated version of *Tenki no Ko* and was translated into English by Taylor Engel. Yen Press published the novel on December 17, 2019, with 192 pages.

C. Data Collection

The researcher collected the data from *Weathering with You*. This novel is the English translated version of *Weathering with You*, originally written in Japanese by Makoto Shinkai and translated into English by Taylor Engel. The data were collected from the sentences written in the novel. In this study, the researcher attempted to do some steps to collect the data from the utterance in *Weathering with You* novel including, close reading, which meant that reading the novel carefully and taking the focus into elements such as nature representation, ecological values, and anthropocentric traits

described in the story. The researcher also collected the data by using Ecocriticism theory by Cheryll Glotfelty (1996) in the context of climate crisis representation and the ecological values, and characters traits occurring in the story. Next, identifying the data needed by following Cheryll Glotfelty (1996). Last, the researcher combined the data related to nature representation, ecological values, and anthropocentric traits.

D. Data Analysis

In the data analysis of the study, the researcher did some steps to analyze the data. After collecting and identifying the data according to the theory of ecocriticism by Cheryll Glotfelty (1996), the researcher conducts the datum analysis stage by examining the datum in accordance with problems of the study that have been previously identified. Initially, the researcher determines and classifies the data concerning the nature representation, ecological values, and anthropocentric traits that are contained in the *Weathering with You*. Secondly, the collected data are classified based on the framework of ecocriticism proposed by Cheryll Glotfelty. The researcher then proceeded to analyze and interpret the data in detail to answer the problems of the study in this research. By following these systematic steps, the application of the ecocritical approach enables a clearer and more structured explanation of nature representation, ecological values, and anthropocentric traits in the novel.

CHAPTER IV

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

This chapter is provided to describe the findings and discussions of the present study. It also provides the answers to all the problems of the study. The provided data in this chapter consist of three categories. First, the data of how the nature represented through climate crisis in *Weathering with You* novel by following Cheryll Glotfelty theory. Second, the data of *Weathering with You* novel, in terms of ecological values including, interconnectedness, environmental awareness, ethical responsibility. Third, the data of anthropocentric traits are in *Weathering with You* novel. The research findings and discussions present how the nature is represented through the phenomena of the climate crisis in *Weathering with You* novel. This novel is analyzed through Cheryll Glotfelty theory regarding how extreme climate change affects human life. Further, it is also found that the ecological values occur in the novel including, how human and nature are connected, the responsibility of protecting nature, human awareness, and efforts to prevent natural disasters. It is also revealed how anthropocentric traits of humans can lead to the massive disaster.

A. Nature Representation in Makoto Shinkai's *Weathering with You*

In *Weathering with You* novel, the nature is depicted as an active force that influences the narrative, not merely as a background of the plot of

the story. It is depicted as an entity that affects characters' lives in the narrative. By providing in-depth and detailed descriptions, this novel portrays the nature as an ambiguous force that both gives and destroys life, specifically the climate crisis in the form of continuous rainfall and extreme weather conditions. The urban society initially sees nature as full of potential and beauty, but it turns into an uncontrollable threat. Indicating that it is a reflection of the consequences of human intervention in ecological systems.

At first, nature in *Weathering with You* is represented as an uncontrollable and unpredictable force dominating human life due to the climate crisis effect. The novel depicts how nature operates beyond human control through its depiction of continuous rainfall, extreme weather conditions, environmental instability, and environmental disaster. The author, Makoto Shinkai, illustrates that the continuous rainfall is not merely considered as a background of the story, but as an entity that disrupts urban life. These representations depict nature as uncaring about human desires and ambitions, highlighting the difficulty of altering the natural balance through human intervention. Continuous rainfall symbolizes nature's ability to resist human dominance and emphasizes the consequences of environmental disruption caused by modern society.

In addition, Tokyo's urban landscape is portrayed as a setting where the illusion of human control over nature gradually fades. Initially, the city appears magnificent, adorned with skyscrapers and normal weather.

However, as the rain intensifies, the portrayal of natural beauty transforms. Shinkai depicts a city affected by continuous rainfall, which transforms the previously normal environment into something that negatively impacts the urban community. Tokyo's transformation from a symbol of natural balance to a symbol of imbalance and disaster due to the climate crisis illustrates the duality of nature. While nature can coexist with human civilization, it can also take over when the ecological balance is disturbed. This representation criticizes the anthropocentric view that prioritizes human development over environmental sustainability.

Furthermore, the novel highlights human vulnerability in the face of extreme environmental forces due to the climate crisis. The characters, particularly Hodaka and Hina, are depicted as individuals who attempt to control nature but ultimately realize their powerlessness against uncontrollable forces. Although Hina possesses the supernatural ability to manipulate the weather temporarily, the novel reveals that this power comes at a significant cost. This reinforces the idea that nature cannot be completely controlled without consequences for both humans and nature itself. Ultimately, human technology, knowledge, and even supernatural intervention are insufficient to master the forces of nature, highlighting the vulnerability of human existence within the ecological system.

At last, *Weathering with You* novel represents nature as a force that shapes not only physical survival, but also emotional and ethical growth. The nature that is represented through climate crisis phenomena in the novel

forces its characters to face moral dilemmas, particularly the choice between personal happiness and ecological balance. Nature becomes a medium through which themes of sacrifice, responsibility, and interconnectedness are explored. Although nature is depicted as severe and destructive, it also serves as a space for reflection and transformation. This encourages a deeper awareness of humanity's responsibility to the environment in order to maintain its balance. Thus, *Weathering with You* presents nature as an active agent that challenges anthropocentric ideology and promotes an ecocentric understanding of the relationship between humans and nature. Based on the data collected, the depiction of the climate crisis in the novel can be divided into four main forms: abnormal rainfall, extreme weather, environmental instability, and environmental disasters. These categories show how the novel *Weathering with You* depicts the nature through the climate crisis condition in the novel.

1. Abnormal Rain

In the novel *Weathering with You*, the constant rain depicts abnormal weather, which is one of the effects of the climate crisis. In addition, the narrative in the novel repeatedly describes continuous rainfall that lasts for a long period of time. This condition indicates a disturbance in the natural climate system, where rain no longer follows normal seasonal patterns. The depiction of abnormal rain in this novel signals to the environment that the balance of nature has been disrupted.

According to Glotfelty's ecocriticism theory, literature is often used to describe environmental issues by depicting unusual natural phenomena that affect human life. Therefore, the depiction of continuous rain shows how nature is not merely a backdrop for humans but an active presence that affects the lives of characters and their environment. Thus, this phenomenon serves as a critique for humans to be more aware of environmental balance and to realize that humans and nature are interconnected. Further, the representation nature in the form of the abnormal rainfall as one of climate crisis phenomena is depicted through the following data.

For the past two and a half years, the rain has been a constant presence. It's like a pulse that never stops, no matter how long you hold your breath (p. 2).

The datum above explicitly emphasizes the unusual duration and persistence of rain in the story. The phrase in the first datum "for the past two and a half years" indicates that the rain has been going on for a very long time, far beyond normal weather patterns. In addition, rain normally occurs in specific seasonal patterns, however, the narrative presents the rain as a constant environmental condition. Therefore, this continuous rainfall indicates that the climate system in the novel has become abnormal and unstable. The disruption to the natural rhythm of rainfall suggests that the environment is experiencing climate crisis condition.

Furthermore, the rainfall metaphor as a "pulse that never stops" indicates that rain has become a permanent environmental condition rather than a temporary weather event. It also symbolically represents the continuous rhythm of rain that dominates the environment. This continuous

rain indicates a disturbance in the natural climate system, where the environment no longer behaves according to its normal patterns. Thus, extreme and persistent weather conditions, such as the continuous rainfall depicted in this novel aligns with Glotfelty's ecocritical framework by presenting nature not as a passive setting but as an active entity that influences events and human lives, revealing destructive relationship between human and nature. Furthermore, the novel shows nature as something that does not only serve as a backdrop for human life.

We've already recorded more than two months of rainy days in a row, and the forecast for the next month shows that heavy rains will continue. The Meteorological Agency has published a statement warning that this is an extremely anomalous situation and has called for utmost caution regarding landslides (p. 50).

In addition, this datum vividly describes the phenomenon of abnormal rainfall through prolonged and unusual rainfall reported by weather forecast media. The phrase "more than two months of rainy days in a row" highlights that the duration of rainfall significantly exceeds normal weather patterns. Furthermore, rain normally follows weather cycles, but in the novel, rain becomes a continuous and unrelenting environmental condition. In addition, forecasts predicting that "heavy rain will continue" indicate that this abnormal weather is not just a temporary disturbance in the story, but a sustained climate crisis. In addition, statements from meteorological agencies describing the situation as an "extremely anomalous situation" indicate that the environmental conditions described in the narrative deviate from natural climate patterns. Therefore, the depiction of continuous rain in the narrative presents that there is a

disruption of ecological balance in which the atmosphere no longer operates according to normal climatic rhythms. This emphasizes the real impact of the climate crisis on the balance of nature. Moreover, it also shows that abnormal weather patterns can trigger risks and environmental instability, as warned in the phrase “called for utmost caution regarding landslides”. Additionally, it links to Glotfelty (1996) perspective that nature in literary works is not only a passive background for human activities, but an active agent that shapes human emotions and responses. Here, continuous rain is not only described as a background condition, but as a force capable of changing the environmental landscape and threatening human safety.

It's been three years since then, and in all that time, the rain has never stopped (p. 153).

Meanwhile, in this datum, the sentence states, “Three years have passed since then, and during that time, the rain has never stopped,” represents abnormal rainfall as a depiction of the climate crisis in the *Weathering with You* novel. This sentence emphasizes environmental conditions in which rain falls incessantly over an extremely long period, indicating that the natural cycle of normal weather has shifted to an abnormal state. Essentially, rainfall typically occurs periodically and is followed by seasonal changes or shifts in weather conditions. However, this passage states that the rain has persisted for three years without stopping, indicating a disruption in the natural system's ecological balance. It depicts nature through a climate crisis phenomenon where natural processes no longer function stably, impacting both the environment and human life.

However, these data align with Glotfelty's ecocritical framework by presenting nature not as a passive entity but as an active entity that can shape and affect human lives. The continuous rainfall serves as a symbol of environmental degradation and abnormal weather conditions, reinforcing the novel's critique of a human-centered worldview that ignores nature. Through this depiction, *Weathering with You* emphasizes the importance of recognizing the active role of nature and the interdependence between humans and the environment. Therefore, it highlights human vulnerability towards the climate crisis while simultaneously emphasizing the urgent need to recognize the powerful and autonomous role of the natural environment.

2. Extreme Weather

An additional representation of the nature through climate crisis phenomena in the novel *Weathering with You* is extreme weather conditions that affect human activities. Extreme weather refers to unusual and dangerous atmospheric conditions, such as typhoons, sudden changes in temperature marked by a drop in temperature, and dangerous weather phenomena that can threaten human safety. Through the depiction of these conditions, the narrative in the novel shows the representation of nature through the impact of the climate crisis as a force of nature in the story. Moreover, extreme weather is often seen as a literary representation of environmental imbalance. Depictions of the destructive power of nature highlight human vulnerability in the face of environmental crises.

The depiction of extreme weather is also in line with Glotfelty's theory in her edited book with Harold Fromm entitled *The Ecocriticism Reader: Landmarks in Literary Ecology* (1996), which emphasizes that humans and nature influence each other. In addition, the representation of extreme weather in literary works is a criticism of humans for their failure to maintain balance. This phenomenon also can be interpreted as a manifestation of the environmental crisis caused by anthropocentric attitudes that prioritize human interests over ecological sustainability. Consequently, the representation of extreme weather in the novel functions not only as a representation of the environmental crisis, but also as a warning concerning the impact of human actions that disregard the symbiotic relationship between humans and nature. Further, the representation of the extreme weather phenomena is depicted through the following data.

I looked up into the rain, panting. What was above my head wasn't rain so much as a great mass of water. I couldn't believe my eyes. A whole flood was plummeting from the sky, as if an enormous pool had been flipped upside down. It's coiling—almost like a dragon, I thought, just as a violent impact threw me to the deck. It felt like I was right under a waterfall as the heavy deluge pummeled my back. The ferry groaned, rolling dramatically. Oh, crap! By the time the thought hit me, I was already sliding toward the water, and the angle of the deck was only getting sharper. I reached out, trying to grab something, but there was nothing to grab. I can't; I'm gonna fall (p. 9).

The datum above depicts nature, in the form of extreme weather, as a powerful and dangerous entity that directly threatens human life and determines human experience. The description of rain as “a great mass of water” and “a whole flood...plummeting from the sky” highlights the extraordinary scale of nature's power, transforming rain into a dangerous and aggressive presence. Through this depiction, nature is no longer

considered a neutral environmental condition, but rather an active entity that influences human life. From an ecocritical perspective, particularly within Cheryll Glotfelty's framework, this depiction highlights nature as an agent with the ability to dominate and disrupt human life, rather than merely serving as a backdrop for human actions. In addition, the metaphor of water described as “coiling—almost like a dragon” reinforces the idea of nature as an uncontrollable force of life with destructive potential for humans. Thus, the characters experience a devastating physical impact, being thrown onto the deck and losing control. This demonstrates human vulnerability in the face of natural forces. Despite the presence of a sophisticated ferry, this man-made mode of transportation fails to provide safety, illustrating the limits of human control over the forces of nature. This is in line with ecocriticism, which challenges the assumption that humans are central and ignores the presence of nature.

Furthermore, this scene illustrates how nature directly influences human emotions and decisions, causing fear, panic, and the struggle for survival. The phrase “I can't; I'm going to fall” shows human helplessness in the face of natural forces. From an ecocritical perspective, this also reflects the fragile relationship between humans and nature. The rain, storms, and dominance of natural forces depicted not only represent a dangerous nature, but also symbolize the vulnerability humans face when forced to live in extreme natural conditions. Glotfelty emphasizes that literary works can show how humans must adapt to a nature that is often

unfriendly, and this novel strongly illustrates that humans must be aware of and adapt to the extreme weather they face.

Just as I was about to hit the POST button, a shipboard announcement began. “Extremely heavy rain is predicted over the ocean. If you are out on deck, for your own safety, please go indoors. I repeat, extremely heavy rain is predicted...” (p. 8).

Secondly, this datum presents the depiction of extreme weather as a result of the climate crisis in the novel. The phrase “Extremely heavy rain is predicted” indicates severe and unusual weather conditions that could potentially endanger people. The repetition of this phrase from the ship’s announcement emphasizes the gravity and tension of the situation and reflects how the abnormal weather has become serious enough to require an immediate warning. However, this nature representation aligns with Glotfelty’s ecocritical view which examines the relationship between humans and the physical environment, especially on how nature has the ability in influencing human life.

Furthermore, the phrase “over the ocean” highlights the boundless power of nature, which can strike anywhere, and demonstrates how extreme weather conditions in the natural environment can directly impact human activities which functions as a dangerous entity whose unpredictable power creates fear and restriction to human. The instruction “If you are out on deck, for your own safety, please go indoors” illustrates how extreme weather can threaten human life and force individuals to respond and adapt immediately to environmental changes. This warning underscores that

heavy rainfall should not be dismissed as mere ordinary weather, but rather as a dangerous phenomenon that can disrupt human activity and safety.

The bad weather started long before this summer, but that day, it was especially nasty with all that wind and lightning. We're on the thirty-eighth floor—yes, our building's a high-rise—and the view is amazing in a storm. The rain clouds rushing at the windows look like CG straight out of a movie, and you can see lightning strike the building. Because of the weather, preschool was closed, and my son was home (p. 47).

Furthermore, the datum above clearly represents the natural condition by showing extreme weather conditions in the *Weathering with You* novel. The narrative depicts extreme weather such as strong winds, heavy rain clouds, and lightning striking city buildings. The phrase “the bad weather had started long before this summer” emphasizes that extreme weather is not a normal occurrence, but rather part of a prolonged climate crisis. Furthermore, the description in the sentence “The rain clouds rushing at the windows look like CG straight out of a movie” and lightning striking skyscrapers emphasizes the danger of such extreme weather. The impact of this extreme weather is also depicted in social life, such as the closure of kindergartens and the resulting need for children to remain at home. Consequently, this phenomenon suggests that extreme weather conditions have the potential to disrupt daily human activities and underscores the direct impact of environmental changes on society.

Furthermore, Cheryll Glotfelty's ecocritical theory states that literature reflects the relationship between humans and the physical environment. Glotfelty (1996) argues that ecocriticism is the study of how environmental issues and the forces of nature are represented in literature.

In this datum, nature is shown as a strong and active force that shapes human experience and life. In addition, extreme weather is more than just a part of the background, because they actively influence the characters' lives by disrupting their daily routines and creating feelings of anxiety and environmental danger as represented in the sentence “Because of the weather, preschool was closed, and my son was home”. So, the depictions of the strong winds, lightning, and storm clouds shows that humans should be worried about the climate crisis. Emphasizing that humans are vulnerable in the face of natural conditions.

The rain that day had been getting worse ever since evening, and by nighttime, it might've been stronger than anything I'd ever seen. Rain poured down into the streets like a muddy torrent, as if a faucet in the sky had broken. In distant shots of Tokyo on TV, the spray from the rain hid the foundations of the buildings, and the tops were shrouded in thick mist. They looked like floating ruins (p. 103).

Then, the representation of nature is also portrayed in the datum above in which in the form of extreme weather condition. It is illustrated in the sentence “The rain that day had been getting worse ever since evening, and by nighttime” indicates a gradual increase in rainfall intensity, signaling that these weather conditions were no longer normal but were becoming increasingly unstable. This is also further reinforced by the phrase “it might've been stronger than anything I'd ever seen” emphasizes the severity of the unusual storm while highlighting the extreme weather phenomenon. Similarly, the portrayal of “Rain poured down into the streets like a muddy torrent, as if a faucet in the sky had broken” represents the rain as something severe and extreme, which makes it a destructive force rather than a normal natural occurrence.

Further, it is related to the Cheryll Glotfelty ecocritical framework in which how literature shows the reciprocal relationship between humans and the physical environment, highlighting that humans and nature continuously affect one another. In these phrases, the novel's narrative portrays the rain not merely as part of ordinary weather, but as a powerful climatic event capable of disrupting the urban landscape and human activities. Revealing there is a reciprocity by showing how extreme weather affects human lives emotionally and physically.

Typhoon-level rains have hit right in the middle of the evening rush! We have now had multiple delays on metropolitan trains (p. 104).

Lastly, this datum presents extreme weather condition as one of the climate crisis effects. This representation of nature explicitly presents in the phrase "Typhoon-level rains" which refers to weather conditions that are extremely intense and dangerous for human activities, exceeding normal rainfall. The severity of the rain disrupted daily human activities and caused flooding in the Tokyo area. In addition, the sentence "We have now had multiple delays on metropolitan trains" shows how extreme weather events can significantly disrupt human activities and urban infrastructure such as public transportation. The description of extreme weather due to the climate crisis here emphasizes the scale of the environmental impact caused by the continuous heavy rain. This datum also shows human vulnerability under extreme weather conditions, highlighting how the forces of nature directly affect human life. Moreover the word "delays" shows the disruptions to

transportation systems, illustrating the vulnerability of modern urban environments when faced with extreme natural phenomena.

Thus, this datum relates to the ecocritical theory by Cheryll Glotfelty which highlights the relationship between human and physical environment. By viewing this depiction, the novel portrays nature not merely as a passive backdrop, but as an active environmental force that shapes human experience and challenges human control over the environment. This representation reinforces the idea that environmental change and climate crisis events are an impact of destructive human-nature relationship. Glotfelty (1996) also emphasizes that literary works can show how humans must adapt to a nature that is often unfriendly, and this novel strongly illustrates that humans must be aware of and adapt to the extreme weather they face.

3. Environmental Instability

In the novel *Weathering with You*, environmental instability is shown through the representation of abnormal weather changes caused by the climate crisis. In the narrative of this novel, environmental instability refers to unpredictable environmental changes that disrupt the normal balance of nature. In addition, these changes can also include drastic temperature changes, abnormal seasons, and unexpected weather phenomena. In line with Glotfelty's theory, which emphasizes the interconnection between humans and nature itself, it stresses that

environmental instability makes humans feel anxious and startled by abnormal natural phenomena.

Additionally, according to ecocriticism theory, it shows that environmental instability in literary works reflects a real disturbance in ecological balance. This clearly states that the natural system no longer functions in a stable and predictable manner. In this context, it also shows that nature is no longer a backdrop for human life, but rather an entity that can operate beyond human control. This kind of representation highlights the active role of the environment, showing that the climate crisis can shape human destiny just as human actions shape it. Through this representation, literary works become a mirror of ecological imbalance, depicting how the environmental crisis disrupts not only the natural world but also human society and emotions. Thus, the representation of the environmental instability phenomena is depicted through the following data.

It's been raining all summer this year. On TV, they're always talking about how it's not normal, what with global warming and climate change and temperatures getting extreme, but it's sorta like all this is becoming the new normal. My parents say that spring and fall have disappeared, that we used to get four really distinct seasons long ago. Yeah, I think it's a major problem (p. 64).

The sentence “It’s been raining all summer this year” in the datum above presents a problem with natural seasonal patterns, where summer is normally characterized by warm and relatively dry conditions but has instead been dominated by continuous rainfall. Furthermore, the phrase “it’s not normal” explicitly admits that weather patterns have become abnormal compared to their seasonal patterns. The mention of “global warming and climate change and temperatures getting extreme” directly links these

abnormal environmental conditions to the climate issues unfolding in the narrative. Collectively, these expressions point to instability in the climate system, highlighting that environmental changes are no longer temporary anomalies but rather a persistent disruption affecting both natural and human systems.

As Glotfelty (1996) states that ecocriticism examines the interconnectedness between literature and the physical environment, often emphasizing that nature is an active entity, not merely a background for human lives. Then, the quote “My parents say that spring and fall have disappeared, that we used to get four really distinct seasons long ago” further reinforces the instability of the environment caused by the imbalance of the seasons. The absence of spring and autumn indicates that the traditional ecological cycle has been disrupted, illustrating how climate change is changing the natural rhythms of the environment. Revealing human intervention or action such as industrialization and urbanization contribute to the environmental change. This portrayal of instability also show how human life connects inseparably with the natural environment.

Just like yesterday, as if the earth had stopped spinning and the seasons had frozen in their tracks, a humid rain was falling (p. 69).

Secondly, the representation of environmental instability is also portrayed in this datum. It is contained in the phrase “as if the earth had stopped spinning” figuratively describing how the Earth's natural systems are out of balance. It suggests that the regular changes that determine day, night, and the changing of the seasons have stopped. The next sentence, “the

seasons had frozen in their tracks” reinforces the environmental instability by highlighting the loss of the normal seasonal cycle. Instead of the seasons changing in their usual order, the weather appears trapped in a single climatic condition. Finally, the sentence “a humid rain was falling” describes the continuous rainfall that dominates the seasonal transition, revealing an abnormal and unbalanced climate.

Continuous rainfall in this datum is a symbol that ecological system is degraded, showing that seasonal harmony no longer functions normally. However, align with the Glotfelty’s ecocritical framework, literature becomes a medium for examining and showing environmental crisis and questioning humanity’s relationship with nature through its narrative. Thus, the depiction of the stuck season in the datum reflects concerns about environmental instability, suggesting that the harmonious relationship between humans and nature have been destructed. This implies the instability affects not only the environment itself but also human as living beings.

It’s abnormally cold for August. At present, the temperature in Tokyo has fallen below fifty degrees— (p. 104).

Frigid air is flowing into the city center from a region of low atmospheric pressure in the north. The temperature has dropped more than twenty-five degrees in the past hour , and it could fall even further (p. 104).

Then, the fallen temperature that is portrayed in these datum, as in the sentence “It’s abnormally cold for August. At present, the temperature in Tokyo has fallen below fifty degrees” indicates a significant disruption to the natural seasonal pattern, as August is typically the month when

temperatures peak during the summer. This condition reveals how the natural condition is not normal anymore, suggesting the climate system becomes unstable and unpredictable. Furthermore, the phrase “frigid air is flowing into the city center from a region of low atmospheric pressure” highlighting the city's climate changes suddenly, showing the movement of cold air as a natural force that unexpectedly changes the city's climate.

The statement “the temperature has dropped more than twenty-five degrees in the past hour, and it could fall even further” further underscores the severity of the environmental instability, indicating that temperature changes are occurring rapidly and drastically. In line with Glotfelty's framework which highlights on how nature operates and acts as an active entity that is often beyond human control, while underlining its impact on human activities and lives. Therefore, these expressions describe a climate that no longer follows its expected patterns, reflecting environmental imbalances caused by the climate crisis.

Startled, we stepped outside. It really was snow, swirling and glinting in the streetlights. When I looked at Hina's face, her expression was something close to fear. I probably looked the same way. I mean, it was August. The people on the street were all looking up at the sky, startled. Large snowflakes fell onto the water-covered asphalt, soundlessly creating circular ripples one after another. Now that the trains weren't running, the road along the tracks had fallen into an eerie silence. The temperature was still falling (p. 106).

Furthermore, the datum above presents the effects of the nature through climate crisis impact, specifically the environmental instability phenomena, namely snow falling in the middle of August. Additionally, the main character, Hodaka, in this scene is shocked when he goes outside and sees snow “swirling and glinting in the streetlights” indicating

environmental instability when August should be summer season. In addition, the description of the sudden drop in temperature emphasizes how abnormal and unexpected the change in weather conditions was, which initially started as rain and then turned into falling snow. Ironically, the sentence “Now that the trains weren’t running, the road along the tracks had fallen into an eerie silence.

Additionally, this relates to Glotfelty ecocritical framework, nature in literary works is perceived not only as a passive setting but as an active force that shapes human condition, emotions, and also experience. In this passage, the unexpected snow in the middle of summer functions as a powerful representation of environmental instability and climate irregularity. The temperature was still falling” describes the increasingly tense instability of the environment and the transformation of what should be a normal environment. The cessation of train operations signifies human infrastructure disrupted by nature, showing that even advanced technological systems are vulnerable when faced with the forces of nature, which are no longer stable.

The snow seemed to have turned into rain again; I could hear it pouring down outside the window (p. 114).

Then, the depiction of sudden shift from snowfall to rainfall as in the datum above, indicating seasonal instability. The sentence “The snow seemed to have turned into rain again; I could hear it pouring down outside the window” shows environmental instability in the novel *Weathering with You*. Earlier in the narrative, snow falls suddenly in the middle of August,

which is a very unusual phenomenon in summer. The drastic change from snow to heavy rain shows the uncertainty of the weather and indicates that the natural climate system is no longer stable. Normally, seasonal patterns follow predictable cycles, but the rapid change between snow and rain shows that the environment in the novel has become abnormal. This instability reflects the effects of the climate crisis described in the story, where weather conditions continue to change unpredictably and disrupt the natural balance of the ecosystem. In addition, this datum also suggests that nature functions beyond human control. Unstable weather changes directly affect environmental conditions and shape the characters' experiences, emphasizing that environmental conditions play an important role in human life. The transformation of snow into rain symbolizes a disrupted ecological system, in which patterns that should be normal behave unpredictably.

In line with Cheryll Glotfelty theoretical framework, this datum present the deteriorating relationship between humans and nature, emphasizing that environmental imbalance can change everyday life. Glotfelty's view that literary works can reveal the complex interactions between humans and the physical environment, as well as raise awareness of the ecological instability caused by humans themselves. Thus, it reinforces that nature is no longer an entity to be enjoyed for its beauty, but rather an environmental agent that disrupts daily life and causes fear and uncertainty for the characters in the story. Therefore, the instability depicted in this datum shows the consequences of climate instability and reinforces

the ecological message about the fragile relationship between humans and the natural world.

4. Environmental Disaster

Weathering with You depicts the ultimate impact of the climate crisis in the form of environmental disasters, particularly flooding and environmental damage. Extreme environmental conditions in the narrative trigger damage to the urban landscape in the novel, which also affects the characters' lives. In addition, *Weathering with You* depicts flood disaster and environmental damage caused mainly by continuous rainfall in the city, symbolizing damage to the ecological balance, where nature no longer functions as a predictable backdrop, but emerges as an uncontrollable force that changes human life. The flooding in Tokyo is not only a depiction of physical disaster, it reflects the eco-critical theme in the novel that human activities and desires are closely related to nature.

Furthermore, the flood forces the community to evacuate, disrupts the social order, and demands that the characters adapt in the face of natural disaster. By highlighting the duality of nature's power, water in this narrative is no longer just a source of life, but an entity that disrupts human life. This depiction aligns with the ecocritical view that literature clearly reflects the real ecological crisis, showing that environmental disasters are not events that can be considered normal but symptoms of climate imbalance that we need to be aware of. Therefore, this novel presents natural imbalance and environmental disasters as representation of nature through climate crisis

condition, reminding readers that the universe operates with its own agents, often beyond human power or control. Here are some data from the novel that show the representation of environmental disasters due to the climate crisis.

There is flooding in many areas, centered on the Arakawa River region. The depth of the water ranges from roughly four inches in some areas to nearly twenty inches in low-lying— (p. 126).

In this datum, the nature is represented through environmental disaster as one of the manifestations of the climate crisis is clearly revealed. The phrase “flooding in many areas” indicates that this environmental disaster in the form of flooding is widespread and affecting many locations in urban areas, indicating that the balance of nature has been disrupted on a large scale. Moreover, the phrase “centered on the Arakawa River region” highlights how environmental conditions, such as river systems, can become hazardous during extreme weather events. Rivers, which typically function as part of a stable ecological system, are depicted in this narrative as overflowing and causing damage to surrounding human settlements. In this context, it demonstrates how natural instability caused by prolonged rainfall can transform natural elements into sources of disaster for society.

Furthermore, this is in line with Glotfelty’s perspective that examines the interconnected relationship between the human world and the physical environment, by showing destructive relationship in the narrative. This description of the natural disaster is reinforced by the following phrase “the depth of the water ranges from roughly four inches in some areas to nearly twenty inches in low-lying areas,” emphasizing the severity and impact of

the disaster. The variation in water levels indicates that certain geographical conditions, particularly low-lying areas, are more vulnerable to flooding and environmental damage.

A fallen telephone pole blocked the alley, and the Cub just barely managed to slip under it. The road was littered with evidence of last night's torrential rain: building materials blocking the way, scattered branches, fallen trees and signs, empty abandoned cars (p. 134).

Secondly, the datum above represents the nature in the form of environmental disaster, specifically the environmental damage caused by extreme and continuous rainfall. This also illustrates the physical damage that occurred after a night of heavy rain, such as “a fallen telephone pole”, “scattered branches”, and “fallen trees and signs”. These images show how extreme weather conditions have disrupted the urban environment and human infrastructure. Moreover, these images reveal how extreme weather conditions have disrupted the urban environment and human infrastructure. These scenes demonstrate how heavy rainfall can cause major changes to the natural landscape and daily life. However, it aligns with the Glotfelty (1996) ecocritical framework on how human lives can be affected by the nature in which they show how climate-related disasters can be very destructive to the society. In addition, the phrase “empty abandoned cars” shows human vulnerability in the face of environmental disaster. Human vulnerability is depicted by leaving their cars on the streets when disaster strikes in the text, showing that nature is not merely a passive backdrop for humans, but an active force that can cause destruction, revealing the

vulnerability of human systems when faced with natural forces exacerbated by climate instability.

The Rainbow Bridge is underwater, and only four pillars project from the ocean, towers that must hold some significance. The many boxes scattered across the water's surface like blocks are the tops of buildings that haven't been submerged completely. This is the new shape of the Kanto Plain, where the persistent rains caused widespread flooding. At this point, one-third of the Tokyo area is underwater (p. 158).

Further, in this datum also conveys the representation of nature that is shown through environmental disaster caused by climate crisis disruption in the novel *Weathering with You*. It illustrates the environmental disaster caused by climate crisis disruption in the novel. The description of the phrase “Rainbow Bridge is underwater” and “the tops of buildings that haven't been submerged completely” indicates that continuous rainfall has caused severe flooding in the Kanto Plain, Japan, within the narrative. The description of the urban landscape submerged by flooding in the narrative highlights the destructive consequences of the continuous rain that dominated the environment. The statement that “one-third of the Tokyo area is underwater” further emphasizes the scale of the disaster, showing how the forces of nature have drastically transformed the landscape and disrupted people's livelihoods.

Similarly, several data above show that literary works which raise the theme of ecocriticism reveal the complex relationship between humans and the physical environment. As Glotfelty (1996) states that ecocriticism analyzes the way literary texts describe environmental issues and highlights the relationship between humans and nature as well as the impact of this

relationship. Furthermore, it suggests that humans cannot continue to view the environment as a resource to be exploited, but must recognize that maintaining ecological balance is essential. Therefore, the submergence of buildings and infrastructure shows the consequences of environmental instability and the climate crisis, and the depiction of floods submerging cities in this novel serves as a literary representation of environmental disasters while reinforcing the eco-critical idea that human society can be vulnerable in the face of natural forces.

B. Ecological Values in Makoto Shinkai's *Weathering with You*

In the context of *Weathering with You* novel, an analysis of ecological values lies in the human interaction with the unpredictable and harsh environment. It also implied through the interaction to an unstable natural environment characterized by continuous rainfall and climate crisis. A notable ecological value depicted in the novel is the limitation of human control over nature. The continuous heavy rain that floods Tokyo represents the vulnerability of human beings to environmental forces, even though their existence within an advancement of technology in urban society. Furthermore, although the utilization of weather forecasts, infrastructural measures, and even supernatural attempts aimed at regulating precipitation, ultimately nature still operates according to its own laws and its forces is inevitable. The representation of extreme weather conditions emphasizes that all human efforts to control or manipulate nature are only temporary.

This reinforces the idea that ecological balance cannot be permanently controlled.

Additionally, *Weathering with You* highlights the necessity of fostering environmental awareness and adaptation in the face of environmental crisis and instability. Due to the continuous rainfall and extreme weather, the characters in the novel are required to adapt their daily routines, livelihoods, and expectations. In addition, urban spaces that initially showed progress and stability gradually turned into dangerous landscapes, requiring emotional and physical adjustments. Through this depiction, the novel conveys the important value of environmental awareness and the need to adapt responsibly to changing environmental conditions.

Finally, *Weathering with You* illustrates the vulnerability of ecosystems and human communities when ecological balance is interrupted. Continuous rainfall not merely changes the physical environment but also affects social structures, economic stability, and psychological well-being. Businesses struggle, public mobility is restricted, and people feel a sense of anxiety. The environmental crisis represented in this novel demonstrates that natural disturbances can lead to consequences that extend beyond physical damage, resulting in broader social implications. By depicting a city disrupted by extreme weather, the novel emphasizes the interconnection between environmental balance and human sustainability. The novel suggests that ignoring ecological harmony or disrupting its balance can lead

to disasters beyond human control, emphasizing the importance of maintaining a balanced and ethical relationship with nature.

1. Interconnectedness

As one of the ecological values aspects, interconnectedness is a concept that highlights the principle that connects human life inseparably with environmental conditions. The existence of continuous rainfall in the novel represents how it is dominated and shaped by natural forces. It also affects characters' daily activities, emotional stability, and human-social interactions that are all influenced and controlled by the climate crisis. The novel *Weathering with You* shows that human life cannot be separated from the environment and nature, but rather exists within a larger ecological system where inevitable natural changes affect human life. Endless rain, transportation system shutdowns, and health problems also demonstrate how environmental imbalances have a widespread impact on human society.

In addition, the concept of interconnectedness also emphasizes that human action towards nature affects the natural environment. This underscores humanity's responsibility to maintain ecological stability. The continuous rainfall in the novel can be seen as a reflection of ecological instability. Moreover this is implicitly linked to broader environmental issues such as climate crisis and environmental degradation. Through this representation, the novel suggests that human actions that disrupt the

balance of the ecosystem have an impact on all aspects of life, affecting both environmental sustainability and human welfare.

Furthermore, based on the concept of ecocriticism, interconnectedness can influence ethical responsibility for humans to maintain ecological balance. Therefore, *Weathering with You* depicts interconnectedness as a dynamic and reciprocal relationship in which environmental sustainability and human survival are closely intertwined. By depicting a cityscape that is gradually changing due to continuous rain, this novel reinforces the idea that humans are an integral part of the ecological network and must be aware of their responsibility in maintaining balance in the system. The following data explain how interconnectedness is represented in the novel.

“As I said, what do you intend to do if I let the child go out in this awful weather and her asthma worsens? There’s rain in the forecast for next weekend as well, you know.” (p. 76).

The datum above presents the relationship between human and nature, specifically environmental conditions and human health. It is portrayed in the phrase “this awful weather”, indicating that the environmental condition is not neutral anymore but harmful, revealing the weather has the ability to affect society. Further, it reflects the ecocritical theory which is in line with Glotfelty (1996), emphasizing the complex interconnection between human and nature. Based on this datum, the impact of the environmental crisis not only damages the urban landscape, but also weakens human health. This data can also be interpreted as a form of interconnectedness. Weather is not merely a neutral natural phenomenon,

but an agent that has real consequences for the human body and health. Nature here is not constructed as a passive object, but as a force that constrains, threatens, and forces humans to adapt, highlighting human dependence on the healthy condition of the environment.

Additionally, this datum depicts that humans seem to be in a vulnerable position and dependent on natural conditions as portrayed in the sentence “if I let the child go out... her asthma worsens”. It shows that the environment is not merely a background element, but rather an agent that influences human vulnerability and behavior. Rain and humidity are described as having real physiological consequences, highlighting the connection between weather conditions and the human body. Especially when humans are in poor health, bad weather conditions can worsen the stability of the human body. Thus, this illustrates how extreme weather acts as both an interpersonal conflict and a sign of an unbalanced relationship between humans and the environment.

Several subway stations had begun to flood, and evacuation orders had been issued for areas along the Arakawa and Sumida Rivers. Flights to and from Haneda Airport were getting canceled right and left. The amount of rain that had fallen in one hour was over six inches; manhole covers were blowing off all over the place, and areas behind levees were flooding. There were lines waiting for taxis at lots of stations (p. 104).

In the datum above, representation of nature that is represented by extreme climate crises such as continuous rainfall also have a serious impact on human activities. Flooded subway stations disrupt transportation, which in turn disrupts human mobility and daily routines. As well as flight cancellations at Haneda Airport show how environmental crises spread

beyond local spaces to national and global transportation. This representation reveals how human modern life can be stopped or disrupted by the natural conditions, for instance suspension of public transport operations, highlighting the power of nature cannot be stopped and overcome by technology. Therefore, this data is in line with ecocritical theory, in which nature is seen as a powerful entity that is not controlled by humans, the interconnection between the environmental system and humans themselves, and the depiction of the environmental crisis in modern urban life. Through these depictions, the novel emphasizes ecological awareness and stresses the importance of natural stability for human life, as well as the need to reconsider human responsibility in maintaining harmony with nature.

Every time I caused a sunburst, more people smiled, and I continued my work as a sunshine girl because those smiles made me happy. It wasn't anybody's fault; it was a choice I made. Even if I realized too late to turn back (p. 119).

Last, this datum shows the interconnectedness between human and nature is not only restricted to the nature disruption towards human activities, but also on how the impact of human action towards nature. The datum presents the direct connection between human actions, environmental changes, and socio-emotional impacts, showing the interconnectedness concept between human and nature. The phrase “more people smiled” indicates the impact of Hina's action as a sunshine girl, showing that changes in weather, from rain to sunshine, are not merely considered a natural phenomenon, but are directly linked to the psychological and social conditions of society. Nature in this novel is described as a medium that

influences collective happiness. People's smiles are proof that environmental conditions have emotional implications for humans.

In addition, the sentence “It wasn't anybody's fault; it was a choice I made” emphasizes human agency in intervening in nature. Hina intervened in the weather for the sake of social happiness, but she also admitted that she “realized too late to turn back”. This sentence implies ecological consequences that she did not fully understand at the beginning. Thus, the interconnectedness in this data is complex: human actions on nature bring pleasant social impacts, but at the same time pose a risk to the balance of nature and her own existence. Thus, this datum is in line with ecocritical theory, specifically as proposed by Glotfelty (1996) which demonstrates the ecological principle that the relationship between humans and nature exists within a mutually influential system. Human happiness depends on the condition of the surrounding environment, but attempts to control nature can also damage the ecological balance and sacrifice humans themselves. Therefore, this datum highlights ecological interconnectedness by representing that human happiness, natural balance, and individual sacrifice are closely related, highlighting that any intervention in nature will inevitably affect both society and humans.

2. Environmental Awareness

In the context of ecocritical analysis, environmental awareness refers to the notion that explains the interconnection between human and nature. This notion influences humans to consider their actions towards

nature, for instance, deforestation, pollution, industrialization and urbanization. In terms of ecocritical analysis, this awareness not only includes notions about environmental crisis, but also highlighting the human responsibilities towards nature to maintain its sustainability.

In addition, environmental awareness is frequently expressed through literature, such as novel, in terms of how human and nature connect, either it's destructive or protective. Through its depiction, it serves as a medium to scrutinize unsustainable environments, exploitative action by humans, or human apathy towards the natural environment. In addition, raising environmental awareness is crucial to addressing environmental crises related to pollution, climate change, and biodiversity loss. Therefore, it purposefully influences reader awareness about the reality of the environmental crisis and fosters ecological responsibilities.

Furthermore, environmental awareness gives us the understanding that everything in the universe is interconnected. Moreover, the consequences that are caused by human actions affect not only the environment itself but also society. In addition, it is an attempt to encourage lifestyle changes and new public policies to decrease environmental damage and protect the environment for future generations. The following explanation provides the data related to environmental awareness contained in the novel *Weathering with You*.

The fine rain that had begun to fall rapidly drained the heat from the air. I zipped my jacket up all the way. For a while now, Moka had been coughing painfully. "Moka, did you wear yourself out a little?" (p. 94).

Mr. Suga took out an asthma inhaler and shook it so that it rattled. He'd picked Moka up, and he had her put the mouthpiece in her mouth (p. 94).

The data above present environmental awareness arising from unpredictable extreme weather conditions. Drizzling rain that “fall rapidly drained the heat from the air” signals a sudden environmental shift, indicating climate instability. These weather changes directly affect the human body, as seen in Moka's cough and her need for an inhaler for her asthma. This data illustrates how environmental conditions, such as cold air, humidity levels, and continuous rain, can trigger health problems, especially for individuals who are vulnerable and sensitive to unpredictable weather changes. Therefore, nature here can be understood not as a passive backdrop but as an active force that can also affect the physical condition of humans.

From an ecocritical perspective, this shows the interrelatedness between the environment and human life which is in line with Glotfelty (1996) ecocritical theory that highlights the importance need to understand how human and nature is connected to each other. The characters' response of immediately putting on their jackets when the weather starts to change and always being prepared with necessary medical supplies reflects an awareness that weather conditions require adaptation and consciousness. Mr. Suga's reaction to Moka shows an awareness of environmental risks and a responsibility to protect his child. This awareness reveals that environmental crisis not only affect ecosystems, but also the daily social life of communities. Therefore, this data can be interpreted as a depiction of environmental awareness through Moka's health condition, emphasizing

that extreme weather conditions reinforce human dependence on ecological stability and the human obligation to respect the limits of nature.

“A moment ago, an emergency alert for heavy rain was issued for Tokyo,” said the TV. “We may get the sort of rain that comes only once in decades. Take all possible precautions to avoid rivers overflowing their banks and flooding in low-lying areas. Check your TVs, radios, and online for disaster information from local governments and obey any evacuation orders.” I changed the channel. At the south gate of Shinjuku Station, a newscaster was yelling, back to the crowd, lashed by the rain. “Typhoon-level rains have hit right in the middle of the evening rush! We have now had multiple delays on metropolitan trains—” I switched channels again. Every station was reporting on the weather (p. 103 & 104).

In addition, this datum presents an emergency warning about unprecedented rainfall as in represented in “Check your TVs, radios, and online for disaster information from local governments and obey any evacuation orders” which shows how the government responded to unusual environmental conditions through public warnings about deteriorating weather and evacuation instructions. Furthermore, it shows that environmental crises are not limited to natural phenomena, but are also social and political issues that require government responsibility and policy. The role of the government through TV, radio, and social media in monitoring weather patterns, reporting warnings, and announcing safety measures demonstrates environmental awareness of ecological instability. In addition, this is an effort to protect the public from climate-related hazards. In ecocritical terms, as stated by Glotfelty (1996), literature reveals how environmental forces interact with human systems and affects it, including governmental structures. Thus, extreme rainfall in the novel shapes public policy actions, highlighting the interconnection between nature and society itself.

In addition, repeated news reports about weather and weather forecasts on various media channels increasingly emphasize that unusual climatic conditions have become an urgent problem for society. This shows that environmental instability is not considered a routine occurrence, but rather a warning of a serious ecological threat. Furthermore, it underscores the need for disaster prevention and organized disaster management. From an ecocritical perspective, this data illustrates how environmental awareness operates in the public sphere, namely when nature directly affects the urban environment, infrastructure, and public activities. In addition, the rapid dissemination of active warnings by the government highlights the understanding that human safety depends on sensitivity to ecological signals. Therefore, this data illustrates environmental awareness as recognition of environmental risks and responsibility for mitigating their social consequences.

3. Ethical Responsibility

In ecocritical analysis, ethical responsibility refers to how humans are responsible for nature. This includes the role of humans in preserving and maintaining the balance of the natural environment, such as not overexploiting natural resources, reducing pollution, and reforestation. Additionally, this responsibility arises from an awareness of an unstable environment that is dangerous to humans themselves, as well as an awareness of their behavior that destroys the balance of nature. Therefore, humans should not consider nature as a backdrop, but as an entity that needs

to be protected in order to prevent an environmental crisis. Thus, this responsibility emphasizes a sense of responsibility as guardians and the belief that we must act as responsible stewards of the earth for present and future generations.

In *Weathering with You* novel, ethical responsibility is not represented by doing reforestation, caring for nature, or protecting it. The novel explicitly depicts how institutions or governments respond to environmental crises and take an immediate action to restore the damaged area. Additionally, public policy that supports sustainable development is crucial to preserve society from environmental crises. Therefore, *Weathering with You* provides ethical responsibility representation in the context of human and government policy response to protect society from environmental crises and preserve a safe environment for society. The following data is related to ethical responsibility in terms of public policy response towards the environment forces.

Rubble, fallen trees, and building materials were scattered all over the lot, and I started to see workers here and there cleaning up (p. 140).

A crowd of recovery workers in coveralls stopped what they were doing to look at me (p. 141).

This datum describes the environmental damage caused by the extreme weather. It is shown in the sentence “Rubble, fallen trees, and building materials were scattered all over the lot” indicating the severe impact of abnormal rainfall. Moreover, the “workers here and there cleaning up” demonstrates human awareness of the environmental consequences caused by the climate crisis. Their actions reflect an ethical responsibility

towards the damaged environment and maintaining balance for future life. In this context, restoring and cleaning up the damaged areas symbolizes humanity's responsibility to respond and adapt to environmental damage and minimize the impact of natural disasters on the urban environment and society.

Ecocriticism emphasizes that literary texts that raise ecocritical issues are not separate from ecological reality. Ruins and scattered materials symbolize the traces left by the climate crisis, while the presence of workers reflects the ongoing negotiation between human progress and environmental management. From the perspective of Cheryll Glotfelty's ecocritical theory, literature often reveals the relationship between humans and the physical environment by portraying how human actions influence and respond to natural conditions. This datum also emphasizes that nature, which has always been considered by humans as a backdrop, actually has the power to work beyond their control. Therefore, through this narrative, it shows ethical responsibility here demands not only restoring damaged environment but also critically rethinking the actions that led to the ecological disruption in the beginning.

During that time, people had moved farther west, and even now, vast levees around wide flood control basins are being constructed around the flooded Arakawa and Tone Rivers (p. 158).

Furthermore, the datum above depicts the impact of continuous extreme rainfall and flooding which cannot be considered disasters or normal natural conditions, but rather ecological realities that require collective action. In addition, by presenting the government's response and

efforts to build protective infrastructure, this datum highlights the awareness that humans have a shared responsibility to protect both society and the environment. In line with Cheryll Glotfelty's ecocritical perspective, these actions reflect a shift from passive anthropocentric dominance toward greater ethical awareness of the interconnectedness of society and the environment.

In addition, these "levees" symbolize not an attempt to conquer nature, but rather a recognition of nature's power and an effort to coexist with it responsibly. However, this moment encourages critical reflection on whether technological solutions alone are sufficient, implying that ethical responsibility requires not only protection from environmental threats, but also a deeper ecological awareness and practices of sustainable living and the well-being of future generations. Thus, the data depicts ethical responsibility as both institutional care for human life and a moral response to the environmental crisis.

This area is near the Arakawa River, and although it hasn't been submerged, they're building a large levee nearby (p. 158).

Furthermore, this datum explicitly presents the ecological value of ethical responsibility through human responses to impending environmental risks. The phrase "near the Arakawa River" indicates geographical proximity to a natural system that has the potential to cause flooding, suggesting that there is a clear interdependent relationship between human settlements and the environment. Furthermore, the phrase "although it hasn't been submerged" indicates that the area has not yet suffered direct

damage from the floods that have struck the city, but the risk remains due to the ongoing climate crisis. Thus, this datum implies an awareness of environmental vulnerability. Furthermore, the phrase “they’re building a large levee nearby” indicates that there is an ethical responsibility and proactive human action to prevent future flooding. The construction of the levee symbolizes a conscious effort to manage environmental threats and protect both human lives and infrastructure to mitigate environmental risks.

Thus, the datum above is related to the Cheryll Glotfelty ecocritical theory that literature explores how humans relate to and interact with the natural environment, particularly in relation to their role in responding to ecological issues. This illustrates that the environment is not only a backdrop for humans, but an influential force that requires human awareness and action. The awareness of the need to restore an environment damaged by disasters, as well as the decision to build a dike, demonstrate ethical responsibility, as humans actively strive to adapt to environmental conditions, work to minimize the impact of potential disasters, and maintain its sustainability. Thus, these action reflects an awareness that humans coexist with nature. Therefore, the data presented above underscores that ethical responsibility involves not only responding to environmental damage but also anticipating and preventing future environmental crises.

C. Anthropocentric Traits in *Weathering with You*

In *Weathering with You* novel, an analysis of anthropocentric traits can be analyzed through the characters’ traits in which they prioritize their

desires over environmental sustainability. The novel explicitly depicts an unstable natural environment, marked by continuous rain and flooding that floods the city as a result of the rain. However, instead of recognizing the imbalance in nature and undertaking ecological restoration as a means of recovery, the narrative focuses on the characters and emotional satisfaction. The anthropocentric traits depicted in this novel is Hodaka's decision to choose Hina's life over restoring climate balance. Even though order and harmony in nature can only be restored through sacrifice, Hodaka rejects this ecological necessity. Therefore, this trait emphasizes that individual desires are more important than environmental stability. This decision illustrates that human happiness is central and ecological consequences are ignored, reinforcing an anthropocentric worldview in which nature is secondary to human interests.

Additionally, an anthropocentric narrative is defined as a view that sees the environment with humans as the primary value, often emphasizing economic development, survival, or political interests, while ignoring the intrinsic value of the environment. In *Weathering with You*, anthropocentrism is reflected in how nature is manipulated through the commercialization of Hina's weather abilities. The solar services created by Hodaka and Hina in the story transform natural phenomena into economic commodities, suggesting that weather is an instrument that can be managed and exploited solely to satisfy human desires. Despite Hina's spiritual powers, technological systems, and publicly broadcast weather forecasts

attempting to explain or control the rain, the environment ultimately functions according to its own law.

Finally, this novel depicts the normalization of environmental change after the characters' individual desires are fulfilled. Furthermore, when the city is partially submerged due to natural imbalance, the narrative does not depict ecological regret. Instead, it highlights how humans survive and adapt to restore the damage that has occurred and take preventive measures for a stable and secure future. This shows that anthropocentrism does not only focus on human domination over nature, but also on accepting environmental crises as long as human relationships remain intact. The following explanation provides the data related to anthropocentric traits contained in the novel *Weathering with You*.

We yelled in unison. The finished website had a big picture of a sun and the words Sunshine for you! in colorful characters. A pink frog in a yellow raincoat said 100% Sunshine Girl! in a speech balloon. Beside it was a cart icon that showed a 3,400-yen price, tax included, and a request form with fields for Desired date and time, Desired location for sun, E-mail address, and Reason you want sun (p. 58).

The datum above presents how Hodaka and Hina have an intention to create the “Sunshine Girl” business through the website. It clearly represents anthropocentric manifestation ideology emerged within urban society. By offering a “sunshine” service priced at 3,400 yen, complete with a scheduling form and promotional images, it shows how nature is being exploited as a commodity that can be used solely to satisfy human desires. It is related to Glotfelty (1996) which explains the interconnectedness between human and natural environment on how human actions are damaging the nature as the basis of life. Moreover, weather, which naturally

functions as an autonomous and uncontrollable ecological force, is exploited in this narrative as a commodity service subject to human desires. The phrase “Sunshine for you!” here explicitly treats sunlight not as an ecological phenomenon that should occur naturally, but as a tool that can be personalized and purchased.

In addition, it illustrates an anthropocentric view in which natural processes are seen only in terms of their value to humans. This also illustrates an anthropocentric view in which natural processes are seen only in terms of their usefulness to humans. Instead of respecting the ecological balance disrupted by continuous rain, the characters attempt to manipulate and commercialize atmospheric conditions for their own personal gain and pleasure. From an ecocritical perspective, through this depiction, the novel reveals its anthropocentric nature by showing how climate instability becomes an opportunity to be exploited rather than a call for ecological reflection.

Humans would have kept on assuming we were the center of the world. We would have stayed arrogant and ignorant (p. 67).

Further, this datum, specifically the statement, “Humans would have kept on assuming we were the center of the world” represents that humans will continue to consider themselves as the center of the world, which reflects a moment of ecological awareness that directly criticizes anthropocentric ideology. In line with Glotfelty's ecocritical framework, literature often reveals how humans view their relationship with the physical environment. The phrase “center of the world” conveys a cultural belief

that the natural world exists to serve human needs and desires. Furthermore, the phrase “arrogant and ignorant” reflects a moral awareness of the flaws in this worldview. Moreover, ironically, the above datum is a quote spoken by a character who uses the services of a “sunshine girl.” This character also enjoys controlling nature for their own desires while simultaneously recognizing the arrogance inherent in such actions.

“No, but if you look at sales when it’s rainy versus when it’s sunny, it’s like night and day. Twenty thousand is almost peanuts.” “I had some serious doubts at first, but these kids are really amazing.” “That sunshine doll is adorable. Did you make it yourself?” (p. 61).

Everyone was praising us, praising Hina. It was hard to say whether they actually believed in the Sunshine Girl, but I could tell they were all really happy (p. 62).

In addition, the statement in the datum above, especially the sentence “No, but if you look at sales when it’s rainy versus when it’s sunny, it’s like night and day. Twenty thousand is almost peanuts” shows that people only value sunny weather mainly because it is beneficial for their business and commercial activities. The data reinforces the idea that weather conditions are closely related to daily human activities, particularly human economic interests and social satisfaction. The praise given to Hina as the “Sunshine Girl” and the happiness of the community show that sunny weather is desired primarily for human comfort and economic gain. In addition, this idea reflects an anthropocentric nature, in which nature is seen only as something that serves human needs and interests. In this context, the weather is not valued as part of the natural ecological system, but as an instrument and factor that determines the benefits and comfort of human

life. Praise for Hina's ability to control the weather shows how humans try to manipulate natural conditions to fulfill their own desires.

In line with Glotfelty (1996) theory which emphasizes that ecocriticism analyzes the relationship between literature and the physical environment, specifically how texts express anthropocentric ideologies that place humans above everything, while ignoring the value within the nature. Therefore, this depicts anthropocentrism not only as domination over nature, but also as a fundamental mindset that only considers human comfort and ignores the balance of nature. Glotfelty argues that literary works often reflect an anthropocentric ideology in which nature is valued primarily for its usefulness to humans. In the third datum, society's enjoyment and praise of the Sunshine Girl business also reveals a mindset that prioritizes human happiness and economic gain over the balance of nature. On the other hand, weather is also a commodity that can be controlled and exploited solely for human interests. Therefore, this datum illustrates an anthropocentric perspective in which nature is treated as an object to fulfill human desires and pleasures rather than as an ecological entity that deserves to be valued and kept in balance.

"Hina, let's go home together!" As if she'd remembered something, Hina's face clouded, and her expression turned hesitant. She shouted back to me, uncertain. "But if I do, the weather will go back..." "It doesn't matter!" I shouted angrily. Hina started, but I'd made up my mind: Nothing else mattered. I'd even defy the gods. I already knew what I had to say. "It doesn't matter! You're not a sunshine girl anymore, Hina!" A reflection of lightning flickered violently in Hina's wide eyes. We plunged through clouds vibrating with thunder, falling straight down below a cumulonimbus cloud. Beneath us were the shining streets of Tokyo. My hands were gradually drawing nearer to the city, and to Hina. Yes, I knew what I needed to say. "I don't care if the sun never comes back!" Tears welled up in Hina's eyes. "I'd rather have you than a blue sky!" (p. 151).

Lastly, the datum above presents anthropocentric traits in which humans ignore the balance of nature. This datum shows that human desires and emotions are prioritized over the balance of nature itself, reinforcing the anthropocentric nature of humans. In this context, Hodaka insists that Hina return with him even though it will have serious consequences, namely that the weather will return to an unstable state. The sentences “I don’t care if the sun never comes back!” and “I’d rather have you than a blue sky!” explicitly show that the main character, Hodaka, prioritizes his personal feelings and human relationships over the restoration of natural sustainability. Although Hina's role at the beginning of the story as the “sunshine girl” can restore sunny weather and stabilize the climate, her ability is not actually to restore, but to control the weather. This reflects anthropocentrism, as human interests and emotional needs are placed above environmental harmony and natural balance.

Further, this idea shows Hodaka's willingness to defy nature and accept the loss of clear skies reflects a human-centered worldview, in which nature is placed as a secondary object compared to human desires. Environmental stability, represented by the weather and blue skies, is treated as something that can be sacrificed for personal happiness. Glotfelty states that there are plenty of literary works that reveal how humans perceive themselves as the center of the world, and prioritize their own desires and needs over ecological balance. Therefore, this datum presents anthropocentric traits by highlighting human emotional priorities over

ecological balance, emphasizing conflict between human desires and the natural balance in the novel.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter presents the conclusion and suggestion of the research. Initially, the researcher concludes the finding of the research. Then, the researcher presents suggestion and recommendation for future researcher, who intends in analyzing similar topic in the field of ecocriticism with *Weathering with You* Makoto Shinkai novel in various context.

A. Conclusion

This research analyzes Makoto Shinkai's *Weathering with You* novel which is in purpose to represent the nature based on Cheryll Glotfelty eco-critical theory. *Weathering with You* clearly represents nature through the climate crisis in the landscape of Tokyo that is experiencing continuous rainfall. The climate crisis condition in *Weathering with You* is not only a setting in the novel, but also an active entity that can influence the characters in the story. The research presents that climate crisis through four main forms: abnormal rainfall, extreme weather, environmental instability, and environmental disaster. Therefore, the continuous rainfall, unusual seasonal changes, and disaster such as flooding in the city indicates the destructive relationship between human and environmental.

Further, *Weathering with You* novel provides significant ecological values, specifically interconnectedness, environmental awareness, and

ethical responsibility. The research findings reveals that human daily life is deeply affected by the conditions of environment such as, health conditions and social disruptions. Additionally, environmental awareness in the narrative is reflected in the story when the characters need to adapt to environmental conditions. Meanwhile, ethical responsibility is revealed through human effort and ethic to respond to the damage that is caused by climate crisis, such as restoring damaged areas and constructing flood control systems. Moreover, the novel also highlights anthropocentric traits of the characters, in which humans attempt to control nature for personal benefit, then it leads to environmental imbalance. Similarly, this research is hoped that it will be able to contribute in the field of eco-critical studies, both in theoretical, methodological, and practical contexts.

B. Suggestion

Based on the findings of the research, a number of suggestions can be provided. First, for further researchers, it is suggested to explore the *Weathering with You* novel using other theoretical approaches, such as ecofeminism, posthumanism, or other theoretical framework such as Lawrence Buell and Greg Garrard in order to presents deeper and more varied perspectives on the research of environmental problems in literature. Future researcher may also compare *Weathering with You* with other Makoto Shinkai's works to examine broader representations of environmental problems in contemporary narratives.

Additionally, for readers and society, the findings of the research indicate that literary works have the potential to be functioned as a means for cultivating environmental awareness among readers and the society itself. The novel invites readers to consider the implications of human actions on nature and the significance of preserving ecological balance. It is the responsibility of individuals to increase and develop sustainable attitudes and to take responsibility for protecting the environment in real life.

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