

**AN ECOCRITICAL ANALYSIS OF HUMAN-NATURE
RELATIONSHIP IN BARBARA KINGSOLVER'S *FLIGHT
BEHAVIOR***

THESIS

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FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK
IBRAHIM MALANG**

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THESIS

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2026

STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP

I state that the thesis entitled *An Ecocritical Analysis of Human-Nature Relationship in Barbara Kingsolver's Flight Behavior* 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.

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MOTTO

إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَ الصَّابِرِينَ ﴿١٥٣﴾

(QS. Al – Baqarah: 153)

“Even for those without wings, the struggle is a flight. Let’s finish what we’ve started.”

DEDICATION

I proudly dedicate this thesis to my beloved parents, Ibu Elfi and Ayah Heri. Also, my younger sister Jihan. Your love, support, and prayers have always been my motivation every single time, especially in writing my thesis. I will never forget all the struggles of ibu, adek dan ayah for me. I am very grateful to be a part of your lives.

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The author is aware that this thesis is still far from perfection due to have weakness in several aspects. Therefore, criticism and suggestion are welcomed for the improvement if this work. Hopefully, this thesis would give significant benefits either for the researcher and readears.

Malang, June 24th 2026



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ABSTRACT

Herfi, Irvan Pratama (2026). *An ecocritical Analysis of Human-Nature Relationship in Barbara Kingsolver's Flight Behavior*. Thesis. English Letters Department. Faculty of Humanities. Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University of Malang. Advisor: Dr. Muzakki Afifuddin, M.Pd.

Keywords: *Ecocriticism, Human-Nature Relations, Representation of Nature, Flight Behavior*

Unpredictable environmental changes are increasingly being felt in human life today, especially for people who live close to nature. Literature has become one way to describe this condition, as seen in Barbara Kingsolver's novel *Flight Behavior*. This novel shows how human life is greatly affected by the surrounding environmental conditions. However, research that specifically addresses the relationship between humans and nature in this novel is still limited. This research aims to analyze how the relationship between humans and nature is depicted in the novel. This study uses a descriptive qualitative method by taking data in the form of narrative quotations and dialogues from novels, then analyzed using the ecocritical theory of Cheryll Glotfelty (1996). The results of the study show that nature in the novel not only serves as a background, but also as an active force in influencing human life socially, economically, and psychologically. For example, the phenomenon of the 'lake of fire,' which turned out to be a collection of butterflies, managed to change the way Dellarobia thought about the environment and her life and made her abandon her intention to leave home. Furthermore, conditions such as 'endless summer rains' and 'their meadows appear to be flooded' show how environmental changes directly impact rural agriculture and economies. This proves that changes in nature are felt not only by individuals but also by the entire society. This study also shows that environmental changes the character's perspective and experience is throughout the novel. Dellarobia, who initially viewed natural phenomena as ordinary events, later came to understand how environmental changes effect human life. Meanwhile, other characters like Cub and Hester continue to see nature as something used in everyday life. From these results, it can be concluded that the relationship between humans and nature in this novel is interdependent and inseparable. When nature experiences an imbalance, humans are also affected. This novel also shows that literature can be a medium to increase human awareness about the importance of protecting the environment.

ABSTRAK

Herfi, Irvan Pratama (2026). *An ecocritical Analysis of Human-Nature Relationship in Barbara Kingsolver's Flight Behavior*. Jurusan Sastra Inggris. Fakultas Humaniora. Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Dosen Pembimbing: Dr. Muzakki Afifuddin, M.Pd.

Kata Kunci: *Ekokritik, Hubungan Manusia-Alam, Representasi Alam, Flight Behavior*

Perubahan lingkungan yang tidak menentu semakin dirasakan dalam kehidupan manusia saat ini, terutama bagi masyarakat yang hidup dekat dengan alam. Sastra menjadi salah satu media untuk menggambarkan kondisi tersebut, sebagaimana terlihat dalam novel *Flight Behavior* karya Barbara Kingsolver. Novel ini menunjukkan bahwa kehidupan manusia sangat dipengaruhi oleh kondisi lingkungan di sekitarnya. Namun, penelitian yang secara khusus membahas hubungan antara manusia dan alam dalam novel ini masih terbatas. Oleh karena itu, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis bagaimana hubungan antara manusia dan alam direpresentasikan dalam novel tersebut. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif dengan mengambil data berupa kutipan narasi dan dialog dari novel yang kemudian dianalisis menggunakan teori ekokritik Cheryll Glotfelty (1996). Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa alam dalam novel tidak hanya berfungsi sebagai latar, tetapi juga sebagai kekuatan aktif yang memengaruhi kehidupan manusia secara sosial, ekonomi, dan psikologis. Misalnya, fenomena “*lake of fire*” yang ternyata merupakan kumpulan kupu-kupu berhasil mengubah cara pandang Dellarobia terhadap lingkungan dan kehidupannya sehingga ia mengurungkan niatnya untuk meninggalkan rumah. Selain itu, kondisi seperti “*endless summer rains*” dan “*their meadows appear to be flooded*” menunjukkan bagaimana perubahan lingkungan secara langsung berdampak pada sektor pertanian dan perekonomian masyarakat pedesaan. Hal ini membuktikan bahwa perubahan alam tidak hanya dirasakan oleh individu, tetapi juga oleh seluruh masyarakat. Penelitian ini juga menunjukkan bahwa perubahan lingkungan membentuk perspektif dan pengalaman tokoh sepanjang cerita. Dellarobia yang pada awalnya memandang fenomena alam sebagai peristiwa biasa, kemudian mulai memahami bahwa perubahan lingkungan memiliki pengaruh besar terhadap kehidupan manusia. Sementara itu, tokoh lain seperti Cub dan Hester tetap memandang alam sebagai sesuatu yang dimanfaatkan dalam kehidupan sehari-hari. Berdasarkan hasil penelitian tersebut, dapat disimpulkan bahwa hubungan antara manusia dan alam dalam novel ini bersifat saling bergantung dan tidak dapat dipisahkan. Ketika alam mengalami ketidakseimbangan, manusia juga akan merasakan dampaknya. Novel ini juga menunjukkan bahwa karya sastra dapat menjadi media untuk meningkatkan kesadaran manusia akan pentingnya menjaga dan melestarikan lingkungan.

مستخلص البحث

هرفي، ارفان براتاما. (2026) الأنظمة البيئية المترابطة: تحليل نقدي بيئي للعلاقة بين الإنسان والطبيعة في رواية باربرا كينغسولفر 'حول سلوك الطيران'. بقسم اللغة الإنجليزية لكلية العلوم الإنسانية بجامعة مولانا مالك إبراهيم الإسلامية الحكومية بمالنج. المشرف: الدكتور موزاكي أفيث الدين، ماجستير في التربية.

الكلمات المفتاحية: النقد البيئي، العلاقة بين الإنسان والطبيعة، تمثيل الطبيعة.

أصبحت التغيرات البيئية غير المتوقعة أكثر وضوحًا وتأثيرًا في حياة الإنسان في الوقت الحاضر، ولا سيما لدى *Flight* المجتمعات التي تعيش بالقرب من الطبيعة. ويُعد الأدب أحد الوسائل التي تُصوّر هذه الظاهرة، كما يتجلى ذلك في رواية للكاتبة باربرا كينغسولفر. تُظهر هذه الرواية أن حياة الإنسان تتأثر بشكل كبير بالظروف البيئية المحيطة به. ومع ذلك، *Behavior* لا تزال الدراسات التي تتناول العلاقة بين الإنسان والطبيعة في هذه الرواية محدودة. لذلك، تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى تحليل كيفية تعتمد هذه الدراسة على المنهج الوصفي النوعي، حيث تم جمع البيانات في شكل تصوير العلاقة بين الإنسان والطبيعة في الرواية التي قدمتها شيريل غلوتفلي (Ecocriticism) اقتباسات سردية وحوارات من الرواية، ثم تحليلها باستخدام نظرية النقد البيئي (1996). وتُظهر نتائج الدراسة أن الطبيعة في الرواية لا تؤدي دور الخلفية فحسب، بل تعمل أيضًا كقوة فاعلة تؤثر في حياة ، التي (*Lake of Fire*) «الإنسان من النواحي الاجتماعية والاقتصادية والنفسية. فعلى سبيل المثال، أدّت ظاهرة «بحيرة النار» تبين لاحقًا أنها تجمع هائل من الفراشات، إلى تغيير نظرة ديلاروبيا إلى البيئة وإلى حياتها الشخصية، مما دفعها إلى العدول عن قرار مغادرة منزلها. إضافةً إلى ذلك، تُظهر أوصاف مثل «أمطار الصيف المستمرة» و«المروج التي تبدو مغمورة بالمياه» كيف تؤثر التغيرات البيئية بشكل مباشر في الزراعة والاقتصاد الريفي. وهذا يثبت أن آثار التغيرات الطبيعية لا تقتصر على الأفراد كما تكشف الدراسة أن التغيرات البيئية تسهم في تشكيل وجهات نظر الشخصيات وتجاربها. فحسب، بل تمتد إلى المجتمع بأسره طوال أحداث الرواية. فقد كانت ديلاروبيا في البداية تنتظر إلى الظواهر الطبيعية بوصفها أحداثًا عادية، لكنها أصبحت لاحقًا أكثر وعيًا بتأثير التغيرات البيئية في حياة الإنسان. وفي المقابل، استمرت شخصيات أخرى مثل كوب وهيستر في النظر إلى الطبيعة باعتبارها موردًا يُستخدم في الحياة اليومية. وبناءً على نتائج الدراسة، يمكن الاستنتاج أن العلاقة بين الإنسان والطبيعة في هذه الرواية علاقة متبادلة الاعتماد ولا يمكن فصل أحدهما عن الآخر. فعندما يختل توازن الطبيعة، يتأثر الإنسان أيضًا بذلك. كما تؤكد الرواية أن الأدب يمكن أن يكون وسيلة فعالة لتعزيز وعي الإنسان بأهمية حماية البيئة والمحافظة عليها.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The following chapter presents about the introduction of the study. It consists the background of the study, problem of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of key terms. These sections provide the foundation and direction of the research on the representation of the human-nature relationship in Barbara Kingsolver's *Flight Behavior* through and ecocriticism perspective.

A. Background of the Study

Human activities have long exploited nature for temporary gain, causing serious and long-lasting environmental impacts. This problem has also caused the environment to begin losing its identity and natural character. Environmental problems are issues within the earth system (water, air, soil, etc.) that arise as a result of human actions that harm the planet (Pant et al., 2020). Examples of environmental problems such as deforestation, industrial development, pollution, and excessive use of natural resources have disrupted the balance of ecosystems that support life on Earth. These actions have accelerated climate change, causing global warming, rising sea levels, and increasingly frequent extreme weather events. These impacts are not only ecological but also social and economic, affecting food security, public health, and human habitats. Experts and environmental activists have consistently emphasized how human intervention has disrupted natural processes, creating a crisis that is difficult for humans to overcome on their own.

Literature, as one of the products of human creative culture, has also responded to this concern by depicting environmental damage and its impacts in various ways. Therefore, researching how environmental issues are represented in realities literature is becoming increasingly important, as it helps us understand the relationship between cultural narratives and ecological realities.

The relationship between humans and nature has existed since ancient times; they are intertwined and constitute a unity (Akosu, 2023). Important issues in literature are usually used by many people as a way to criticize the way humans interact with nature itself. Problems like this are usually shown by using ecological symbols and depicting how the human side can change nature, that's why problems like this appear a lot in literary works. Barbara Kingsolver's novel, *Flight Behavior* discusses how climate change and shows how human and environmental interactions can affect each other.

In the 2012 novel *Flight Behavior*, Kingsolver tells the story of a woman named Dellarobia Turnbo who lives in an Appalachian village. When Dellarobia goes to the mountain, she sees red but after she approaches to confirm what it is she is shocked. It turns out that it is a strange flock of monarch butterflies. The butterflies should not be there because the area is not their usual migration area. This incident shows that the climate change that occurs weakens the ecosystem and shows that nature and humans are relationship. In addition, this novel also tells the background of Dellarobia as a young mother and wife who live on a farm in the city of Tennessee where the situation in the city is also actually worsening. This story illustrates how human reactions to changes in nature and their environment are

influenced by cultural, social, and economic consequences (Rao, 2021). This incident triggered debates between circles and conflicts with each other.

In this work, the researcher uses the Ecocritical Theory of Cheryll Glotfelty (1996) because in this theory it explains that the interaction between humans and the environment can be the cause of conflict and can be the basis for reflection on climate issues. This method makes it possible to see the novel *Flight Behavior* as a general form of ecological catastrophe and cultural conversation that emphasizes environmental values and awareness. Glotfelty (1996) argues that ecocriticism can also seek the relationship between literature and the physical environment, by showing the impact of how far nature has on important matters such as conflict, character development, and understanding of literary texts.

This study uses ecocriticism theory because the novel *Flight Behavior* clearly describes the interaction between human behavior and environmental consequences. From a literary perspective, ecocriticism creates a reflective space for us to understand how human actions can have far-reaching and long-lasting effects. The purpose of ecocriticism is to understand how nature and environmental values are depicted in literary works, including novels. Ecocriticism is the study of the relationship between literature and the physical environment (Glotfelty, 1996). Therefore, this literary text can be analyzed using ecocriticism theory because literary ecocriticism is multidisciplinary, requiring the presence, unity, and integration of various theories relevant to the study of literature and the environment, such as critical theory, literary criticism, cultural theory, and ecological theory (Sukmawan, 2013).

In addition, many previous studies use ecocriticism to look at the relationship between humans and nature. Nahdhiyah et al. (2023) apply an ecocritical perspective to show how nature shapes the spiritual journey of literary characters. Sathiyarajan (2023) and Rao (2021) use an ecofeminist approach, which also comes under ecocriticism, to highlight the role of women in raising ecological awareness and responding to climate change, even though social biases often limit this role. These studies show that ecocriticism, whether from Glotfelty, Gerrard, or ecofeminist views, is still a useful framework for understanding the environment in literature.

Other researchers focus on *Flight Behavior* novel as the main object in ecocritical studies. Defehr (2020) and Ramadan (2018) show how *Flight Behavior* novel describe social interactions and dialogues that increase ecological awareness. Kaplan (2022) also explains that *Flight Behavior* novel reflect human history and show how people have always been connected to nature. This makes novels an important medium to understand ecological issues.

Jihad (2022) and Wardana (2024) explain that literature promotes values such as interconnectedness, environmental awareness, responsibility, and activism. Similarly, Prabawati (2023) warns that modernization without attention to the environment worsens the situation, while Al Sammarraie (2022) states that people must build environmental awareness to stop negative exploitation of nature.

This study fills a gap by emphasizing the comprehensive presentation of the human-nature relationship in the novel *Flight Behavior*. While most previous studies have relied more on Gerrard's concept of ecocriticism or ecofeminist

perspectives, this study offers something new by emphasizing Glotfelty's view that literary works and the physical environment are closely connected. The focus on the dynamic bond, tensions, and impact of the relationship between characters and ecological surroundings in this novel has not received serious and adequate attention in previous research, so this research is relevant to the development of ecocritical studies.

B. Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the study discussed, the researcher focuses on one question:

How does Barbara Kingsolver depict the relationship between humans and the natural environment in *Flight Behavior*?

C. Significance of the Study

This research is expected to make a contribution both practically and theoretically. Practically, this research is expected to help readers understand how the relationship between humans and the natural environment is depicted in the novel *Flight Behavior* by Barbara Kingsolver through the perspective of ecocriticism. Theoretically, this research is expected to contribute to the development of ecocritical studies, particularly those that focus on the depiction of human-nature relations in literature. In addition, this research can serve as an additional reference for future researchers who are interested in conducting an analysis of Eco-criticism of literary works.

D. Scope and Limitation of the Study

This research focuses on the novel *Flight Behavior* by Barbara Kingsolver as the main data source. To conduct a directed analysis, the researcher limited this study to the depiction of the relationship between humans and nature presented within the narrative. The textual data and environmental conditions contained in the novel are examined through the lens of ecocriticism with reference mainly to the basic concepts put forward by Cheryll Glotfelty (1996). Therefore, environmental themes or ecological concepts that are not directly related to the direct interaction and relationship between humans and the natural environment are excluded from this study.

E. Definition of Key Terms

There are several definitions to clarify the key terms used in this research:

1. Ecocriticism: “Ecocriticism is the study of the relationship between literature and the physical environment,” Cheryll Glotfelty in *The Ecocriticism Reader* (1996, p. 18-20).
2. Human-Nature Relationship: The interconnected, interdependent, and complex interactions between human characters (culture, decisions, and human survival) and the natural environment as described textually in literary works.
3. Nature Representation: The representation of nature encompasses the ways in which the environment and natural elements are portrayed in literary texts. This includes depictions of landscapes, flora, fauna, and the interactions between humans and nature.
4. Flight Behavior: A novel by Barbara Kingsolver that depicts internal and

external conflicts related to climate change. The novel focuses on the life of Dellarobia Turnbow, a housewife in rural Appalachia

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

In this chapter, the researcher discuss the approach and the theory that will be applied to this study. These literature reviews are related to the main topic off the research an intended to answer the problem of the study. The researcher provide an explanation of the theory of ecocriticism by Cheryll Glotfelty as the main theoretical framework.

A. Ecocriticism

Ecocriticism is a way of studying literature that looks at the relationship between humans and nature through literary works. The term comes from the combination of the words ecology and criticism, indicating that it involves various disciplines. Harsono (2012) explains that ecocriticism is a type of literary criticism that analyzes texts from an environmental perspective, while Aris (2020) emphasizes that literature is not only entertainment but also a means of conveying the importance of protecting the environment. Thus, ecocriticism shows how literature depicts human interactions with nature, both positive and destructive. By exploring environmental depictions in literature, researcher can uncover the cultural values, ideologies, and ethical views that influence society's treatment of nature. Therefore, ecocriticism is essential in bridging the gap between environmental awareness and cultural narratives, making it a vital perspective for literary studies in times of ecological crisis.

Ecocriticism is an academic approach to the study of literature that addresses the complex relationship between human culture and nature as depicted in the form of texts. Derived from ecology and literary criticism, this multidisciplinary framework encourages academics to evaluate literary works through an earth-centered perspective. According to Buell (2005), this field can be divided into two waves. The first wave emphasized literature related to nature and depictions of the wilderness, as well as the direct impact of humans on the environment and the cultural significance of the landscape. In the second wave, the study expanded to include the social, political, and economic dimensions of ecological issues, recognizing the strong link between environmental and cultural issues. Through this development, ecocriticism no longer views nature in literary texts as a passive background, but as an active element that reflects and challenges human attitudes toward the environment.

A German scientist named Ernst Haeckel was the first person to publish the term “ecology” in 1896 to show how organisms living in the middle of ecosystems can interact with each other. The origin of this is a form of ecology as a branch of science from the beginning. As people's awareness of environmental problems increases, it becomes more relevant, especially in the environment of the contemporary era, although initially the term was only used in the field of biology. Academics also began to incorporate the concept of ecology into culture and literature because of the development of industrialization and environmental degradation along with it. Initially, literature was recognized as a form of media that was important to address environmental and social challenges because

literature is a product of human culture. From such a historical basis, ecocriticism is created in the field of literature, which is a field that explores how an environment is shown in literature with a context combined with the depth of scientific understanding and humanistic traditions, so ecocriticism is not just a way of view.

According to Greg Garrard (2004) ecocriticism can be explained by dividing several concepts such as beginning: pollution, position, pastoral, wilderness, apocalypse, dwelling, animals, future: earth. This division provides researcher with a clear perspective on how environmental issues can arise in books and poetry by grouping ecocriticism into these categories, Garrard not only provides a theory but also a useful tool for analyzing various types of writing. This way of thinking also shows that ecocriticism has evolved from simply observing natural scenes and writing to a broader study that encompasses culture, ideas, and the environment. All the issues raised by Garrard have a long and complex history and discussion. The topics discussed below show various concepts that must be understood in various ways, because concepts can be used to create environmental awareness or vice versa to provide support related to things that are not related to the environment itself. This explains that the way the environment is shown in literature is very strong with cultural and ecological debates. Therefore, topics like this are very important for humans to study literature and poetry while delving into texts with broader environmental discourse by relating to each other.

B. Glotfelty Theory of Ecocriticism

Cheryll Glotfelty (1996) is one of the leading figures in the field of ecocriticism. In *The Ecocriticism Reader*, she defines ecocriticism as the study of

the relationship between literature and the physical environment. Glotfelty explains that ecocriticism is the study of the relationship between literature and the physical environment. This perspective emphasizes that nature is not merely a passive background in literary works and highlights that the existence of nature is not only a passive background in literature but also an important active part of the environment because it is often caused by human habits that prioritize commercial and cultural interests over ecological balance. Glotfelty also explains that when looking at literature from various points of view, it can make it easier for us to recognize destructive ideas and suggest new ways of looking at things. This approach explains that literature is useful for the effective reproduction of culture towards nature.

This specific conceptualization functions as a way to create a natural background in a static or passive way but rather as a dynamic agent that interacts with the human subject directly. The framework is also based on the systemic premise that human culture and physical reality are inextricably linked. According to Glotfelty's (1996), widespread ecological degradation is rooted in a community-driven cultural crisis that prioritizes short-term economic and commercial gains over long-term ecological ones. Therefore, according to Glotfelty, ecocritical theory functions as a systematic tool, rejecting anthropocentric biases, and highlighting how the author clearly establishes a rejection of destructive ecological mindsets.

Glotfelty's analysis (1996) explains that the relationship between humans and the environment is complicated and interdependent, in addition and he also

explains that the physical and literary environments have a deep relationship. For example, the environment where humans live must influence behavior, culture, and how their identities can be formed. On the other hand, it also has a fairly wide and often sustainable influence on the ecosystem, therefore literature describes this relationship by showing that natural additions affect human experience and explain how human exploitation greatly disturbs the balance of the environment. For example, a writer does not agree with the idea that human beings are the only important thing in this world and the environment is only a resource, then this is contrary to the author's idea that nature is a form of creature with its own personal will independently.

Such an explanation makes others reflect on the ethical limits of interaction with the environment so that they can be aware of ecology itself. In its context, ecocriticism offers a critical framework to explain ideology and culture and reject anthropocentric assumptions. This shows that ecocriticism does provide a significant theoretical framework for examining literary texts that discuss modern ecological issues and spreading environmental management by discussing the details of interactions like this.

Glotfelty (1996) argues that the relationship between humans and nature is reciprocal and complex, as humans affect the environment and vice versa. Human thoughts, behaviors, and cultures are shaped by the natural conditions around them. For example, a writer's work is often influenced by the natural landscape where they live or the ecological crises they experience. Therefore, literature becomes a reflection as well as a response to ecological reality.

One important aspect of ecocriticism is how nature is depicted in literary texts. Glotfelty (1996) shows that the portrayal of nature can either reinforce anthropocentric ideas or challenge them. If nature is depicted as a living, autonomous being, readers will be invited to reconsider their relationship with nature. Such representation encourages ethical awareness of the importance of preserving nature and biodiversity.

Thus, ecocriticism helps to uncover cultural perspectives and human ideology towards the environment. This rejects the separation between culture and nature, emphasizing that human life is deeply meaningful (Oyeleke, 2022).

C. Human-Nature Relationship

The relationship between humans and nature refers to the relationship between humans and the natural environment, where both affect each other in various aspects of life, this relationship emphasizes that human existence is highly dependent on the state of nature because environmental conditions can affect activities socio-economically and also culturally. On the other hand, human actions can also contribute in the form of environmental changes either positively or negatively. Therefore man and nature should not be seen as entities but as a relationship that is constantly interacting in everyday life, a point in literary studies.

The concept of natural human relations is often used to examine how a literary work can show the interaction between characters and the natural environment. Through this interaction, literature can reveal how environmental conditions can shape human experiences, behaviors, and perspectives. As stated by Glotfelty (1996), ecocriticism examines how literature and the physical

environment are related so that the depiction of human relations with nature becomes an important aspect in understanding environmental issues in a literary text. This perspective allows researcher to explore how literary works can depict a human dependence on natural life.

According to Glotfelty (1996), the relationship between humans and nature is characterized by mutual dependence requires a shift from a human-centered perspective to one that prioritizes ecosystems in literary studies. Thus, literature is not only seen as a product of human culture, but also as part of a larger ecosystem in which humans and non-human beings coexist. This ecosystem-centered approach highlights the importance of the ethical dimension in literary studies because it demands recognition of the value inherent in nature. It shows how nature and culture are mutually dependent, and emphasizes the importance of humans recognizing their ecological responsibilities. In this context, textual analysis becomes a way to uncover cultural ideologies that separate humans from nature, as well as to imagine more sustainable ways of coexisting.

The relationship between humans and nature is characterized by interdependence and continuous interaction. Human life is influenced by environmental conditions because nature inevitably affects daily activities, cultural practices, economic conditions, and the way humans understand the world. In other sectors, human actions also contribute to environmental change. From the point of view of ecocriticism, humans should not be viewed in a biased way. A larger ecological system in which all elements influence each other can be seen as a whole. Therefore, literary works can reveal how environmental conditions shape human

experience and how human responses reflect their relationship with nature.

This concept of human-nature relationship provides an important framework for analyzing Barbara Kingsolver's novel *Flight Behavior*. This novel depicts how humans and nature influence each other continuously through various environmental events and human experiences. The presence of monarch butterflies, changing weather patterns, and environmental disturbances show that nature plays an important role in shaping the lives of the characters. At the same time, the attitudes, perceptions, and responses of the figures to such environmental conditions reveal various ways of relating to nature. Therefore, this novel offers a valuable representation of the relationship between humans and the natural environment, making it suitable for analysis through an ecocritical approach.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODS

In this chapter, the researcher explains the research methods and techniques used to gather and analyze the data in this study. The following chapter explains how the researcher examined the novel and describes the research design, data source, data collection, and data analysis. Therefore, the readers understand how the study was conducted.

A. Research Design

This research employed a literary criticism approach as it analyzed the relationship between humans and nature and explored how human culture interacted with the physical environment. Through this analysis, the value of nature in *Flight Behavior* can be described as two interrelated and inseparable fields. The researcher analyzed a literary work as part of literary criticism analyzing, interpreting, and evaluating a literary work (Peck & Coyle, 1984). In addition, to conduct this literary criticism, the researcher used Cheryl Glotfelty's ecocriticism theory to achieve the objectives of this study. This research aimed to produce several findings. First, it identified how the relationship between humans and nature was depicted in the novel *Flight Behavior*. To explain and interpret these findings further, the researcher used the concepts of ecocriticism theory and the human nature relationship, as well as their connection to the characters in the novel *Flight Behavior*.

B. Data Source

In this research, the researcher collected data from *Flight Behavior*, a novel written by Barbara Kingsolver and published by HarperCollins in 2012. The data were taken from textual elements in the novel, including words, phrases, sentences, and dialogues. Specifically, the data were collected from the 448-page edition published by Harper Collins. The researcher then analyzed and described the data using Cheryll Glotfelty's ecocriticism theory (1996).

C. Data Collection

The researcher collected all the data from the novel *Flight Behavior*. Since the novel consists of 448 pages, the researcher conducted an in-depth reading and used note-taking techniques to facilitate the data recording process. The data were collected in several stages. First, the researcher carried out an intensive reading of the novel to identify important elements related to the research topic. Second, the researcher recorded relevant data found in the novel. Third, the researcher collected and analyzed the data using Cheryll Glotfelty's ecocriticism theory (1996). Finally, the researcher organized, interpreted, and analyzed the data based on the concepts of Glotfelty's ecocritical theory.

D. Data Analysis

In analyzing the data from the novel *Flight Behavior*, the researcher followed several steps. First, after collecting and identifying the data in accordance with Cheryll Glotfelty's ecocriticism theory (1996), the researcher analyzed the representation of nature and its impact on humans. Second, the researcher described the data that reflected the representation of nature and its influence on human life.

Finally, the researcher drew conclusions based on the results and findings of the study.

The data used in this study is text from the novel *Flight Behavior*, written by Barbara Kingsolver in 2012. The data was selected by taking excerpts, narratives, and dialogues related to two main concepts in ecocriticism theory proposed by Cheryll Glotfelty in 1996, namely interconnectedness. Therefore, not all parts of the novel were analyzed, but rather the focus was on the parts that show how humans are connected to nature.

CHAPTER IV

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In this chapter present the findings of research aimed at dealing with the problem of the relationship between humans and nature in the novel *Flight Behavior*. Therefore, this analysis gathers human behavior which is the main medium in which this novel describes how human interaction with the surrounding nature and reflects ecological issues in the context of the environmental crisis. The findings are presented in the form of selected narratives and use descriptive analysis using Cheryll Glotfelty's ecocriticis theory.

In a farming village in Tennessee, a young married woman named Dellarobia lived with her husband, Cub Turnbow, and his family. Her marriage was filled with emotional dissatisfaction rather than romantic happiness. She lived in her husband's parents' house and was very dependent on the family's agricultural income to meet her daily needs. The backdrop of her marriage was marked by economic limitations and a lack of freedom of movement, but on the other hand, Dellarobia lived in a beautiful natural environment which were filled with forests, steep slopes, farmland, and unpredictable seasonal changes. The nature around her was not just scenery but also the real world that shaped her daily life. She lived in the Appalachian Mountains, which were filled with forests, steep slopes, farmland, and unpredictable seasonal changes. The view of the village, isolated from the city, emphasizes the importance of farming and a close connection with nature.

A. Dellarobia Turnbow

At the beginning of the story, Dellarobia climbs a wooded hill behind her husband's parents' farm. She wants to meet another man and may be planning to leave her marriage. The forest is quiet, high, and physically demanding. The story describes the ridge, the trees, and the slopes before revealing an astonishing phenomenon. At this point, she has a fairly close relationship with nature. When she reached the top of the hill, she saw an unexpected sight. From her vantage point, the forest looked like it was on fire.

It was a lake of fire, something far more fierce and wondrous than either of those elements alone. (p.16)

The quotation above shows how the phenomenon is initially understood through Dellarobia's subjective perception. The butterfly phenomenon not only affects Dellarobia as the main character in this story, but also represents how humans respond to environmental changes. This phenomenon was once seen as something extraordinary and beautiful. However, as the story develops, it becomes clear that the presence of butterflies is associated with environmental imbalance. This shows that humans often become aware of the importance of nature only after ecological disruptions occur. This condition supports Glotfelty's ecocritical view that literature reflects the real relationship between humans and the environment. The story depicts the Appalachian landscape as a dynamic agent that fundamentally redirected Dellarobia's personal path through the phenomenon of the fire lake.

In this scene, the natural environment directly affects Dellarobia's awareness

and disrupts her intention to escape from her home situation. When she wanted to continue her plan, she was carried away emotionally and cognitively by what she saw. Nature actually has the power to be able to change the direction of human actions, this shows how human decisions are greatly influenced by the circumstances of the surrounding environment, especially in places that are still attached to nature such as in the countryside where their activities and daily lives are very related to nature.

When an unstable environment occurs, it can affect more than one character and can have an impact on others. In this novel, it is also explained that people whose lives depend on nature are described as a group of humans who rely on seasonal stability, agricultural land, and climatic conditions, making them confused and distressed if there is an environmental imbalance because it can affect the entire community. From this explanation, it is shown that human life cannot be separated from the balance of the environment.

Glotfelty (1996) argues that nature plays an active role as an active force from the perspective of ecocriticism. Therefore, Dellarobia felt the need to participate emotionally and mentally because he was already aware that nature had a direct impact on his thinking, this shows that nature can change human behavior. At the level of humans living in the countryside, when the seasons have a good balance determines whether or not agriculture fails and the economic stability that exists there. When the natural situation that occurs is inversely proportional, humans are threatened with losing their livelihood. Human survival will always need a balance in order to maintain their life.

In addition, when the monarch butterfly appears unexpectedly, it indicates that there is a disturbance in the ecological balance. Ecological disturbances often arise due to changes or developments in humans and nature, as well as unusual environmental conditions (Garrard, 2004). This incident is not only symbolic, but also illustrates how there are real ecological concerns related to climate change and the constantly changing state of the environment. When Dellarobia encounters the butterfly in an unexpected place, explains that the migration pattern that usually occurs is disrupted and begins to worry about broader environmental problems.

At the same time, this incident marks the beginning of Dellarobia's growing and developing understanding of the state of his environment. At first, Dellarobia only saw butterflies by accident, but this experience was the initial trigger for how he began to question how balanced the life of his world was with the nature around him. According to Buell, environmentally-themed literary works usually make readers or their readers gain new and deep perspectives and understandings of ecological ideas through their direct approach and experience with nature.

Thus, the phenomenon of the “lake of fire” not only represents a visually powerful moment but also serves as a narrative related to human perception, environmental imagination, and ecological reality that have had interactions all this time. Through the integration of Glotfelty's concept of nature as an active force, Garrard's environmental crisis framework, and Buell's idea of environmental imagination, this novel presents nature as a dynamic system that shapes human thought, emotions, and behavior itself. This depiction emphasizes that the relationship between humans and the natural environment is not passive, but rather

interactive and transformative.

After seeing the strange butterfly event on the mountain, Dellarobia goes back to her in-laws' home and looks at the state of the environment around her. Unlike the intense moment of the “lake of fire”, this situation shows a more common yet still important kind of environmental change. The effects of ongoing rain become clear in the home and farming areas that are vital for the family's everyday life:

Hester's flower beds had melted under the summer's endless rain, and so had the garden. They'd finished tomato canning almost before they started. (p.17)

The narrative above shows how environmental problems arise through small but harmful changes in daily life. The term “endless summer rain” refers to an unusual weather pattern, because summer usually brings warmth and slight dryness that help plant growth. In contrast, heavy rain actually damages gardens and results in poor harvests. The word “melting” not only implies physical damage, but also the collapse of an ecological system that should remain healthy and fertile.

From an ecocritical perspective, we can see that this situation illustrates the strong connection between human existence and environmental fertility. Glotfelty (1996) notes that literature shows how nature affects human life, especially in communities that depend on natural cycles for their survival. In this example, the failure of the garden impacts the family's daily food production, indicating that the natural environment is crucial for the survival of rural residents. Damaged plants represent the vulnerability of human systems when ecological balance is disrupted.

Furthermore, this scenario aligns with Garrard's (2004) idea that environmental crises do not develop suddenly but rather develop gradually. Continuous rain may at first not seem like a very severe disaster, but if it occurs frequently, the rain can weaken the agricultural system that is one of the livelihoods of rural communities. This illustrates the concept of gradual environmental change, where small, sustained changes in climate can lead to serious long-term impacts on human life. The issue of tomato canning, described as 'almost before they start,' highlights how deeply these environmental changes affect traditional ways of life and economic security.

Furthermore, Buell's perspective emphasizes the high moral aspect of environmental issues in this novel. Buell believes that the environmental crisis is not only ecological but also social and ethical, as it affects human health and survival. In fact, damaged fields can become an even bigger problem threatening the livelihoods of rural communities. This is because crop damage is not only caused by natural events. This situation shows how environmental instability puts humans at risk, forcing them to face the consequences.

Let us delve further into the fact that the environmental issues seen at the beginning of the novel develop into broader and more tangible natural disturbances that may often go unnoticed but have tragic endings. This instability not only concerns isolated incidents such as heavy rain or damaged plants, but also affects the entire seasonal system that governs nature and human activities. These larger environmental problems are summarized in the following statement:

The world of sensible seasons had come undone. (p.49)

The phrase “sensible seasons had come undone” reflects the collapse of the natural systems that sustain human survival. In rural societies, seasonal stability is not only a natural phenomenon, but also the foundation of economic life and food production.

When seasonal cycles become unstable, humans lose their sense of security because their survival depends on nature. The phrase "had come undone" implies that these established systems are no longer functioning properly, leading to the collapse of the ecological order. This disruption shows a reality in which nature no longer behaves as expected, thus creating uncertainty for human life that depends on environmental stability.

From an ecocritical point of view, this scenario shows how humans depend on nature. Glotfelty, in 1996, highlighted that stories can describe how environmental conditions affect human life and cultural customs. In this context, the uncertainty of the seasons directly affects the way rural communities make a living, as agriculture relies heavily on reliable environmental cycles. When the seasons are irregular, agricultural yields become unstable, posing risks to food supply and economic welfare. This shows that human existence is closely related to ecological systems that need to be balanced in order to function properly.

Moreover, this situation is closely related to Garrard's 2004 idea of climate change as a type of environmental emergency that disrupts natural patterns and ecological rhythms. The failure to observe abnormal conditions such as leaves falling too early, heat arriving late, or unexpected cold waves indicates a larger problem related to climate instability. While describing the environmental crisis as

a sudden disaster, this story portrays it as a slow yet systematic change that alters the basic structure of the natural environment. This aligns with Garrard's idea that climate change often emerges through inconsistent weather and prolonged ecological disturbances, which have direct impacts on the natural environment and human communities.

At the same time, Buell's perspective emphasizes the moral and essential aspects of this environmental damage. Buell believes that the environmental crisis we face is not just a problem for nature or ecosystems, but also raises logical questions that challenge us regarding our understanding of meaning, safety, and survival. The collapse of the "usual seasons" not only affects agriculture and weather, but also disrupts the cultural structures and expectations that shape life in rural communities. This situation encourages individuals and communities to realize how fragile the systems they rely on are, highlighting the importance of awareness of the duties we must carry out towards the environment.

In addition, this statement shows how environmental instability not only focuses on individuals but affects entire communities and society. Unpredictable system disruptions impact farmers, families, and the wider rural communities that depend on regularly occurring natural processes. This statement emphasizes that environmental crises operate at the community level, affecting not only personal perspectives but also their social and economic systems.

Therefore, the phrase "The world of regular seasons has fallen apart" signifies the peak of environmental destruction depicted in this novel's story. By combining Glotfelty's ideas concerning the relationship between humans and the

environment, Garrard's framework related to climate disruption, and Buell's perspective on the environmental crisis as a moral and systemic challenge, this novel portrays nature as a force that significantly affects human life. This depiction reinforces the idea that the bond between humans and nature depends on ecological balance, and when that balance is lost, humans feel the impact across all aspects of their lives, especially socially and economically.

B. Rural Community

In this section, the focus begins to shift from self-reflection to a more complete understanding of environmental issues can have an impact on the lives of rural people, especially in their economic spheres. When their farmland that helps rural people's lives becomes transformed, the uncertainty of nature that makes agriculture so important that Turnbow sees that environmental problems affect the main search in nature. Starting from the land used for farming, the flood shows the vulnerability between the economy and the climate. With the inability of land to be useful as a form of valuable asset shows the fragility of the main material of the people in the village, it also explains the detail that ecocriticism also has a social and economic level in the end also has an impact on ecological influences.

Their pasture looked drowned. (p.3)

The above quote explains how the change in the environment has a big impact on agricultural land. The term "drowned" means that the agricultural land there is no longer used normally as part of their productive assets. In this situation, it is also explained that nature does not succeed in supporting agriculture in the village even though land is a crucial part of the rural community. With this incident,

it has endangered the financial stability of rural communities, affecting the plants that will be planted. This incident is also in line with Glotfelty's statement that when environmental conditions have affected human life, especially in places that are highly dependent on natural resources, it is a sign that in certain places humans influence each other, especially in places that depend on natural resources.

In addition, the explanation of fields that have been flooded not only explains the deterioration of environmental conditions, but also explains the fragility of humans. According to Buell's point of view, which emphasizes that environmental crises have an impact on humans, it shows that when the land loses its function, rural communities realize that they are powerless to environmental changes because they are highly dependent on their normal conditions. This confirms the statement that the decline in environmental conditions has practical and moral impacts because it endangers human existence and social order.

Thus, the picture of fields and land flooded with water explains that the relationship between humans and nature is highly dependent on the threats that occur. When the uncertainty of ecology explains that human life, especially in rural areas, can be greatly influenced by natural conditions and the surrounding environment. By combining Glotfelty's ideas about the influence of the environment, Garrard on how ecological disasters, and Buell discuss environmental problems as human problems, this context illustrates that environmental changes can directly affect human life in various forms and ways that impact the environment.

C. Ovid Byron

Ovid Byron came to Feathertown, Tennessee to research this strange butterfly migration as an insecticist, a phenomenon that occurred that made the researcher interested in researching because the appearance of the monarch butterfly that occurred in Tennessee was not something like a miracle, but had something to do with the climate change that was happening. The story began to shift from a personal point of view to a scientific perspective on ecological disturbances. After interacting with Dellarobia and the people there, Byron began to delve deeper into how the butterfly phenomenon went from a "miracle" to a "climate consequence" explaining the role of environmental literature in providing a direction of change from emotional observation to cognitive and ecological literacy at the same time.

The monarchs had to leave the Mexican roost sites earlier every year because of seasonality changes from climatic warming. (p.147)

The quotation above explains that when there is a change in the migration of monarch butterflies, it comes from a direct reaction to the unstable human environment. The phrase "had to leave" explains that the state of the butterflies is there because of opportunity, not naturally which happens because they have to leave their natural habitat due to changes in weather conditions. From this, it is explained that changes from the environment are active, the environment actively changes the behavior of animals and illustrates that nature does have a function as an active system that affects the active system of all living things in the world.

From the point of view of ecocriticism, this example places an emphasis on

the interconnected relationship between humans, animals, and the global ecological system. From the point of view of ecocriticism, according to Garrard (2004), it is not uncommon for climate change to occur through the migration of certain species and the disruption of the ecological system. In this novel, it is explained that the migration of monarch butterflies occurs due to changes in migration patterns which are natural codes that clearly describe climate instability. When in Mexico there is an environmental change that has an impact on Tennessee, it is explained that ecosystems are widely connected to the global level.

In addition, Byron as a scientist who is required to explain logically and factually related to the relationship between humans and nature also sees the event as a scientific fact that has to do with climate change. Although at first, the local community there believed that the event was a magical or symbolic event. Through his insight from a scientific perspective, this novel allows the characters and readers to realize that the state of the environmental crisis is a very significant and urgent problem.

Afterwards, Glotfelty's idea also illustrates in this event that literature shows how the environment can affect the side of human knowledge and experience. When Dellarobia gets an explanation of his situation from Byron scientifically, he becomes amazed and has a deep consciousness. This change shows that when one begins to understand and interpret a definition such as nature can be influenced by the surroundings, it also emphasizes how humans can be part of the same ecological system that they are trying to understand.

From Buell's point of views from this experience, it is in line with Buell's

belief that when environmental writing can inspire both readers and characters to be able to see other perspectives ecologically as real or urgent issues and problems that require recognition and action. When there is a shift from thinking about the butterfly event of a miracle, it becomes aware that it is a consequence of climate change that discusses how human understanding of the environment can change the way things are perceived.

When the communication between scientific understanding and the views of local people explains that the relationship between humans and nature is not in one point of view but can vary depending on what point of view is used. While farmers in villages see environmental change through the perspective of finances and obstacles to daily activities, scientists use the perspective of research and the global situation. With this difference of perspective, the depiction of environmental problems in the novel as a local and global issue is multiplied.

D. Cub Turnbow

In the character of Cub Turnbow, this relationship with nature shows an attachment and savagery influenced by the need for sustenance and survival. This difference in perspective can also be clearly seen through his daily activities in rural communities that depend on nature for their direct income. At the beginning of the novel, Dellarobia recalled how Cub and his father used the forest mountains behind their farm as a place for their daily activities. The land there was shown as an area that supported their daily lives. For Cub himself, the forest was part of survival and part of the culture like his hunting activity.

Cub and his dad drove the all-terrain up this way sometimes to get to the little shack on the ridge they used for turkey hunting. (p.4)

The above quote explains that when the Cub's interaction with nature is strong. The surrounding nature such as forests and mountains is useful for hunting grounds, here nature plays a role as a resource for humans to meet their needs. This kind of relationship shows a practical relationship, where nature is seen as something that can be taken advantage of rather than as something that must be explored more deeply using the angle of ecological understanding. The phrase "shack" and the use of vehicles further indicate that there is a connection with human activities in the place.

From the point of view of ecocriticism, Glotfelty's idea explains that literature shows how the world in physical form gives the form of human existence. Based on the daily actions of Cub in rural areas, he explains that nature can very well direct human behavior. Nature provides important things such as food, space, and stability as survival. In this perspective, it is explained that nature is not a background but an active form of the way that affects the way humans live with their environment.

This state of affairs can be further explored through Garrard's concept of the state of environmental emergency, specifically the idea that ecological damage is gradual and may not be too obvious. Natural incidents of heavy rains, crop failures, and various ecological trends indicate that nature has become unstable. While Cub goes about his daily life with a very inherent natural background, even the environmental background of this story is broader and has changed due to climate issues. However, what Cub does cannot place himself in the present

situation, which is a sign that human activity and environmental conditions are actually incompatible.

This incompatibility illustrates that there is a more complex trend when the way humans relate to nature, including certain communities that are fully dependent on existing natural resources. When humans depend on nature does not necessarily mean that they will be aware of ecological problems, it could be the opposite, namely that the situation in nature is ignored or underestimated. Cub's behavior suggests that when humans depend a lot on nature, the same thing can happen such as a low understanding of the ecological system, especially when change occurs slowly.

In addition, Cub's point of view is not the same as the other characters in the story, especially Dellarobia who begins to think back about environmental events. When Dellarobia begins to understand more deeply about nature, Cub only thinks simply of what happened because he only focuses on the routine and the use he can make. With the difference between the two characters, the relationship between humans and nature is not the same for all humans but only based on personal views, knowledge, and experiences.

When Cub interacts with nature, he explains that he does not have a high awareness of ecological problems even though his daily life is very close to nature. From Buell's point of view, his relationship with nature implies that his life is just an interaction with nature, so it does not mean that he has a deeper or broader understanding. This also strengthens Buell's idea that true awareness of the environment should be cultivated deliberately in order to better understand broader

ecological issues, if relying only on nature in daily life cannot immediately create a sense of ecological responsibility.

Therefore, from the point of view of ecocriticism, nature has a function as a resource that is the main place of reliance to continue human life and shape the next life. The quote also explains Cub's relationship with the existence of nature based on its usefulness, routine, and dependence on the crisis is slow. where environmental constraints are not immediately recognized. This picture explains that when humans depend on nature, it does not always discuss ecological consciousness that discusses the relationship between humans and nature in the environment becomes always changing.

E. Hester Turnbow

This novel also tells a form of further dependence through the character of Hester Turnbow. Hester is one of the older generations and daily activities follow the annual season which usually occurs because it can be expected, making sure that the production on the farm can run without any problems. Even so, Cub's interaction with nature also depicts a practical and routine relationship based on his daily life. However, as environmental conditions change, this reliance on seasonal activities becomes a source of vulnerability, demonstrating how nature can directly affect human life.

Hester's flower beds had melted under the summer's endless rain, and so had the garden.
(p.17)

The above quote describes environmental disturbances through Hester's point of view as a member of a farming family. The phrase "had melted" has more

meaning than just damage; The phrase describes the gradual collapse of the natural system that has so far helped and sustained human life in agriculture. The prolonged rain, described as "endless rain", illustrates how the unusually harsh environmental conditions occur. This event puzzled Hester because, for her, the garden was not just a natural space, but a source of life that provided livelihood, routine, and economic stability.

From the perspective of ecocriticism, this situation is in line with Glotfelty's idea that literature reveals how environmental conditions shape human experience; Hester's dependence on agricultural conditions and productivity illustrates that human life in the village is inseparable from the natural cycle itself. When failures such as the collapse of a garden signal that environmental imbalances are hampering productivity, it affects not only the soil but also the social and economic structures that depend on it. The existence of something like this clarifies the idea that nature is indeed part of an active force that can influence human existence and state

This state of nature and the environment can be understood using Garrard's concept of ecological constraints tied to the weather. The phrase "endless rain" explains to humans that an example of a rare weather pattern is related to environmental problems. The problems that occur occur gradually rather than suddenly like sudden disasters, with this incident explaining that things like environmental crises can arise if there are sustainable and cumulative changes because they can have an impact on the already stable ecology and weaken the agricultural system. For Hester herself, this incident has a bad impact on agricultural practices that still use traditional methods and hope for a more certain seasonal

cycle because this can be interpreted as a disturbance.

According to Buell, environmental crises are a matter of human and moral nature, natural events that when they occur can show how weak humans are and how dependent they are on the state of a stable environment. From this incident Hester shows that when environmental damage occurs, it is not a natural event, but also a crisis that can change human lives, especially for those who are heavily dependent on land. When people fail to harvest, they can feel deprived of the sense of security and peace that they usually get. This shows how important stability is in the environment.

In the existing point of view, as Hester explained that nature should be stable and always reliable, she holds this form of belief because she has traditional beliefs and a sense of dependence as usual in the seasons that often come according to the time and begin to conflict with unstable environmental conditions so as to affect the scope of human life. The impact makes a division such as a conflict between the past and the present. With a context like this, it can influence the relationship between humans and nature that has been formed since ancient times such as background, generation, and also perspective when there is culture. On the other hand, the generation that is no longer young, aka the older generation, hopes for stability in nature for environmental change because this is a broad problem. This incident is not only an ecological problem, but also shows a crisis of humanity that is against the traditional way of life.

Thus, this quote suggests that Hester's relationship with nature is rooted in dependence, stability, and expectations for orderly environmental patterns.

Environmental instability will inevitably affect human life; The disturbance in his garden suggests that this is a critical problem. On the other hand, this supports Glotfelty's view that nature shapes human experience. At the same time, the gradual damage caused by prolonged rains illustrates Garrard's concept of ecological crisis, while its impact on human livelihoods is in line with Buell's perspective on environmental vulnerability. Through Hester's experience, the novel emphasizes that ecological problems do not only involve environmental change, but also humanitarian crises that are contrary to traditional ways of life.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter contains about conclusions and suggestions which are based on chapter IV. The researcher provides a summary of the results and discussion in chapter IV. Future research should expand the scope of the data and the framework of ecocriticism across various contexts, situations, and interpretive perspectives.

A. Conclusion

This study has analyzed the depiction of the human-nature relationship in the novel *Flight Behavior* by Barbara Kingsolver by applying the theory of Ecocriticism Cheryll Glotfelty. With respect to the research question, the findings show that the novel depicts the close and reciprocal relationship between humans and nature. Nature is not only described as a passive background, but rather as an active force that influences the experiences, perceptions, and decisions of the characters. The presence of monarch butterflies, changing weather patterns, and environmental disturbances show how ecological conditions shape human life and social reality. At the same time, this novel illustrates that human actions and attitudes contribute to environmental change that emphasizes the interdependence between humans and nature. Through this depiction *Flight Behavior* highlights ecological awareness and encourages readers to realize the importance of maintaining a balanced relationship with nature, this study concludes that the novel presents the human relationship of nature as a dynamic and interconnected process in which both humans and nature

are constantly influencing each other.

In addition, the findings of this study show that the human-nature relationship in the novel is depicted with various perspectives and levels of awareness among the characters. Some characters view nature as a source of livelihood and economic support, while others gradually develop an understanding of environmental changes and their consequences. These differences show that human responses to nature are shaped by experience, knowledge, and social background. As a result, at the end of the novel, the relationship between humans and nature is not fixed but a dynamic process that continues to develop along with the changes of the environment itself. Through this depiction, Barbara Kingsolver emphasizes the understanding the relationship between human life and nature.

B. Sugestion

This research has some limitations, especially in its focus on the representation of the human-nature relationship through the perspective of Cheryll Glotfelty's ecocritic. This analysis is limited to one literary work, namely *Flight Behavior*, and mainly examines the relationship between humans and nature as reflected in the selected text data. Therefore, these findings cannot fully represent the diversity of environmental issues and ecological perspectives found in other literary works. Future researchers are encouraged to explore other ecogeric concepts, such as environmental ethics, ecological awareness, or climate change discourse, in order to gain broader insights into environmental representation in the literature. In addition, future studies can analyze different literary genres or contemporary literary works that address environmental issues in order to enrich

the development of Ecocriticism studies and deepen the understanding of human-nature relations in literary texts.

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CURRICULUM VITAE



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