

**DUALISM OF ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION AND HUMAN  
DOMINATION AS SEEN IN *THE CHILDREN OF MEN* NOVEL**

**THESIS**

**Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of**

***Sarjana Humaniora***



**Written by:**

**NAUFAL YODA RAMADHAN**

**SRN: 196111117**

**ENGLISH LETTERS STUDY PROGRAM  
FACULTY OF CULTURES AND LANGUAGES  
UIN RADEN MAS SAID SURAKARTA**

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## ADVISOR SHEET

Subjects : Thesis of Naufal Yoda Ramadhan

SRN : 196111117

To:

The Dean of

Faculty of Cultures and Languages

UIN Raden Mas Said Surakarta

in Surakarta

*Assalamu'alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakaatuh*

After reading thoroughly and giving the necessary advices, herewith, as the advisor, I state that the thesis of

Name : Naufal Yoda Ramadhan

SRN : 196111117

Title : *Dualism of Environmental Degradation and Human  
Domination as Seen in The Children of Men Novel*

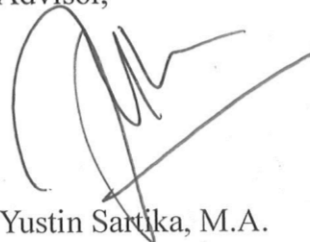
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Thank you for the attention.

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Surakarta, December 14, 2023

Advisor,



Yustin Sartika, M.A.

NIP: 19851024 201903 2 009

## RATIFICATION

This is to certify that the *Sarjana* thesis entitled *Dualism of Environmental Degradation and Human Domination as Seen in The Children of Men Novel* by Naufal Yoda Ramadhan has been approved by the Board of Thesis Examiners as the requirement for the degree of *Sarjana Humaniora* in English Letters.

Chairman/1st Examiner : Shabrina An Adzhani, M.A.  
NIP. 19880208 202012 2 005

Secretary/2nd Examiner : Yustin Sartika, M.A.  
NIP. 19851024 201903 2 009

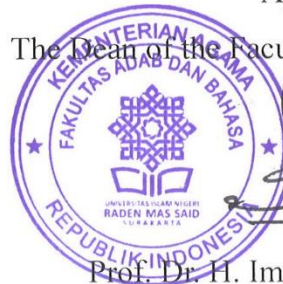
Main Examiner : Hidayatul Nurjanah, M.A.  
NIP. 19850928 201903 2 012



Surakarta, December 27, 2023

Approved by

The Dean of the Faculty of Cultures and Languages



Prof. Dr. H. Imam Makruf, S.Ag., M.Pd

NIP. 19710801 199903 1 003

## **DEDICATION**

This thesis is dedicated to:

1. Mrs. Sudarni
2. Mr. Supoyo
3. Iqbal Prima Yoda
4. Mrs. Yustin Sartika, M.A.
5. The Honorable Lecturers of UIN Raden Mas Said
6. My valued colleagues who have contributed to this research

## **MOTTO**

Directly or indirectly, impact on nature we hold,  
Aware of our nature, evolution's story told.  
Rational beings, let's be wiser, fairer unfold,  
Harmony with nature, a tale to be retold.

## PRONOUNCEMENT

Name : Naufal Yoda Ramadhan  
SRN : 196111117  
Study Program : English Literature  
Faculty : Faculty of Cultures and Languages

I hereby sincerely state that the thesis entitled *Dualism of Environmental Degradation and Human Domination as Seen in The Children of Men Novel* is my own original work. To the best of my knowledge and belief, the thesis contains no material previously published or written by another person except where due references are made.

If later proven that my thesis has discrepancies, I am willing to take the academic sanctions in the form of repealing my thesis and academic degree.

Surakarta, December 27, 2023

Stated by,



Naufal Yoda Ramadhan

SRN: 196111117

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

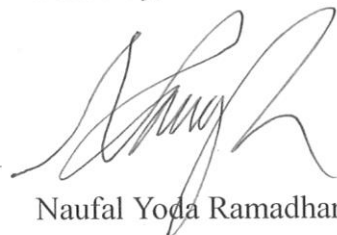
*Alhamdulillah* *rabbil 'alamin*. All praise and gratitude be to Allah, the Most Gracious and Most Merciful, whose grace and guidance have enabled the successful completion of this research. Peace be upon the Prophet Muhammad, whose teachings and conduct are a constant source of life guidance. This research has been enriched by the invaluable help, support, and advice of many individuals. I owe my heartfelt gratitude to all those who have assisted, encouraged, and offered their insights throughout the thesis writing process. My sincere thanks go to:

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Surakarta, December 27, 2023

Stated by,



Naufal Yoda Ramadhan

SRN: 196111117



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## ABSTRACT

Naufal Yoda Ramadhan. 2023. *Dualism of Environmental Degradation and Human Domination as Seen in The Children of Men Novel*. English Literature, Faculty of Cultures and Languages.

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Keywords : dualism, environmental degradation, human domination

Environmental degradation remains a pressing concern in contemporary times. Factors such as deforestation, industrial pollution, and the overuse of natural resources contribute significantly to the degradation of ecosystems. This forms domination of human activities continues to drive climate change. Previous studies have explored various facets of environmental issues and human impact, yet a notable gap exists in the comprehensive understanding of the cause-effect dualism.

The first question, exploring the environmental degradation portrayed in “The Children of Men” is approached through ecocriticism theory by Greg Garrard (2012). This study will dissect the narrative elements, symbolism, and language choices to identify and categorize the various environmental degradations. The second research question, investigating the relations between environmental degradation and human domination, draws on social ecology theory by Murray Bookchin (2006). This study will investigate how environmental degradation in the novel is intertwined with power dynamics, societal structures, and the exertion of human dominance.

This study employs a qualitative-descriptive method, drawing data from P.D. James’s novel “The Children of Men”. The data collection technique for this research is documentation by quoting narratives and character dialogue related to the relationship between environmental degradation and human domination. This data undergoes meticulous processing and analysis by researchers, followed by validation by independent expert to ensure both its validity and reliability.

As a result of the findings of this research, researchers have found 31 data on forms of environmental degradation. Environmental degradation in the form of the apocalypse mentioning 13 instances, which is the most dominant data. Pollution follows with 7 mentions, then earth with 6 instances. Dwellings and animals are tied with 2 mentions each, while wilderness appears only once. Murray Bookchin states that many ecological problems stem from social problems. This research identifies 42 forms of domination that cause environmental degradation. Specifically, 32 instances involve human domination over humans, while 10 instances involve human domination over nature. Notably, the research demonstrates not only how forms of domination can drive environmental degradation but also how environmental degradation can have an effect on forms of human domination, as evidenced by the discovery of 17 data. Specifically, 15 instances involve human domination over humans, and 2 instance involves human domination over nature.

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Table 4.1 Types of environmental degradations found in *The Children of Men* novel

Table 4.2 Dualism relations between environmental degradation and human domination found in *The Children of Men* novel

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Pollution	: POL
Wilderness	: WLD
Apocalypse	: APO
Dwelling	: DWL
Animals	: ANM
Earth	: ERT
Social Hierarchy and Domination	: SHD
Dominating Nature	: DNA

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

Imagine a world teetering on the precipice, revealing the two sides of environmental problem and our existence—our rapacious exploitation of nature and our insatiable hunger for mastery. In this research, dualism explores the interconnectedness and conflict between environmental degradation and human domination as depicted in *The Children of Men*. Dualism refers to the condition of being double (American Heritage Dictionary, 2000). The infertility crisis, a central plot point, might be read as a searing indictment of our hubris, a poignant reminder that nature, pushed too far, will exact its own price. It urges us to look beyond the surface, to question the narratives of progress that often mask exploitation. It asks us to consider a future where respect for the environment, not domination, becomes the driving force of our existence to exacerbate environmental degradation.

Environmental degradation refers to the deterioration or destruction of the natural environment due to human activities or other factors. It encompasses various negative impacts on the environment, including pollution, deforestation, habitat destruction, climate change, and loss of biodiversity, among others. Human activities, principally through emissions of greenhouse gases, have unequivocally caused global warming, with global surface temperature reaching 1.1°C above 1850–1900 in 2011–2020 (IPCC, 2023).

Environmental degradation is a global problem that affects all countries, regardless of their level of development. The effects of human activities such as the burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, and industrialization have resulted in the release of large amounts of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide and methane, into the atmosphere, trapping heat and causing the Earth's average temperature to increase. The scientific consensus is that human-caused climate change is real and poses significant risks to human society and nature. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) - the United Nations body established to assess the science related to climate change - Human-caused climate change is already affecting many weather and climate extremes in every region across the globe. This has led to widespread adverse impacts and related losses and damages to nature and people (high confidence) (IPCC, 2023).

Pollution is one of the major contributors to environmental degradation. Pollution can take many forms such as air pollution, water pollution, soil pollution, and noise pollution. These forms of pollution can harm the environment, human health, and the economy, leading to environmental degradation. Fuller et al. (2022) stated that pollution can cause various kinds of health problems, even leading to death:

In 2019, pollution was responsible for approximately 90 million premature deaths . . . The total effects of pollution on health would undoubtedly be larger if more comprehensive health data could be generated, especially if all pathways for chemicals in the environment were identified and analyzed (Fuller et al., 2022, p. 2).

Based on this, it is important to study literary works from the perspective of ecocriticism and social ecology. In order to raise awareness among readers

about the importance of protecting the environment in order to minimize environmental degradation caused by humans.

Murray Bookchin (2006) states that social problems cause ecological problems. Forms of human domination over human and human domination over nature cause ecological problems, for example deforestation can cause loss of soil fertility, decline in water resources, extinction of biodiversity and others. The author hypothesizes that not only forms of human domination can cause ecological problems, but also environmental problems themselves can have the effect to forms of human domination. As portrayed in the 2006 novel by P.D. James's *The Children of Men* (2006) where human infertility causes the takeover of power and human domination:

Xan, who had by then taken over as the Warden of England, tried to stop what was becoming an epidemic by imposing fines on the surviving nearest relations, just as the Council now pays handsome pensions to the relations of the incapacitated and dependent old who kill themselves (p. 7).

It is describing a situation where in the past if one of the family members committed suicide then the other surviving family members would bear the fine. The imposition of this fine might even be troublesome for the surviving family members. Datum shows social hierarchy and dominance as Xan, the Warden of England, tries to control an epidemic by imposing fines on the surviving relatives. This reflects a system where those in power use penalties against vulnerable individuals, highlighting a sense of control and inequality in society. The existence of an epidemic (apocalypse) through

suicide shows that environmental degradation has an effect on social hierarchy and domination.

Environmental degradation and human domination represent interconnected challenges that, when examined together reveal a complex cause and effect. This dualism emerges from the intricate relationships between human activities and the natural world. The exploitation of resources, pollution, climate change, and socio-economic dynamics all contribute to a cycle of degradation that, in turn, perpetuates various forms of human domination. This symbiotic relationship is evident in the way actions driven by economic, political, or social motives lead to both environmental harm and the subjugation of certain human and non-human entities. As Bookchin (2006) notes to make this point more concrete: economic, ethnic, cultural, and gender conflicts, among many others, lie at the core of the most serious ecological dislocations we face today – apart, to be sure, from those that are produced by natural catastrophes (p. 19).

Bookchin (2006) state that unless we clearly recognize this, we will fail to see that the hierarchical mentality and class relationships that so thoroughly permeate society are what has given rise to the very idea of dominating the natural world (p. 20). As societies exploit natural resources without adequate consideration for sustainability, they inadvertently contribute to environmental degradation. Simultaneously, the competition for these resources fosters power struggles and dominance between human groups, often resulting in conflicts over valuable territories. This exemplifies how human dominion over nature intertwines with the



dominion of some humans over others in the quest for control over essential resources. In effect, the way human beings deal with each other as social beings is crucial to addressing the ecological crisis.

In this study, the researcher chose the novel *The Children of Men* as the object. In the novel, humanity is described as being faced with the problem of infertility. The novel is set in 2021 in England, and no human babies have been born 25 years since the last baby was born. The world is in a state of chaos and despair, with governments struggling to maintain order and societies on the brink of collapse. The story follows the character of Theo Faron, an Oxford history professor who was once an advisor to the Warden of England. Theo is approached by a group of revolutionaries called the “Five Fishes” who ask for his help in smuggling a pregnant woman out of the country. The woman, named Julian, is a member of the group and is expecting her first baby in more than two decades.

In *The Children of Men*, humanity is on the verge of extinction due to an infertility crisis, the world is filled with despair and questions about the meaning of life. One of the data that describes the end of humanity in the novel *The Children of Men* (2006) by P.D. James:

Twenty years ago, when the world was already half-convinced that our species had lost for ever the power to reproduce, the search to find the last known human birth became a universal obsession, elevated to a matter of national pride, an international contest as ultimately pointless as it was fierce and acrimonious (p. 2).

Humans are experiencing an apocalypse because it shows that the loss of the ability to reproduce has become a central and all-consuming issue for humanity. The search for the last known human birth represents a

desperate attempt to find hope and meaning in a world that is rapidly becoming devoid of both. The fact that this search has become a matter of national pride and international contest underscores the severity and magnitude of the crisis. The obsession with finding the last known human birth reflects the sense of despair and desperation that arises when faced with the possibility of extinction. The onslaught of this disaster gave the effect of human domination, as seen in how Xan Lyppiatt appointed himself Warden of England in the last general election. Followed by forms of domination carried out by other figures, which later from these forms of domination cause environmental degradation.

The researcher uses several previous studies as reference material, the first is research entitled “Environmental Crisis in Salman Rushdie's Haroun and the Sea of Stories” by Sofiana Dewi in 2020. The result of this analysis is to describe that the environmental crisis caused by factory construction and the smoke makes pollution. The second study entitled “The Death of Nature Portraits in William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer’s The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind” by Dilla Rachma Aprilia in 2022. The result of this study found that Malawi’s environmental conditions are very concerning, deforestation and land exploitation are the main factors in damaging the environment. The third study entitle “Social Ecological Perspectives on J.G. Ballard’s The Drought” by Cenk Tan in 2020. The conclusion of this study that “grow or die” mentality which is the result of human social hierarchies is destined to cause turmoil and disaster for planet earth.

Based on the previous research that has been mentioned, no one has studied *The Children of Men* using ecocriticism and social ecology theory. This research will describe the environmental degradation depicted in the novel *The Children of Men*, and the relations between environmental degradation and human domination as seen in *The Children of Men*. This is a reminder of environmental degradation and forms of domination that are causal. The study bridges the gap between literature, environmental, and social studies, demonstrating how literature can inform and contribute to environmental, and social research. It creates a connection between the two fields and emphasizes the importance of interdisciplinary approaches in addressing complex issues.

## **B. Limitation of the Study**

Climate change and other environmental issues are becoming increasingly pressing, and there is a growing need for critical analysis of how literature depicts the environment and our relationship to it. This research solely focuses on a single subject, novel written by P.D. James entitled *The Children of Men*, published in 1992. The aim is to unravel various ecological issues depicted in the novel using the ecocriticism theory by Greg Garrard, and the study also seeks to explore the relations between environmental degradation and human domination as seen by employing the social ecology theory proposed by Murray Bookchin.

### **C. Formulation of the Problems**

1. What are the environmental degradations portrayed in *The Children of Men* novel?
2. What are the relations between environmental degradation and human domination dualism as seen in *The Children of Men* novel?

### **D. Objectives of the Study**

1. To identify and analyze the different forms of environmental degradation portrayed in *The Children of Men* novel.
2. To investigate the relations between environmental degradation and human domination dualism as seen in *The Children of Men* novel.

### **E. Benefits of the Study**

1. Theoretical Benefit

The study provides theoretical benefits by deepening our understanding of environmental themes in literature. This contributes to the ongoing development of ecocriticism in literary studies. The research also explores how environmental degradation affects social behavior. This extends our understanding of how ecological crises influence societal structures and individual actions, contributing to the theoretical framework of social ecology in literary research. In essence, the study enhances our theoretical tools for examining environmental and social dynamics in literature. The research promotes interdisciplinary dialogue between literature, environmental, and social studies by bringing together insights from these three fields and highlighting the ways in which they can inform each other.

## 2. Practical Benefit

The research may provide insights into how certain policies or socio-economic structures contribute to environmental problems. This understanding can inform policy development, encouraging the creation of regulations and practices that mitigate environmental degradation and promote sustainable living. The study of the cause-effect dualism between environmental degradation and human domination often requires an interdisciplinary approach. Researchers in literature, environmental science, sociology, and policy studies can collaborate to develop a comprehensive understanding of the issue. This interdisciplinary collaboration can lead to more effective solutions that consider multiple perspectives and expertise. Therefore, this research can be used as a reference for students who are conducting research that has similar topics, objects or theories used.

## **F. Definitions of the Key Terms**

The definition of the key term has the function of clarifying research terms and avoiding misunderstanding among readers. Therefore, the researcher provides several definitions of key terms briefly based on the research title:

### 1. Dualism

The condition of being double; duality (American Heritage Dictionary, 2000).

## 2. Ecocriticism

Ecocriticism is the study of the relationship of the human and the non-human (Garrard, 2012).

## 3. Environmental degradation

Any change or disturbance to the environment perceived to be deleterious or undesirable (Johnson et al., 1997).

## 4. Ecology

Ecology is the study of the interactions between living organisms (plants, animals, and microorganisms) and their environment, including both physical (temperature, light, water) and biological (other living organisms) factors (Odum and Barrett 2005).

## CHAPTER II

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### A. Theoretical Background

Dualism in literary research often draws upon philosophical concepts to explore the relationship between the physical world and the realm of thoughts, emotions, and consciousness within literature. William S. Robinson's perspective on dualism centers on the idea of a causal relationship between physical and non-physical phenomena. According to Robinson, if there is a causal relationship between something physical and something that is mental and non-physical, then the physical aspect is typically associated with the brain or events occurring within it (Gennaro, 2018). This viewpoint aligns with a form of dualism known as substance dualism, which posits that the mind and body are distinct substances with separate existences. In literary research, this dualistic framework allows scholars to explore how characters' thoughts, emotions, and consciousness interact with their physical actions and surroundings within a text.

P.D. James dystopian novel *The Children of Men* the intertwining themes of environmental degradation and human domination manifest a profound dualism that reflects both the physical and metaphysical dimensions of the narrative. Set in a future world plagued by infertility and societal collapse, the novel explores the complex relationship between humanity's exploitation of the environment and its quest for power and control. The theme of human domination highlights the psychological and sociopolitical dimensions of dualism within the narrative. Throughout the

novel, various factions vie for power and control, exploiting the crisis of infertility to exert dominance over others. From authoritarian governments to militant groups, each entity seeks to impose its will upon the populace, perpetuating cycles of oppression and violence. The dualism of environmental degradation and human domination in *The Children of Men* underscores the intricate web of interdependencies between humanity and the natural world. As the planet suffers from ecological collapse, human societies descend into chaos and despotism, illustrating the inseparable link between environmental stewardship and social justice.

In elucidating the dualism of environmental degradation and human domination within P.D. James's *The Children of Men* this research draws upon Greg Garrard's ecocriticism theory as a foundational framework for understanding the various typologies of environmental degradation depicted in the novel. Garrard's ecocriticism provides a lens through which to identify and analyze the nuanced dimensions of ecological harm inflicted upon the environment by human activities. Through this theoretical lens, the study aims to categorize and explore the typical types of environmental degradation portrayed in the dystopian world crafted by P.D. James.

Greg Garrard's ecocriticism theory, rooted in the intersection of literature and environmental studies, offers a comprehensive framework for identifying ecological themes and patterns in literary works. By employing this approach, the study seeks to unveil the subtleties of environmental deterioration as narrated in *The Children of Men* ranging from the depletion of natural resources to the desolation of biodiversity. Garrard's typologies



of environmental degradation will guide the analysis, allowing for a systematic examination of how the novel portrays the multifaceted challenges posed by human-induced environmental crises.

Transitioning from Garrard's ecocriticism to a broader understanding of the dualism between environmental degradation and human domination, the research incorporates the insights of social ecology as theorized by Murray Bookchin. Social ecology, as articulated by Bookchin, posits that environmental issues are deeply intertwined with social structures and human power dynamics. The theory suggests that addressing environmental problems necessitates a simultaneous examination of social, political, and economic systems.

Murray Bookchin's social ecology provides a theoretical lens to uncover the cause-and-effect dualism between environmental degradation and human domination in *The Children of Men*. By applying social ecology, the study aims to unravel the intricate relationships and power dynamics that underlie the environmental crises presented in the novel. The theory enables an exploration of how human actions and societal structures contribute to the degradation of the environment, creating a dualistic narrative where human dominance leads to ecological decline.

## 1. Ecocriticism

Ecocriticism is an interdisciplinary field that emerged in the 1990s as a response to the growing environmental crisis and concerns about human impact on the natural world. Ecocritics examine the ways in

which literary works represent, challenge, and reinforce attitudes towards nature, and explore the cultural, historical, and ideological contexts in which these representations are produced. As defined by Cheryll Glotfelty in *The Ecocriticism Reader*, an anthology of classic and cutting-edge writings in the rapidly emerging field of literary ecology:

What then is ecocriticism? Simply put, ecocriticism is the study of the relationship between literature and the physical environment. Just as feminist criticism examines language and literature from a gender-conscious perspective, and Marxist criticism brings an awareness of modes of production and economic class to its reading of texts, ecocriticism takes an earth-centered approach to literary studies (Glotfelty, 1996, p. xix).

Ecocriticism is certainly a valuable tool for literary research because it expands the scope of inquiry beyond human concerns and perspectives. Anthropocentrism has been a pervasive bias in literary and cultural studies, where human experiences and perspectives are often privileged above all else. Ecocriticism offers an alternative approach that recognizes the importance of non-human actors, such as animals, plants, and landscapes, in shaping human culture and history. Garrard (2012) asserts that “Indeed, the widest definition of the subject of ecocriticism is the study of the relationship of the human and the non-human, throughout human cultural history and entailing critical analysis of the term ‘human’ itself” (p. 5). It allows us to see the environment as a central concern in literature and culture, rather than simply a backdrop for human drama.

Greg Garrard in *Ecocriticism* (2012) emphasizes the importance of ecocriticism in recognizing the interdependence of humans and the natural world, promoting environmental awareness and sustainability, and advocating for social justice. Ecocriticism offers a framework for analyzing the ways in which literature and culture represent the environment, shedding light on the many ways in which human activities impact the earth's ecosystems. By recognizing the interconnectedness of all living things and challenging anthropocentric worldviews, ecocriticism can inspire people to take action to protect the planet and promote more just and sustainable ways of living. On this view, ecocriticism need not remain parasitic upon the natural sciences, but has a distinctive and constructive contribution to make to the diagnosis and resolution of ecological problems (Garrard, 2012)

Greg Garrard (2012) in his book “Ecocriticism” provides a comprehensive overview of the field of ecocriticism, which is an interdisciplinary approach to literary and cultural studies that explores the relationship between humans and the natural world. Garrard traces the history of ecocriticism from its origins in the 1970s to its current status as a well-established field of study. Along the way, he examines the key concepts that have emerged within the field, including pollution, wilderness, apocalypse, dwelling, animals, and earth.

a. Pollution

Pollution refers to the introduction of harmful or toxic substances into the environment that cause damage to living

organisms and ecosystems. These substances can come in many forms, including gases, liquids, and solids. As Garrard (2012) stated that ‘pollution’ is an ecological problem because it does not name a substance or class of substances, but rather represents an implicit normative claim that too much of something is present in the environment, usually in the wrong place (p. 6).

Pollution can take place in various environments such as air, water, and land. Air pollution is caused by the release of gases and particles into the atmosphere, often as a result of industrial activities and transportation. Water pollution is caused by the release of chemicals and waste products into rivers, lakes, oceans, and other bodies of water, while land pollution can result from the disposal of hazardous waste and chemicals, as well as from agricultural and industrial activities.

Garrard suggests that pollution is a key issue in environmental literature, particularly in works that focus on the relationship between humans and the natural world. Environmental literature can serve as a form of environmental critique, highlighting the ways in which human activity has contributed to environmental problems like pollution and encouraging readers to consider their own impact on the environment. By engaging with literature that deals with issues like pollution, readers can become more aware of the impact of their own actions on the environment and can work to reduce their environmental footprint. Garrard's perspective on

pollution emphasizes the importance of understanding the impact of human activity on the environment and the urgency of addressing environmental issues like pollution. By recognizing the severity of pollution and taking steps to address it, we can work towards a more sustainable and healthy future for ourselves and the planet.

b. Wilderness

Wilderness can be defined as a natural environment that exists independently of human influence and activity. It is a space that is untouched by human development and has not been significantly altered by human intervention. As Garrard state that “The idea of wilderness, signifying nature in a state uncontaminated by civilization, is the most potent construction of nature available to New World environmentalism” (p. 66). Garrard argues that the concept of wilderness is important because it represents a space of pure nature, which is seen as valuable and worthy of preservation. It is often associated with ideas of beauty, purity, and a sense of the sublime. Wilderness can also be seen as a symbol of resistance against human dominance and control over the natural world.

Garrard suggests that an alternative approach to wilderness is to view it as a social construct that is shaped by human values, beliefs, and cultural practices. This approach recognizes that humans are part of the natural world and that their actions have a significant impact on the environment. Garrard's perspective on wilderness emphasizes the need to rethink our relationship with the natural

world and to develop a more nuanced understanding of the complex ways in which humans and nature are interconnected.

c. Apocalypse

Greg Garrard defines apocalypse as a literary and cultural genre that focuses on the end of the world, often as a result of some catastrophic event like war, environmental disaster, or supernatural intervention. Garrard notes that apocalyptic narratives have a long history in Western culture, dating back to the Book of Revelation in the Christian Bible. However, in recent years, the genre has taken on renewed importance in response to global environmental crises such as climate change, deforestation and mass extinction. In contemporary apocalyptic literature, these environmental catastrophes are often portrayed as the inevitable result of human greed, arrogance, and shortsightedness. Garrard in his book asserts:

This ethical subtlety, along with an emphasis upon free will, supplies a sounder moral ideology for a church wary of millennial enthusiasms: if the End may or may not be nigh, believers must live in the light of its possibility whilst refraining from relinquishing their worldly duties in a fit of utopian hysteria. Tragic narratives of the End, on the other hand, are radically dualistic, deterministic and catastrophic, and have historically tended to issue in suicidal, homicidal or even genocidal frenzies (Garrard, 2012, p. 96).

One of the key features of apocalyptic narratives is their emphasis on the collapse of human society and the breakdown of social order. In many of these narratives, the end of the world is accompanied by a loss of technology, infrastructure, and political stability, leading to a state of chaos and lawlessness. This breakdown

of society can be seen as a critique of the way that modern society is organized, with its emphasis on consumerism, individualism and competition.

d. Dwelling

As Garrard state that Dwelling refers to the way that humans inhabit and interact with the natural world, and how this relationship is represented in literature and culture. ‘Dwelling’ is not a transient state; rather, it implies the long-term imbrication of humans in a landscape of memory, ancestry and death, of ritual, life and work (Garrard, 2012, p. 117).

In environmental literature and ecocriticism, the concept of dwelling is often used to describe the way that authors represent human relationships with the natural world. For example, in the work of Wendell Berry, the idea of dwelling is central to his critique of modern agriculture and his vision of a sustainable, local, and community-oriented food system. Berry argues that we need to return to a sense of dwelling in order to re-establish a harmonious and sustainable relationship with the natural world.

Garrard (2012) notes that the concept of dwelling can also be seen as a way of challenging the dominant cultural and economic models that prioritize growth and expansion over sustainability and well-being. By emphasizing the importance of dwelling, environmental literature and ecocriticism can provide a powerful

critique of these models and offer alternative visions of a more sustainable and relationship between humans and the natural world.

e. Animals

Study of the relations between animals and humans in the humanities is split between the analysis of the representation of animals in history and culture, or animal studies, and the philosophical consideration of animal rights (Garrard, 2012, p. 146). Animal studies focuses on the representation of animals in history and culture, including their roles in art, literature, and popular culture, as well as the ways in which animals have been exploited, used, and symbolized in human societies.

Garrard (2012) argues that literary representations of animals can reveal much about our cultural attitudes towards them, including how we value and treat them. He examines the ways in which animals have been used symbolically in literature, such as the portrayal of the wolf as a predator in fairy tales, and how these symbolic associations have influenced our perceptions of these animals in the real world. Garrard also examines various philosophical approaches to animal rights, including utilitarianism and deontology, and argues that literary representations of animals can play an important role in shaping our understanding of our obligations to them.



f. Earth

Garrard (2012) divided the Earth into two main inflections. The first inflection is 'globe' that comes from the main concern of globalization, postmodern social thinking, and the Earth from a technological and economic point of view (Garrard, 2012, p. 183). In which natural phenomena and global issues are interpreted in a modern way using technology or discussed by the relevant institutions, such as NASA, Greenpeace, IMF and WHO.

The second is Gaia, a term derived from the ancient Greek Earth-Goddess, describing the earth as a self-regulating system, analogous to living organisms (Garrard, 2012, p. 199). Where natural phenomena that occur such as the greenhouse effect are considered as earth activities to maintain the stability of its lifecycle, but examining 'global warming' which involves a degree of anthropogenic greenhouse effect as something that cannot be accepted naturally by the earth's biosphere (Garrard, 2012, p. 200), thus causing environmental problems.

2. Social Ecology

Murray Bookchin's social ecology is grounded in the fundamental belief that the root causes of the majority of contemporary ecological challenges stem from underlying social issues. In essence, he contends that the ecological crises we face are not isolated from, but intricately linked to, broader social structures, relationships, and systems. Bookchin posits that by addressing and transforming these deep-seated

social problems, we can effectively mitigate and resolve the environmental issues that currently afflict our planet. His theory thus underscores the interconnectedness of social and ecological realms, advocating for a holistic approach that recognizes the intimate relationship between human society and the natural world.

Bookchin contends that the pervasive and seemingly unchecked force of market mechanisms is causing severe ecological degradation – transforming fertile soil, polluting air and water, and contributing to broader climatic and atmospheric disruptions. To make this point more concrete: economic, ethnic, cultural, and gender conflicts, among many others, lie at the core of the most serious ecological dislocations we face today – apart, to be sure, from those that are produced by natural catastrophes (Bookchin, 2006, p. 19). In this context, he emphasizes that it is insufficient to attribute environmental problems solely to individual actions or spiritual self-redemption; instead, attention must be directed towards the socio-economic dynamics that shape and, oftentimes, degrade the natural world. The following are the forms of domination that Bookchin believes cause ecological problems.

a. Social Hierarchy and Domination

Male dominance becomes extremely active and ultimately yields a world in which male elites dominate not only women but also, in the form of classes, other men (Bookchin, 2006, p. 35). He argues that societal structures, shaped by historical and environmental factors, have led to hierarchical

arrangements that not only perpetuate gender inequalities but also extend to broader class-based disparities. By understanding the historical roots of these social hierarchies, social ecology advocates for a critical examination of the structures that contribute to environmental degradation and social injustices.

Bookchin (2006) argues that to address environmental problems and foster genuine freedom, it is imperative to dismantle hierarchical structures and eliminate economic classes. These structures, he believes, underpin and perpetuate systems of domination, hindering the attainment of true ecological sustainability. The theory of social ecology calls for a transformative approach that goes beyond superficial gestures and rituals. Instead, it advocates for substantial changes in the very fabric of society, urging the establishment of new, equitable, and decentralized social institutions. In nonhierarchical societies, certain customs guide human behavior along basically decent lines (Bookchin, 2006, p. 37).

b. Dominating Nature

Bookchin (2006) conceives the natural world as a developmental process, rather than the beautiful vistas we see from a mountaintop or images fixed on the backs of picture postcards. If nature is seen as a developmental process, it implies an interconnected and reciprocal relationship between human societies and the environment. Bookchin suggests that our

interaction with the natural world should not be based solely on extraction and exploitation. Instead, it should recognize the inherent value of nature's processes and contribute to the ongoing development and health of ecosystems. In the context of human attempts to dominate nature without considering reciprocal relationships, social ecology challenges this mindset. It calls for an understanding of nature that goes beyond mere resource extraction and advocates for a harmonious and sustainable coexistence.

Bookchin critiques the anthropocentric view that positions humans as masters of the natural world. Instead of dominating nature for short-term gains, he advocates for an ecological ethic that recognizes the interconnectedness of all living systems. Bookchin envisions a society where humans live in harmony with nature, understanding that their well-being is intricately linked to the health of the ecosystems that sustain them. This intricate social development can lead to challenges and difficulties that extend beyond the human realm and affect non-human life as well. It is not so much that human beings, in principle, behave differently from animals or are inherently more problematical in a strictly ecological sense, as it is that the social development by which they grade out of their biological development often becomes more problematical for themselves and nonhuman life (Bookchin, 2006, p. 31).

## **B. Previous Studies**

The researcher reviews previous studies which share similarities in terms of topics, objects, or theories. The first research conducted by Syahra Sahlatum Maghfirah's study in 2023 "An Ecocritical Analysis: Nature as Dwelling in Sam J. Miller's *Blackfish City*" explores the portrayal of nature and its relationship with humans in the novel. The study analyzes the concept of "dwelling" as it relates to nature, arguing that the novel emphasizes the interconnectedness of all living beings and portrays nature as a complex and dynamic entity that is intimately connected to human life. The study also examines the ways in which the novel challenges human-centric perspectives and highlights the importance of valuing and protecting the natural world.

The second research conducted by Zahlul Jihad's study in 2023 "Nature in Bruce Chatwin's *On the Black Hill: An Eco Critical Approach*" examines the representation of nature in the novel and its relationship with human life. The study applies an ecocritical approach to analyze the ways in which the novel explores the themes of human-nature relationships and environmental degradation. The study argues that the novel portrays nature as a force that is intimately connected to human life and emphasizes the importance of valuing and protecting the natural world. Additionally, the study explores the ways in which the novel critiques the destructive effects of industrialization and modernization on the environment.

The third research conducted by Putri Intan Safina's study in 2023 "Ecocritical Study of Richard Powers' *The Overstory*" analyzes the

portrayal of nature and its relationship with humans in the novel. The study applies an ecocritical approach to explore the ways in which the novel critiques anthropocentrism and emphasizes the importance of valuing and protecting the natural world. The study argues that the novel portrays trees and forests as complex and dynamic entities that are interconnected with all living beings, and highlights the destructive effects of human actions on the environment. Additionally, the study examines the role of storytelling in the novel and its relationship to environmental ethics, arguing that storytelling can be a powerful tool for promoting environmental awareness and inspiring action to protect the natural world.

The fourth research conducted by Innocent Chimezie Chukwulobe's study in 2023 "Social Hierarchy, Displacement and Exploitation in Helon Habila's *Oil on Water*" relevant to the broader discourse on social and environmental issues. The study delves into the interconnectedness of human exploitation and environmental degradation, drawing attention to the symbiotic relationship between the exploitation of humans by capitalists and the concurrent brutal exploitation of the environment. The study, calls for a transformation of societal structures to eliminate all forms of exploitation and domination, both of humans and the non-human components of the ecology. This resonates with the core idea that justice for the oppressed members of the environment, particularly non-human entities, can only be achieved when the exploitation of humans comes to an end.

The fifth research conducted by Amiril Bachtiar's study in 2023 "An Ecocritical Analysis of Nature Condition and Environmental Stewardship in

J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit* examines the portrayal of nature and its relationship with humans in the novel. The study applies an ecocritical approach to analyze the ways in which the novel highlights the importance of environmental stewardship and the consequences of human actions on the natural world. The study argues that the novel portrays nature as a complex and dynamic entity that is intimately connected to human life, and emphasizes the importance of valuing and protecting the natural world. Additionally, the study explores the role of various characters in the novel and their relationship with nature, arguing that the novel promotes a holistic view of the natural world that prioritizes environmental stewardship over exploitation.

## CHAPTER III

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### A. Research Design

This research is a qualitative descriptive research. It explores and interprets literary texts through an environmental lens. Qualitative descriptive research is a method of inquiry that aims to provide a detailed and comprehensive description of a particular literary phenomenon or experience. One characteristic of qualitative descriptive research in literature study is that it involves the collection and analysis of qualitative data through methods such as close reading, textual analysis, and literary criticism. As Creswell (2013) notes that qualitative descriptive research is appropriate for studying literary phenomena that require detailed descriptions, such as the study of a particular literary genre or the analysis of a single literary text.

Another key feature of qualitative descriptive research in literature study is that it seeks to provide a thorough and accurate representation of the literary phenomenon being studied. Rather than trying to test a hypothesis or theory, the focus is on describing the phenomenon as it is experienced by readers or critics. As Braun and Clarke (2013) explain that qualitative descriptive research in literature study aims to provide a comprehensive and detailed summary of the literary phenomenon, with little interpretation or theorizing. This method would involve close reading of the novel to identify passages that relate to environmental themes, such as depictions of nature (earth), pollution, wilderness, apocalypse, dwelling,



and animals. The use of qualitative methods in this study would allow for a comprehensive exploration of the environmental degradations portrayed in *The Children of Men*, offering insights into how the novel reflects and contributes to our understanding of the natural world.

## **B. Data and Data Sources**

Qualitative descriptive research is a type of research methodology that involves collecting and analyzing non-numerical data to describe a phenomenon or a group of individuals in detail. In qualitative descriptive research, data sources and data types are closely interrelated and are both important components of the research process. The main data sources in this study are words, phrases, sentences, or paragraphs contained in the novel *The Children of Men* by P. D. James. The secondary data is in the form of research or news related topics that are discussed.

## **C. Research Instruments**

Research Instruments are tools used to collect, measure, and analyze data related to research interests. The research instrument in this study was the researcher himself. Researchers are involved in all research processes, such as observation, analysis, and data documentation.

## **D. Data Collection Techniques**

Data collection is the method of collecting detailed information that explains and provides explanations to help the researcher find answers to all of the questions raised in the research question (Creswell, 2014). In this study, researchers took several steps to obtain accurate observation,

analysis, and data documentation. The researcher had done by following step in collecting the data in the research:

1. Reading and comprehending the contents of the novel *The Children of Men* by P.D. James serve as the focus of this research.
2. Identifying the issues that have to discuss in this research.
3. Determining the main problem or focus of this research.
4. Limiting and formulating the problems that are going to be analysis.
5. Collecting and classifying the data related to environment degradation and social behavior
6. Giving codes on collected data. By coding the data, it is aimed to be easier to analyze. The researcher classified the data as below:

Code: Number/POL/SHD/8

- a) Number: Data number 1,2,3, .... etc.
- b) POL. Classification of various types of environmental degradation, the complete lists:
  - 1) POL: Pollution
  - 2) WLD: Wilderness
  - 3) APO: Apocalypse
  - 4) DWL: Dwelling
  - 5) ANM: Animals
  - 6) ERT: Earth
- c) SHD. Classification of various types of social behavior, the complete lists:

- 1) SHD: Social Hierarchy and Domination
- 2) DNA: Dominating Nature
- d) 8: Data discovery page

## **E. Data Validation Techniques**

Data validation in qualitative descriptive research refers to the process of verifying the accuracy and completeness of the collected data. It involves a careful and systematic review of the data to identify any errors or inconsistencies, and to ensure that the data accurately reflects the participants' experiences and perspectives.

According to Patton (2002), data validation involves several steps, including data review, data cleaning, and data verification. Data review involves a thorough examination of the collected data to identify any missing or incomplete information, and to check for any discrepancies or contradictions. Data cleaning involves the correction of any errors or inconsistencies in the data, such as misspellings or coding errors. Data verification involves cross-checking the data with the participants or other sources to ensure that the data accurately reflects the participants' experiences and perspectives. Data validation is a critical component of qualitative descriptive research, as it ensures the credibility and trustworthiness of the research findings. It also helps to enhance the rigor and quality of the research, and to ensure that the findings are valid and reliable (Maxwell, 2012).

The selection of the validator in this study was based on the validator's qualifications, willingness, availability, and ability to provide

objective and constructive feedback to improve the quality of research findings. The validator in this study will be carried out by Muhammad Rizal, M.A, a lecturer at UIN Raden Mas Said Surakarta who has expertise in literature. Mr. Rizal in 2022 also conducted research with other researchers whose studies were in the form of ecocriticism entitled “Ecological Wisdom in Central Kalimantan's Folklore: A Study of Ecocriticism”.

## **F. Data Analysis Techniques**

Data analysis technique in this research is based on a comprehensive framework proposed by Miles, Huberman, & Saldaña (2014). Their approach centers around three core processes that occur simultaneously and iteratively:

### **1. Data condensation**

Data condensation refers to the process of selecting, focusing, simplifying, abstracting, and/or transforming the data that appear in the full corpus (body) of written up field notes, interview transcripts, documents, and other empirical materials (Miles, Huberman, & Saldaña, 2014). This method employs coding and categorization to distill data into manageable units, allowing patterns and themes to emerge organically. The purpose of data condensation is to simplify complex datasets, making them more accessible for subsequent analysis, and to create a condensed representation of the data without sacrificing its intrinsic meanings. In this research involves extracting pertinent passages from the *The Children of Men* novel that illuminate the cause-effect dualism under investigation. Coding these excerpts enables me to

pinpoint key concepts and themes, capturing the essence of both environmental degradation and human domination. Subsequently, the researcher distills this coded data, summarizing crucial points while safeguarding the narrative's richness and the nuanced perspectives derived from ecocriticism and social ecology.

## 2. Data Display

As a researcher navigating the intricate landscape of environmental degradation and human domination within *The Children of Men* novel guided by ecocriticism and social ecology theories, the data display phase plays a pivotal role in translating complex insights into visually accessible representations. Having condensed and coded relevant textual passages, the next step involves crafting a visual narrative that brings clarity to the relationships identified. Looking at displays helps us understand what is happening and to do something—either analyze further or take action—based on that understanding (Miles, Huberman, & Saldaña, 2014).

## 3. Conclusion

Drawing conclusions in data analysis is the process of interpreting the meaning and insights revealed by the analyzed data. From the start of data collection, the qualitative analyst interprets what things mean by noting patterns, explanations, causal flows, and propositions (Miles, Huberman, & Saldaña, 2014). While preliminary conclusions may be formed earlier, final conclusions often emerge iteratively as the data analysis progresses and findings accumulate. Verifying the data for

correctness, robustness, and suitability is crucial throughout this process to ensure the reliability and validity of the ultimate conclusions. Therefore, the researcher submits the data that has been collected and analyzed to the validator so that it can be corrected whether it is right or wrong. After the data is validated, researchers draw conclusions based on valid data.

## CHAPTER IV

### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

#### A. Findings

This sub-chapter involves providing a detailed account of the data collected and analyzed in response to specific research questions. In this context, 1) What are the environmental degradations portrayed in *The Children of Men* novel? 2) What are the relations between environmental degradation and human domination dualism as seen in *The Children of Men* novel? The researcher uses P.D. James's *The Children of Men* novel as subject and also data source. The researcher found 31 data on forms of environmental degradation narrated in the novel which are divided into six classifications: pollution, wilderness, apocalypse, dwelling, animal, and earth. The researcher also found 59 data on the form of dualism cause and effect relations between environmental degradation and human domination which is narrated in two forms of domination: human domination of humans and human domination of nature. The data citations and detailed analysis are explained in the following entries.

##### 1. Types of environmental degradation

The researcher presents data findings related to the types of environmental degradations found in the P.D. James's *The Children of Men* novel. This grouping of types of environmental degradations is based on Greg Garrard's key concepts of ecocriticism.

Table 4.1 Types of environmental degradations found in *The Children of Men* novel

Number	Environmental Degradations	Total of Data
1.	Pollution	7
2.	Wilderness	1
3.	Apocalypse	13
4.	Dwelling	2
5.	Animal	2
6.	Earth	6
Total		31

a. Pollution

Environmental degradation in the form of pollution refers to the portrayal of the detrimental effects of human-made pollutants on the natural environment in literature representations. This concept explores how literary works depict the consequences of pollution, including its impact on ecosystems, biodiversity, and the overall health of the planet. There are various kinds of environmental degradation in the form of pollution, such as air pollution, water pollution, soil pollution and noise pollution. Here's an exploration of environmental degradation in the form of pollution within Garrard's ecocriticism:

**3/POL/DNA/52**

“The windows were curtained, there was a thin trail of smoke from the chimney and to the left of the path some attempt had been made to clear the earth of the knee-high grasses and to cultivate a vegetable garden.”



Datum 3/POL/DNA/52 shows the character Theo Faron (the central character in the story of the novel *The Children of Men*) going to have a meeting with members of The Five Fishes at a church in the Binsey area. On the way there he saw a thin smoke trail from the chimney. It is not clearly stated who caused the thin smoke trail, but it is certain that the smoke came from the chimney of one of the houses. It is possible that humans caused the smoke. Smoke is a form of air pollution, exposure to smoke can worsen health conditions. Garrard (2012) states that pollution is an ecological problem because it does not name a substance or class of substances, but rather represents an implicit normative claim that too much of something is present in the environment. This shows environmental degradation in the form of pollution coming from the thin smoke coming out of the chimney of one of the houses in the Binsey area. The environmental degradation in the form of pollution mentioned earlier occurs in the present setting, the example that will be explained in the following occurs in the past setting when Theo Faron recalls past events.

**5/POL/DNA/152**

“It had been a hot day in late June when Oxford had become a place to escape from, her hot pavements blocked with tourists, her air stinking with car fumes and loud with the clatter of alien tongues, her peaceful quads invaded.”

Datum 5/POL/DNA/152 narrates when Theo Faron remembers the state of Oxford in the past when he and Xan Lyppiatt were still in first grade. The mention of “air stinking with car fumes”

hints at the number of cars passing by, causing a buildup of air pollution. Emissions from vehicles release pollutants into the air, contributing to environmental degradation by affecting air quality. This is in line with an ecocritical perspective that examines the interaction between literature and the environment, including how human actions affect nature. In addition to the air pollution caused by human activity using cars, the setting depicts the sidewalks as crowded with pedestrians talking, even from outsiders. This implies that the population in the city is very dense, and the infertility crisis has not yet hit England. The next case is set on the beach, and also set in the present, how the representation of pollution on the beach is due to human activities in the past.

#### **4/POL/DNA/77**

“They were raised on low stilts and he could see beneath the floors the detritus of long-forgotten holidays half-buried in the dirty sand: the gleam of silver paper, an old plastic bottle, the rotting canvas and splintered struts of a deck chair, and a child’s broken spade.”

This narrative can exist because of Theo Faron's curiosity about Quietus, which is a form of facility from the state for those who want to end their lives. It turns out that in the process Theo saw a lot of misuse and unethical things happening. When Theo Faron wanted to help one of the victims of this Quietus program, he was hit by a blow that caused him to be stranded on the beach. After opening his eyes and getting up he narrates what he sees around him. The depiction of discarded items under the raised floor serves as a

visual representation of pollution. Datum 4/POL/DNA/77 shows man's dominance over nature by depicting a scene where there are man-made remains in the natural environment. The aforementioned detritus represents a form of pollution and highlights how human activities that dominate nature can have a negative impact on nature.

Datum indicates a historical aspect of human presence in the area, suggesting that people have used the beach for recreational purposes. The fact that these remnants are half-buried in the sand suggests a disregard for the environment. Humans have left their waste behind without proper disposal or consideration for the impact on the natural surroundings. The list of items, such as glitters of silver paper, old plastic bottles, rotted canvas, fragments of deck chair supports, and broken children's shovels, represents various forms of human-generated waste. These items are not only discarded but also contribute to environmental degradation. The things that have been mentioned show that humans dominate nature. The data that will be presented next is evidence of a form of domination from the power of Xan (Warden of England) to Theo, Julian, and Miriam causing a form of pollution that can cause disruption of the ecosystem.

#### **7/POL/DNA/227**

“It was then that they heard the metallic rattle of the helicopter. Half-imprisoned by the interlocking boughs they had little need for extra concealment but instinctively they moved from the path into the green tangle of the elder bushes and stood motionless, hardly breathing, as if every intake of breath could reach up to that glittering object of

menace, to those watching eyes and listening ears. The noise grew to an ear-shattering clatter.”

This event occurs when Xan finds out that there is a woman who is fertile and can conceive a child, and there is a certain group of people (Theo and Miriam) who hide it so that it is not known by the rulers, including Xan. Julian and Miriam think that the rulers cannot be trusted, and might even have a bad impact on Julian and the child she is carrying. Therefore, Theo assists their escape so that Julian can give birth to her child without interruption from the government. But what happened instead, there was a betrayal from one of their former group members named Rolf who told Xan about the news of a fertile and giving birth human being in hiding. Xan, who is the holder of power, and is terrorized by England, uses all his strength to search for and find Theo, Julian and Miriam. Until one of Xan's men riding a helicopter found their trail.

The use of helicopters in searches is a form of domination and additionally conveys a level of noise that is not only loud but also potentially harmful to the auditory well-being of individuals and possibly the local ecosystem. Garrard (2012) notes that the proliferation of types and sources of ‘pollution’ means that artificial light and noise may now be considered pollutants. The loud and disruptive noise created by the helicopter is not only a form of noise pollution but also symbolizes the imposition of human activities on the tranquility of the natural world. The phrase "metallic rattle of the helicopter" signifies the intrusion of a human-made, mechanical

object into the natural environment. This indicates that human domination of nature, as illustrated by the loud sound of helicopters cause environmental degradation in the form of noise pollution. Other findings of environmental degradation in the form of pollution in *The Children of Men* novel can be found in data codes 1/POL/DNA/8, 2/POL/DNA/32, and 6/POL/DNA/227 in Appendix 2: Validation of the Data.

b. Wilderness

Environmental degradation in the form of wilderness refers to the representation of the impact of human activities on natural, untouched landscapes in literature and cultural narratives. The concept explores how literature depicts the transformation, exploitation, and degradation of pristine wilderness areas due to human actions. Here's an exploration of environmental degradation in the form of wilderness within Garrard's ecocriticism:

**8/WLD/SHD/5**

“If there had been no Omega, the conservationists would protest at the acres of countryside, some of it our most beautiful, which have been distorted and rearranged to provide ever more challenging courses.”

Datum 8/WLD/SHD/5 describes the world situation set in present-day England in the novel *The Children of Men*. How Theo Faron shows a shift in land use, transitioning from countryside (representing wilderness) to golf courses. Shifting can result loss of native vegetation, disrupting ecosystems and reducing biodiversity. Maintenance of golf courses may involve the use of fertilizers,

pesticides, and herbicides, which can lead to water pollution and harm to local ecosystems. As Garrard (2012) notes the idea of wilderness, signifying nature in a state uncontaminated by civilization, is the most potent construction of nature available to New World environmentalism. This datum is the only finding of environmental degradation in the wilderness in P.D James *The Children of Men* novel.

c. Apocalypse

Environmental degradation in the form of an apocalypse refers to the portrayal of catastrophic and irreversible ecological events or conditions in literature representations. The concept explores narratives that depict the extreme consequences of human actions on the environment, often leading to a collapse of ecosystems, biodiversity loss, and the endangerment of the planet's habitability. Here's an exploration of environmental degradation in the form of an apocalypse within Garrard's ecocriticism:

**9/APO/1**

“Early this morning, 1 January 2021, three minutes after midnight, the last human being to be born on earth was killed in a pub brawl in a suburb of Buenos Aires, aged twenty-five years, two months and twelve days.”

Narrator (who is also the main character, Theo Faron) tells that the last human being to be born on earth was killed, implying that there were two “apocalypse” events. First, humans have failed to reproduce, which will result in extinction and then the end of human life. Second, the murder incident itself. Tragic narratives of

the End, on the other hand, are radically dualistic, deterministic and catastrophic, and have tended historically to issue in suicidal, homicidal or even genocidal frenzies (Garrard, 2012).

### **11/APO/2**

“Twenty years ago, when the world was already half-convinced that our species had lost for ever the power to reproduce, the search to find the last known human birth became a universal obsession, elevated to a matter of national pride, an international contest as ultimately pointless as it was fierce and acrimonious.”

Datum 11/APO/2 provided suggests environmental degradation and the possibility of an apocalyptic scenario through the lens of Greg Garrard's ecocriticism theory. Datum mentions that the world was already half-convinced that our species had lost the power to reproduce. This loss of reproductive ability suggests a severe decline in the health and viability of the human population. The search for the last human birth has become a global obsession and competition, but the overall tone of the sentence suggests that these efforts are in vain, highlighting the severity of the environmental crisis and the potential for a catastrophic outcome, such as human extinction.

### **12/APO/3**

“There have been many diseases which have been difficult to diagnose or cure and one which almost depopulated two continents before it spent itself.”

Datum 12/APO/3 shows that the apocalypse narrative occurred when one disease (infertility) almost reduced the population on two continents before finally disappearing, although

it was not just one disease but many. This marks the end of time, at least the apocalypse for humans. Garrard (2012) state that tragic narratives of the End, on the other hand, are radically dualistic, deterministic and catastrophic, and have tended historically to issue in suicidal, homicidal or even genocidal frenzies.

### **13/APO/7**

“It was in that year, 2008, that the suicides increased.”

Describing suicide as a form of human apocalypse suggests it's a devastating event, like a personal catastrophe for those involved, emphasizing its profound impact on individuals and communities. Garrard's ecocriticism emphasizes the interconnectedness of humans and the environment. Suicides may be seen as a reflection of the deteriorating relationship between individuals and their surroundings, possibly influenced by ecological crises. Increased suicides may symbolize a cultural response to a perceived infertility crisis, illustrating the profound impact of ecological problems on the human psyche.

### **14/APO/7**

“Pleasure need not be less keen because there will be centuries of springs to come, their blossom unseen by human eyes, the walls will crumble, the trees die and rot, the gardens revert to weeds and grass, because all beauty will outlive the human intelligence which records, enjoys and celebrates it.”

Narrator's estimation considers this scenario a form of apocalypse following human extinction, because despite the enduring beauty of nature, it envisions a future where humans no



longer exist to appreciate and celebrate it. The idea is that without human presence, the ongoing beauty of the world goes unnoticed and uncelebrated, marking a significant loss. In ecocriticism, apocalyptic narratives often explore scenarios where human actions lead to catastrophic consequences, including the potential extinction of the human species.

#### **16/APO/46**

“There was a silence; then Jasper said: ‘You’ve heard of the Quietus, I suppose, the mass suicide of the old?’”

The mention of the Quietus, which is described as a “mass suicide of the old” suggests a catastrophic event that involves a large-scale self-inflicted loss of life. In ecocriticism, apocalyptic narratives often feature extreme events that reflect the consequences of environmental degradation and societal collapse. The Quietus can be interpreted as a response to an infertility crisis that has reached a point where individuals, particularly the elderly, choose mass suicide as a perceived solution. The introduction of the Quietus serves as a narrative device commonly found in apocalyptic literature. It creates a sense of urgency, highlights the severity of the environmental crisis. Other findings of apocalypse in *The Children of Men* can be found in data codes 10/APO/2, 15/APO/8, 17/APO/SHD/9, 18/APO/SHD/9, 19/APO/SHD/94, 20/APO/SHD/99, and 21/APO/DNA/3 in Appendix 2: Validation of the Data.

d. Dwelling

The concept of environmental degradation in the form of dwelling refers to the portrayal of human habitats, dwellings, and built environments in literature representations. It explores how narratives depict the impact of human activities and societal attitudes on the places where people live, emphasizing the interconnectedness between human dwelling spaces and the natural environment. Describing dwelling destruction, conversion, or abandonment as a form of environmental degradation underscores the impact of human activities on both built and natural environments. Here's an exploration of environmental degradation in the form of dwelling within Garrard's ecocriticism:

**22/DWL/DNA/20**

“But at heart I am touched only by the thought of Woolcombe; the imagined smell of its musty deserted rooms, the rotting panels in the library, the ivy creeping over its crumbling walls, a wilderness of grass and weeds obscuring the gravel, the tennis court, the formal garden; by the memory of that small back bedroom, unvisited and unchanged until the coverlet rots at last, the books turn to dust and the final picture drops from the wall.”

Datum 22/DWL/DNA/20 included in the environmental degradation type of dwelling as it vividly portrays the progressive decay of Woolcombe, encompassing both the interior and exterior spaces. Garrard (2012) notes that undisturbed nature inevitably sustains a balanced ecology (p. 145). In this case, humans transformed nature into dwellings for them to live in, which they then abandoned due to the extinction of their kind (humans). Their

dwellings have become unkempt wrecks of houses that should have been a place for living creatures that lived and grew before they built the dwellings.

**23/DWL/DNA/51**

“In places the boarding had been smashed and through the splinters and spears of jagged glass edging the window frames he could glimpse the remnants of peeling wallpaper, flowered patterns once chosen with anxious care but now in tattered fragments, frail transitory banners of departed life.”

The description of smashed boarding, jagged glass, and peeling wallpaper suggests a state of decay and neglect within the environment of these dwellings. This degradation can be interpreted as a reflection of broader environmental concerns, highlighting how human-made spaces can suffer and deteriorate over time, mirroring the impact of neglect and the passage of time on the environment. It is humans who change nature into dwellings where they live, and humans are also the ones who abandon it. This implies that humans take part in inhibiting natural growth by building dwelling which they ultimately abandon.

e. Animals

The concept of environmental degradation in animal form can be understood through the lens of literature and cultural representations. Garrard's ecocriticism explores the relationships between literature and environment, and it often interprets how nature is portrayed in various forms, including animals. Here's an

exploration of how environmental degradation in animal form might be represented in *The Children of Men*:

**24/ANM/34**

“Somehow a young deer from the Magdalen meadow had made its way into the chapel and was standing peaceably beside the altar as if this were its natural habitat.”

The mention of a young deer standing peacefully beside the altar in a chapel suggests a departure from its "natural habitat" in the Magdalene meadows. The fact that deer are wild animals in man-made structures such as chapels implies environmental disturbance or change, possibly caused by human activity. Garrard (2012) stated that for most modern readers, domestic animals are beloved, familiar and invisible, while the fascination and remoteness of wild animals is provoked and informed by wildlife documentaries and movies.

**25/ANM/99**

“The mass emigrations, the great internal tumults, the religious and tribal wars of the 1990s have given way to a universal anomie which leaves crops unsown and unharvested, animals neglected, starvation, civil war, the grabbing from the weak by the strong.”

Datum 25/ANM/99 describes “animals neglected” indicating a disregard for the well-being of wildlife and domesticated animals. This indicates environmental degradation in animal species where humans and animals should be able to live side by side and care for each other. Animals are part of ecosystems, and their neglect implies a disruption in the balance of nature. This can lead to adverse consequences for both the animals and the broader environment. Garrard's ecocriticism encourages readers to reflect on

the ethical responsibilities humans have toward non-human species and the role of compassion and empathy in fostering sustainable and harmonious relationships with the natural world.

f. Earth

Environmental degradation in terms of the earth involves analyzing literary representations that depict the deterioration, harm, or imbalance inflicted upon the natural environment. This framework explores how texts portray the earth's ecosystems, landscapes, and overall ecological well-being in response to human activities and societal attitudes. Here's an exploration of environmental degradation in terms of earth within the context of Garrard's ecocriticism:

**26/ERT/6**

“It seemed at the time a welcome development in a world grossly polluted by over-population.”

Overpopulation is seen as the beginning of Earth's degradation because too many people can lead to increased demand for resources, like food and water, which may result in deforestation, pollution, and damage to the environment. The idea is that as the population grows, it puts a lot of strain on the Earth, causing negative impacts on ecosystems and natural balance. Lovelock (2000, as cited in Garrard, 2012) portrays the rapidly growing human population as a serious planetary malady.

**27/ERT/53**

“On either side of the porch was a terra-cotta pot containing a single rose bush, the stems now denuded but still bearing a few starved winter-blighted buds.”

Datum 27/ERT/53 suggests a form of environmental degradation on the earth. The description of a single rose bush in a terra-cotta pot with denuded stems and a few starved, winter-blighted buds indicates that the plant has suffered from adverse environmental conditions. The denuded stems and winter-blighted buds suggest that the rose bush has been negatively affected by seasonal changes or harsh weather conditions, implying a disruption in the natural balance of the environment.

**28/ERT/59**

“Why should they? They live without hope on a dying planet.”

Datum 28/ERT/59 suggests environmental degradation on earth within the framework of Greg Garrard's theory of ecocriticism by conveying a sense of hopelessness and a perception of the planet as dying. In ecocriticism, the emotional and psychological responses to the environment are often examined alongside physical changes. The phrase “live without hope” indicates a negative outlook, possibly rooted in a recognition of environmental problems. The notion that the planet is “dying” implies a state of decline or degradation in the earth's health. Other findings of environmental degradation in the earth can be found in data codes 29/ERT/DNA/71, 30/ERT/99, and 31/ERT/DNA/8 in Appendix 2: Validation of the Data.

2. Relations between environmental degradation and human domination

The researcher present data findings related to the relations between environmental degradation and human domination dualism as seen in *The Children of Men* novel. This grouping of forms of domination is based on social ecology theory by Murray Bookchin.

Table 4.2 Dualism relations between environmental degradation and human domination found in *The Children of Men* novel

Number	Forms of domination		Total of Data
1	Cause	Social Hierarchy and Domination	32
		Dominating Nature	10
2	Effect	Social Hierarchy and Domination	15
		Dominating Nature	2
Total			59

a. Cause

Murray Bookchin's social ecology is based on the conviction that ecological problems originate from forms of domination (social problems), suggesting that these forms of domination are not only a cause but also an effect of environmental degradation. The following two forms of domination are the causes of ecological problems.

1) Social Hierarchy and Domination

Murray Bookchin's social ecology, the focus is on critiquing and challenging social hierarchies and systems of domination. Form of social hierarchy and domination refers to the unequal distribution of power and authority within human societies. The unequal distribution of power, wealth, and privilege inherent in

social hierarchies leads to societal conflict, exploitation, and environmental degradation. Bookchin advocates for a decentralized approach, envisioning a society organized around small-scale, directly democratic communities. In this vision, people actively participate in decision-making processes, preventing the concentration of power and promoting a more equitable distribution of resources. At the core of Bookchin's social ecology is an emphasis on ecological ethics, stressing the interconnectedness of human societies and the natural world. The following is data on the existence of social hierarchy and domination can cause ecological problems in *The Children of Men*.

**36/SHD/5**

“Some have become exclusive, keeping unwelcome members out, not by prohibition, which is illegal, but by those subtle, discriminating signals which in Britain even the least sensitive are trained from childhood to interpret.”

Datum 36/SHD/5 indicates a social hierarchy where some groups use subtle signals to exclude unwanted members, reflecting a form of domination and privilege. This behavior, ingrained from childhood in Britain, suggests a system that reinforces the control and exclusion of certain groups. Bookchin (2006) notes that social ecology is based on the conviction that nearly all of our present ecological problems originate in deep-seated social problems. If human domination over humans continues to be perpetuated, then those who have power or



privilege can do whatever they want whether it can have a negative impact on ecology or not, they do not think about it. This shows that social hierarchy and domination can cause ecological problems.

**44/SHD/47**

“He dismissed the idea. ‘I don’t think I want strangers here, particularly not Sojourners. I don’t trust those people. It’s asking to get murdered under my own roof. And most of them don’t know what a day’s work means. They’re better used mending the roads, cleaning the sewers and collecting the rubbish, jobs where they can be kept under supervision.’”

Datum 44/SHD/47 reflects social hierarchy and domination in Murray Bookchin's social ecology theory as the speaker expresses distrust and reluctance towards strangers, particularly Sojourners. By categorizing them as untrustworthy and suggesting specific tasks like mending roads and cleaning sewers for them, reinforces a division of labor and social roles that implies a hierarchy. The desire to keep these individuals under supervision further underscores a perceived need for control, indicating a power dynamic. This perspective contradicts social ecology principles, which advocate for a more equal and cooperative relationship between humans and their environment, highlighting how societal attitudes can perpetuate hierarchical structures. The assignment of specific roles to Sojourners reflects a form of social hierarchy and domination, and these dynamics can have implications for how the

community addresses ecological issues, potentially hindering a more inclusive and cooperative approach.

**45/SHD/52**

“The old were too weak for the work, the middle-aged, on whom the burden of maintaining the life of the State largely depended, were too busy, the young cared little for the preservation of the countryside.”

Datum 45/SHD/52 shows social hierarchy and domination by suggesting that different age groups have unequal roles and influence in society. This division of responsibilities based on age implies an unequal distribution of power and influence, contradicting the idea of a more equal and cooperative relationship between people and the environment in social ecology. This hierarchical structure can impact the way society addresses ecological problems, potentially hindering a holistic and collaborative approach that involves people of all ages in the preservation of the environment.

**46/SHD/54**

“It was not the face of a man at peace with himself or his world, but why should he be, missing by only a few years the distinction and privileges of being an Omega? His generation, like theirs, had been observed, studied, cosseted, indulged, preserved for that moment when they would be male adults and produce the hoped-for fertile sperm.”

The term Omega suggests a categorization or classification system, indicating a social hierarchy that places individuals into different groups. Those who meet certain criteria (in this case, becoming an Omega) are given distinct privileges, while others are excluded. Datum 46/SHD/54 illustrates how social

dynamics, including hierarchical structures and the domination of certain groups, can impact the way a society addresses ecological problems. When individuals are valued primarily for specific traits, such as fertility, rather than holistic contributions to the community and environment, it can lead to imbalances and limitations in addressing broader ecological challenges.

**48/SHD/58**

“They work for a pittance, they live in camps, the women separate from the men. We don’t even give them citizenship; it’s a form of legalized slavery.”

The use of the term “pittance” suggests extremely low wages, indicating economic exploitation. The separation of women from men and the denial of citizenship highlight social divisions and a lack of equal rights. Describing it as a “form of legalized slavery” emphasizes the extreme nature of the exploitation and domination, drawing parallels to historical practices of enslavement. Datum 48/SHD/58 exemplifies how social dynamics, including labor practices and citizenship policies, contribute to a hierarchical structure that can impact both social justice and ecological well-being. It reflects a situation where human domination of certain groups has tangible consequences for both the individuals involved and the environment they inhabit.

**50/SHD/65**

“They shouldn’t treat human beings like that. No matter what they’ve done, what they are, they shouldn’t treat people like that. We have to stop it.”

Datum 50/SHD/65 express a concern for the mistreatment of human beings, emphasizing the idea that individuals should not be treated in a dehumanizing manner, regardless of their actions or identity. This perspective aligns with the principles of Bookchin's social ecology, which advocates for social justice, equality, and the recognition of the inherent value of all individuals. Mistreatment of individuals can have social ramifications, and in turn, social issues can impact ecological problems. As Bookchin (2006) notes that social ecology is based on the conviction that nearly all of our present ecological problems originate in deep-seated social problems.

#### **52/SHD/89**

“He is impervious to public opinion. His creed is simple. There are things about which nothing can be done and to try to change them is a waste of time. There are things that ought to be changed and, the decision once made, the change should be put in hand without procrastination or clemency.”

Datum 52/SHD/89 suggests the existence of social hierarchy and of domination by describing an individual who is impervious to public opinion and adheres to a specific creed. The notion that he (Carl Inglebach, the Minister for Justice and State Security on the Council of England) is “impervious to public opinion” implies a lack of responsiveness to the collective views and concerns of the community. This can be indicative of a hierarchical structure where the decisions and actions of one person take precedence over the considerations and input of others, reflecting a form of dominance. As Bookchin (2006)

notes that social ecology is based on the conviction that nearly all of our present ecological problems originate in deep-seated social problems.

**53/SHD/90**

“Here once a year Parliament meets, the Members elected by the District and Regional Councils. No bills are debated, no legislation is enacted, Britain is governed by decree of the Council of England.”

The mention that Parliament meets only once a year and that its members are elected by the District and Regional Councils may initially seem democratic. However, the absence of debates, legislation enactment, and the governance of Britain by decree of the Council of England indicate a concentration of power in the hands of a select group, specifically the Council. The described political system in the datum appears to lean towards a more centralized and possibly authoritarian structure, which may be at odds with the principles of social ecology. This concentration of power could impact how ecological problems are addressed, potentially leading to policies that do not adequately consider the diverse ecological needs of different communities.

**54/SHD/90**

“The official function of Parliament is to discuss, advise, receive information and make recommendations. Each of the five members of the Council reports personally in what the media describe as the annual message to the nation. The session lasts only for a month and the agenda is set by the Council.”

The description of the Council setting the agenda suggests a potential for unilateral decision-making (domination of humans over humans). Decisions made without broad participation and representation can result in policies that may not effectively address ecological problems or consider the diverse ecological needs of different communities. The concentration of power in the Council and the limited function of Parliament may result in centralized decision-making on ecological matters. This can lead to policies and recommendations that do not sufficiently reflect the diverse needs and perspectives of local communities, hindering the effectiveness of ecological solutions.

#### **56/SHD/97**

“You were born in 1971, weren’t you? You must remember the 1990s, women afraid to walk the streets of their own cities, the rise in sexual and violent crime, old people self-imprisoned in their flats—some burned to death behind their bars—drunken hooligans ruining the peace of country towns, children as dangerous as their elders, no property safe if it wasn’t protected with expensive burglar alarms and grilles.”

The narration of women being afraid to walk the streets, a rise in sexual and violent crime, self-imprisoned old people, and incidents of harm like fires and vandalism indicates a breakdown in the social fabric. The portrayal of a society where individuals, particularly vulnerable groups like women and the elderly, feel threatened or confined reflects a form of domination or control that disrupts the sense of community and safety. This economic disparity and the need for personal security measures reflect a form of social hierarchy based on access to resources. A society

in disarray may prioritize immediate security concerns over long-term environmental considerations. The focus on personal safety may divert attention and resources away from addressing ecological problems, contributing to environmental neglect. These social conditions, influenced by elements of social hierarchy and domination, can cause environmental problems.

**59/SHD/136**

“It isn’t easy for anyone under sixty-five to get an exit permit; since Omega only the aged can travel as they will.”

Datum 59/SHD/136 suggests that access to the ability to travel freely is restricted, creating a barrier for individuals who are in the certain age. The restriction of exit permits based on age implies a hierarchical control where a particular age group. Authoritarian control over travel permits may result in environmental decisions that prioritize the interests of those in power over the broader ecological considerations. This can lead to unsustainable practices that can cause ecological problems.

**60/SHD/141**

“The announcer said that a group of them are planning to free all the convicts on the Isle of Man, that they might even organize an invasion from the island and try to depose the Warden.”

The act of planning to free convicts implies a challenge to the established legal and penal system, indicating a resistance against institutionalized forms of authority. In the context of social ecology, which promotes decentralization, autonomy, and the rejection of hierarchical systems, this sentence implies a

confrontation with the dominant power and authority on the island. The idea of freeing convicts and challenging the Warden suggests a resistance to the existing social hierarchy and a desire for a more egalitarian and decentralized social order, aligning with the principles of social ecology. Decisions driven by the need to suppress dissent may neglect sustainable practices, leading to environmental degradation.

#### **61/SHD/145**

“Nothing as crude as physical torture would be necessary. The State Security Police would have the necessary drugs and the knowledge and ruthlessness to use them.”

Datum 61/SHD/145 suggests that physical torture might not be employed directly; instead, the focus is on the use of drugs as a means of control. This implies a more sophisticated form of manipulation and domination, where those in power have access to substances that can be used to manipulate individuals mentally and emotionally. Concentrated power can result in decisions that prioritize control over ecological considerations. The dominance of power, combined with the use of drugs to control people can cause ecological problems.

#### **64/SHD/148**

“He said: ‘You’ve lasted this long because the Warden wanted you to last. He could have had you picked up months ago. He didn’t because you’re more useful to him at large than imprisoned. He doesn’t want martyrs. What he does want is the pretense of an internal threat to good public order. It helps buttress his authority. All tyrants have needed that from time to time.’”



Datum 64/SHD/148 revealing the manipulative tactics employed by Warden to maintain control. Warden allows certain individuals to remain at large because they serve his purpose of creating a perceived internal threat to public order. This strategy involves fabricating the existence of a supposed secret society with subversive intentions. Warden uses this narrative to manipulate public perception, instilling fear and justifying his authoritarian rule by positioning himself as a protector against an imagined threat. Warden's actions exploit the fear of chaos and disorder to reinforce his control, ultimately subverting the principles of a society built on grassroots democracy and decentralized decision-making. Existence of such structures and explore how this domination of humans over humans can contribute to ecological problems.

**65/SHD/149**

“Under an undemocratic government there can be no acceptable dissent any more than there can be moderate sedition.”

This lack of acceptable dissent implies a top-down control structure where those in authority dictate what is considered permissible discourse. The phrase “no acceptable dissent” suggests that any form of disagreement or criticism is not tolerated, reflecting a suppression of diverse opinions and a denial of the principles of freedom of expression and democratic participation. The absence of acceptable dissent may hinder open discussions about environmental issues. Without diverse

perspectives and criticism, there may be a lack of effective scrutiny of policies that impact the environment.

### **68/SHD/192**

“He thought that the technicians had been careless or that they’re just not bothering to test half the specimens they take. Luke was exempt from testing. He had mild epilepsy as a child. Like Julian, Luke was a reject.”

The exemption of individuals like Luke and Julian from testing implies a form of exclusion or marginalization. Exclusion and marginalization can extend to neglecting certain communities or groups in environmental decision-making. Inequitable testing practices may result in a lack of comprehensive environmental assessments. It is proven at the end of the novel that Julian is pregnant with Luke's child, due to exclusion (form of hierarchical structure and domination) in testing causing the authorities to miss out on data on people who are still fertile due to their own policies. This shows that the existence of a hierarchical structure and domination can cause environmental degradation. Other findings regarding the form of human domination over humans that can cause environmental degradation in the film *The Children of Men* can be seen in data codes 8/WLD/SHD/5, 18/APO/SHD/9, 19/APO/SHD/94, 20/APO/SHD/99, 47/SHD/58, 51/SHD/71, 55/SHD/97, 57/SHD/97, 58/SHD/127, 60/SHD/141, 63/SHD/147, 66/SHD/170, 67/SHD/188, 69/SHD/240, 70/SHD/244, 71/SHD/256, and 72/SHD/259 in Appendix 2: Data Validation.

## 2) Dominating Nature

Murray Bookchin's social ecology, the concept of “Dominating Nature” refers to the problematic human tendency to view and treat the natural world as an object to be dominated, exploited, and controlled for human ends. This mindset, where humans seek to dominate and control nature for their own ends, can contribute to ecological problems and environmental degradation. The following are several ways in which human domination over nature found in *The Children of Men*:

### **6/POL/DNA/227**

“It was then that they heard the metallic rattle of the helicopter. Half-imprisoned by the interlocking boughs they had little need for extra concealment but instinctively they moved from the path into the green tangle of the elder bushes and stood motionless, hardly breathing, as if every intake of breath could reach up to that glittering object of menace, to those watching eyes and listening ears. The noise grew to an ear-shattering clatter.”

The loud and disruptive noise created by the helicopter is not only a form of noise pollution but also symbolizes the imposition of human activities on the tranquility of the natural world. The phrase “metallic rattle of the helicopter” signifies the intrusion of a human-made, mechanical object into the natural environment. This indicates that human domination of nature, as illustrated by the loud sound of helicopters cause environmental degradation in the form of noise pollution. Bookchin (2006) notes that military would continue to demand ever more lethal instruments of death and devastation. Helicopter's intrusion and

characters' response, aligns with social ecology theory by illustrating a scenario where human activities, especially those driven by militarization, dominate and disrupt the natural environment.

**31/ERT/DNA/8**

“Now they have finally gone and the asphalt playgrounds have been grassed over or sown with flowers like small mass graves.”

Datum 31/ERT/DNA/8 illustrates the manifestation of human domination over nature in the form of transforming natural land into artificial spaces. The act of building asphalt playgrounds on natural land represents a human-centric approach to the environment, where the natural landscape is altered to suit human needs and desires. The decision to build asphalt playgrounds on natural land reflects an anthropocentric worldview, where human activities take precedence over the preservation of natural ecosystems. The abandonment of these asphalt playgrounds further highlights the transient and often unsustainable nature of human alterations to the environment. The fact that the asphalt playgrounds are eventually abandoned and left to be reclaimed by grass or flowers indicates a lack of long-term consideration for the environmental impact of such interventions.

**74/DNA/225**

“The car shot over the rim of the lake and hit the water with a splash that seemed to wake every bird in the forest.”

The act of got rid of car to the lake implies a certain level of disregard for the natural environment. It portrays car as a force that disrupts the habitat and peacefulness of the lake. This action reflects a form of human impact on nature that doesn't consider the ecological integrity of the surroundings. Disturbances in water bodies can harm aquatic life, disrupt habitats, and contribute to ecological problems. As Bookchin (2006) notes that social development by which they (human) grade out of their biological development often becomes more problematical for themselves and nonhuman life (p. 31). The act of pushing a car into a lake is a form of human egoism so as not to be caught by a dictator's pursuit without thinking about the effects that will arise in the lake ecosystem. Other findings regarding form of human domination over nature that can cause environmental degradation can be seen in data codes 2/POL/DNA/32, 3/POL/DNA/52, 4/POL/DNA/77, 5/POL/DNA/152, 7/POL/DNA/235, 22/DWL/DNA/20, and 23/DWL/DNA/51 in Appendix 2: Data Validation.

b. Effect

1) Social Hierarchy and Domination

The relations between human domination over humans and ecological problems is complex and interconnected. While social hierarchy and human domination can contribute to environmental degradation, they can also be seen as effects from

ecological problems. Ecological problems often disproportionately affect marginalized and vulnerable communities. Social hierarchies can exacerbate ecological injustices, as those with less socio-economic power bear the brunt of environmental degradation. This can lead to a cycle where the impacts of ecological problems further entrench existing social hierarchies. Environmental degradation can contribute to social unrest and conflicts, potentially leading to the rise of authoritarian regimes as a response to perceived threats. The following are data on the existence of social hierarchy and domination as an effect of environmental degradation in *The Children of Men*.

**73/SHD/8**

“The toys have been burnt, except for the dolls, which have become for some half-demented women a substitute for children.”

Burning of toys, excluding dolls, signifies a cultural or societal decision. Dolls become for some half-demented women a substitute for children, suggest a structured hierarchy where traditional family dynamics, such as reproduction and parenthood, are disrupted. This is the effect of environmental degradation in the form of an infertility crisis (apocalypse), which then causes humans to be unable to carry out their role as caregivers for their children. As Bookchin (2006) state that women formed their own food-gathering and care-taking groups with their own customs, belief systems, and values.

### **32/SHD/2**

“What possible interest can there be in the journal of Theodore Faron, Doctor of Philosophy, Fellow of Merton College in the University of Oxford, historian of the Victorian age, divorced, childless, solitary, whose only claim to notice is that he is cousin to Xan Lyppiatt, the dictator and Warden of England.”

The social behavioral changes depicted in this data involve assessing the potential vulnerability of the government. Consequently, after the occurrence and confirmation of humans are no longer fertile. Xan Lyppiatt takes control of England and names himself the Warden of England. Later this development acquired an oppressive hierarchical and then an exploitative class form (Bookchin, 2006). Environmental degradation in the form of human infertility has the effect of social hierarchy and domination, illustrated by the dictatorship of Xan Lyppiatt.

### **33/SHD/4**

“As the years passed and the united efforts under the aegis of the United Nations came to nothing, this resolve of complete openness fell apart.”

United Nations leads countries in seeking a collective solution to share resources, information, and solutions openly among nations to address human infertility. After yielding no results, countries began to distance themselves from the organization and the world. This leads to increased competition, hoarding of resources, and strengthening of social hierarchies. It can be seen that environmental degradation in the form of humans being infertile has an effect on social hierarchy and domination. Research is conducted in secrecy by each country,

and if there are any developments, they will not be shared with other nations. This indicates a social gap where, in matters of health (especially concerning the potential extinction of humans), there should be no secrecy, and knowledge should always be open to everyone.

**35/SHD/4**

“The spying still goes on but it is twenty-five years now since a human being was born and in our hearts few of us believe that the cry of a new-born child will ever be heard again on our planet.”

The use of spies implies a lack of openness in information (regarding human infertility crisis solution) between parties. This indicates the presence of social hierarchy and domination, where some parties are unaware, certain parties have knowledge, and there are also those with advantages who can infiltrate anywhere. This shows that environmental degradation in the form of human infertility has an effect on social hierarchy and domination.

**37/SHD/7**

“Xan, who had by then taken over as the Warden of England, tried to stop what was becoming an epidemic by imposing fines on the surviving nearest relations, just as the Council now pays handsome pensions to the relations of the incapacitated and dependent old who kill themselves.”

Datum 37/SHD/7 describes a situation where in the past if one of the family members committed suicide then the other surviving family members would bear the fine. The imposition of this fine might even be troublesome for the surviving family members. Datum shows social hierarchy and dominance as Xan,



the Warden of England, tries to control an epidemic by imposing fines on the surviving relatives. This reflects a system where those in power use penalties against vulnerable individuals, highlighting a sense of control and inequality in society. The existence of an epidemic (apocalypse) through suicide shows that environmental degradation has an effect on social hierarchy and domination.

### **39/SHD/8**

“It is said that when an Omega is caught he is offered immunity if he is prepared to join the State Security Police, whereas the rest of the gang, no more guilty, are sent on conviction to the Penal Colony on the Isle of Man, to which all those convicted of crimes of violence, burglary or repeated theft are now banished.”

Datum 39/SHD/8 affirms the existence of social hierarchy and domination by describing disparate treatment based on generational identity. The offer of immunity to an Omega who joins the State Security Police implies a form of privilege extended to individuals from that specific generation. This differential treatment, where one generation is given immunity while others face severe penalties, underscores a societal structure where certain age groups hold advantages over others, reinforcing the presence of social hierarchy and domination based on generational distinctions. Environmental degradation in the form of human extinction has the effect of social hierarchy and domination. This difference in treatment is based on giving

special treatment to Omegas in the hope that they will be a fertile generation and can give birth to children.

**43/SHD/32**

“At one time it wasn’t possible to walk down the High Street without being encumbered by their prams, by groups of admiring quasi-mothers.”

The mention of prams and groups of admiring quasi-mothers implies a societal norm or expectation related to motherhood and childcare. The use of the term "quasi-mothers" suggests a form of imitation or emulation rather than a genuine, traditional motherhood role. The social hierarchy and domination are evident in the implied societal expectations regarding gender roles and the idealized image of motherhood. The use of public spaces like the High Street as a setting reinforces the societal norms that dictate certain behaviors and appearances, contributing to the reinforcement of a hierarchical structure within the community. Although they are pushing baby strollers containing 'dolls', they feel that their lives become much more meaningful and alive. This happens because of the effects of environmental degradation in the form of humans no longer being fertile. They behave as if they were the mother of the doll in the prams. Other findings on how environmental degradation can effect human domination in *The Children of Men* can be seen in data codes 17/APO/SHD/9, 34/SHD/4, 38/SHD/8, 40/SHD/9, 41/SHD/9, 42/SHD/10, 49/SHD/60, and 62/SHD/146 in Appendix 2: Data Validation.

## 2) Dominating Nature

Environmental degradation often leads to the depletion of vital resources such as water, fertile soil, and biodiversity. As these resources become scarcer, those who control access to them gain significant power. Dominating nature, in this context, involves asserting control over essential resources. Environmental crises can prompt centralized decision-making to address urgent issues. Governments or powerful entities may assert control over nature through top-down approaches, potentially sidelining more decentralized and ecologically sensitive solutions. Environmental degradation weakens ecosystems, making them more vulnerable to human interventions. Dominating nature may involve exploiting these vulnerabilities, contributing to a cycle of degradation. The following are data on the existence of dominating nature as an effect of environmental degradation in *The Children of Men*.

### **1/POL/DNA/8**

“The toys have been burnt, except for the dolls, which have become for some half-demented women a substitute for children.”

Somewhere in *The Children of Men*, people started burning toys when this infertility disaster struck the whole world, and there was no hope of having children anymore. Burning of toys, excluding dolls, signifies a cultural or societal decision. Dolls become for some half-demented women a substitute for children, suggest a structured hierarchy where traditional family

dynamics, such as reproduction and parenthood, are disrupted. This is the effect of environmental degradation in the form of an infertility crisis (apocalypse), which then causes humans to be unable to carry out their role as caregivers for their children. As Bookchin (2006) state that women formed their own food-gathering and care-taking groups with their own customs, belief systems, and values. It is not only the infertility disaster that has an effect on the form of human domination over nature, but also the existence of viruses and germs has an effect on human domination even more significantly.

**21/APO/DNA/3**

“We have given names to the viruses and germs which, even today, take possession of us, much to our chagrin since it seems a personal affront that they should still assail us, like old enemies who keep up the skirmish and bring down the occasional victim when their victory is assured.”

Datum 21/APO/DNA/3 describes viruses and germs as assailants that “take possession of us” and continue to assail us “like old enemies”. It is implying a prolonged and persistent assault, creating a sense of ongoing vulnerability and conflict between humans and these microscopic entities. The phrase “when their victory is assured” suggests a grim inevitability, hinting at the idea that the viruses and germs will ultimately prevail. This sense of an assured victory contributes to the apocalyptic undertones, as it implies a scenario where the ongoing assault leads to widespread harm and potentially human extinction.

The expression “much to our chagrin” and “personal affront” suggests that humans feel a sense of displeasure and offense at being affected by viruses and germs. This shows that the existence of viruses and germs has the effect of human domination over nature. This emotional response indicates a perceived violation of human autonomy, reinforcing the idea that humans should be in control and not subject to the whims of nature. Sense of human agency and a belief in the capacity to overcome the challenges posed by viruses and germs, reinforcing the notion of human dominance over the natural world. Data on environmental degradation that can have an effect on human dominance have all been mentioned.

## **B. Discussions**

Discussion of this research delves into the nuanced exploration of environmental degradations depicted in the novel and establishes the intricate cause-effect relations between environmental degradations and human domination. The first research question seeks to unravel the various environmental degradations depicted in *The Children of Men* using Greg Garrard's theory of ecocriticism. Garrard's ecocriticism focuses on the intersection between literature and the environment, providing a framework for understanding the representations of nature, ecological issues, and the relations between humans and the environment in literary texts. Garrard identifies key concepts of ecocriticism, each offering a lens through which environmental degradation can be analyzed.

*The Children of Men* tells the story that humans experience a disaster when they are no longer fertile. Infertility itself is a form of environmental degradation in the form of apocalypse as in the key concept of ecocriticism by Greg Garrard. Based on the data found in the novel, the types of environmental degradation depicted are relatively less than forms of human domination. This happens because humans are no longer fertile, so the population continues to decline. So, there is less human interference with nature. This significant reduction in human population has an effect on nature starting to repair itself. It can be seen that buildings abandoned by humans have begun to deteriorate over time and become overgrown with grass.

Nature is starting to improve itself, but many forms of environmental degradation are still depicted in the novel. This shows that no matter how many people are still alive, if they are not equipped with knowledge that emphasizes sustainable living with nature, environmental degradation will continue to occur. This is depicted in the novel the form of environmental degradation in the form of the apocalypse, which is the most dominant data, namely 13 data. Then followed by environmental degradation which is described through pollution with 7 data, environmental degradation on earth with 6 data, environmental degradation in the form of dwellings and animals with the same amount 2 data, and environmental degradation in the wilderness with 1 data.

Through the data that has been presented, the form of environmental degradation in the wilderness is one data, the least data found. This can be

said to be because the human population is starting to decrease, so that human activities that have an impact on the destruction of wilderness are starting to decrease. Another possible reason is that the author deliberately did not describe the destruction of the wilderness too much so as not to distract the reader from the main theme of the story. Likewise, in the depiction of degradation in dwelling and animal forms. Environmental degradation in the form of pollution is described through human activities that cannot be separated from mobilization which requires vehicles that produce pollutants, as well as through burnt smoke or rubbish originating from humans. Degradation of the earth is described as having two causes, the first is due to human activities and the second is due to the way nature itself works.

The second research question delves into the intricate relations between environmental degradation and human domination as depicted in *The Children of Men* using Murray Bookchin's social ecology theory. Social ecology explores the interconnections between social structures, human behavior, and the environment. It emphasizes the importance of understanding the entire socio-ecological context rather than isolating environmental problems. Bookchin's social ecology views the relationship between humans and nature as a dialectical one, emphasizing the need for a harmonious and balanced coexistence. It critiques hierarchical and dominating relationships over nature, suggesting that such attitudes contribute to environmental degradation. As Bookchin (2006) notes that

social ecology is based on the conviction that nearly all of our present ecological problems originate in deep-seated social problems.

Murray Bookchin's perspective in social ecology suggests a reciprocal relationship between ecological problems and social problems. While he emphasizes that many ecological problems stem from social issues and forms of domination, it is also plausible to consider that ecological problems can, in turn, contribute to or exacerbate social problems and forms of domination. This can be seen in the data found in the novel *The Children of Men*, which shows that forms of environmental degradation can have an effect on the existence of 17 forms of domination. In detail, 15 data come from forms of social hierarchy and domination (human domination of humans), and 2 data comes from dominating nature (human domination of nature).

When the world in *The Children of Men* is faced with a human infertility crisis. Society began to experience massive anxiety, unavoidable riots occurred, people who were desperate and questioned what the meaning of life was if they could not have children chose to end their lives. During such conditions, Xan Lyppiatt appointed himself Warden of England in the last general election. After his reign, problems of domination and abuse of power continued to occur, which later, as Bookchin's said, showed that forms of domination could cause ecological problems or environmental degradation, and this is indeed reflected in the data in the novel *The Children of Men*. There are 42 forms of domination that cause environmental degradation. In details, 32 data from the form of social hierarchy and



domination (human domination of humans), and 10 data from the form of dominating nature (human domination of nature).

Through the data found in *The Children of Men* novel, it is evident that not only forms of domination can lead to environmental degradation, but also environmental degradation can have an impact on the emergence of forms of domination. It suggests that as forms of domination contribute to environmental degradation, the resultant environmental problems, in turn, impact the emergence and intensification of social problems. The relationship between ecological problems and social problems is dynamic and interconnected. This creates a feedback loop where the two realms continually influence each other.

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSIONS, IMPLICATIONS, SUGGESTIONS

#### A. Conclusions

The research delves into the dualism cause-effect relations between environmental degradation and human domination as portrayal in *The Children of Men*. The exploration, guided by Greg Garrard's ecocriticism and Murray Bookchin's social ecology, reveals the complex interplay between ecological issues, social structures, and human behavior. The novel portrays a world facing environmental degradation due to human infertility, a form of apocalypse as per Garrard's ecocritical framework. Despite a significant reduction in human population, various environmental degradations persist, highlighting the need for sustainable living practices.

The novel illustrates forms of environmental degradation, with the apocalypse being the most dominant, followed by pollution, degradation of the earth, and depictions of environmental degradation in dwellings, animals, and the wilderness. Notably, the diminishing human population correlates with a decrease in activities leading to the destruction of the wilderness, underscoring the intricate relationship between human presence and environmental impact.

Bookchin's social ecology theory adds depth to the analysis by emphasizing the reciprocal relationship between ecological problems and social issues. The research culminates in a profound realization that not only do forms of domination contribute to environmental degradation, but environmental degradation, in turn, impacts the emergence of social

problems. The relationship between ecological and social realms is dynamic, creating a feedback loop where the two continually influence each other. Ultimately, the research underscores the critical importance of addressing social structures and ecological issues in tandem. Achieving harmony and balance in the coexistence of humans and nature requires a comprehensive understanding of the dynamic interconnections between environmental degradation and forms of domination.

## **B. Implications**

The implications drawn from the in-depth exploration of environmental degradation and human domination in *The Children of Men* carry profound insights into the intricate cause-effect dynamics portrayed in the novel. The synthesis of Greg Garrard's ecocriticism and Murray Bookchin's social ecology theory unravels layers of complexity surrounding the relationships between ecological issues, social structures, and human behavior. The implications drawn from the research shed light on the urgency of addressing environmental degradation and human domination as intertwined challenges. The dynamic and interconnected nature of these issues calls for comprehensive strategies that integrate ecological sustainability with social resilience, fostering a harmonious coexistence between humans and the environment.

### C. Suggestions

The extensive exploration of environmental degradation and human domination in *The Children of Men* suggests avenues for further research and consideration. Interdisciplinary approaches, merging ecocriticism and social ecology with disciplines like sociology or anthropology, could offer a more comprehensive understanding. Comparative literary analysis with other dystopian novels would enrich insights into diverse portrayals of the interactions between environmental degradation and human domination. Therefore, this research can be used as a reference for students who are conducting research that has similar topics, objects or theories used.

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## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1: Validation Sheet

#### VALIDATION

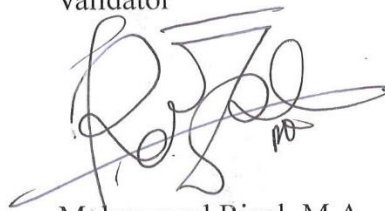
The thesis data titled “**DUALISM OF ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION AND HUMAN DOMINATION AS SEEN IN THE CHILDREN OF MEN NOVEL**” had been checked and validated by Muhammad Rizal, M.A. in:

Day : Monday

Date : 4 December 2023

Surakarta, 4 December 2023

Validator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rizal', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Muhammad Rizal, M.A



**Appendix 2: Validation of the Data**

Number	Code	Data	Page	Environmental Degradation	Forms of Domination	Explanation	Valid/Invalid
1.	1/POL/DNA/8	The toys have been burnt, except for the dolls, which have become for some half-demented women a substitute for children.	8	POL	DNA	Act of burning toys releases pollutants into the environment, contributing to air pollution and potentially causing harm to the ecosystem. As Garrard (2012) state that pollution is an ecological problem because it does not name a substance or class of substances, but rather represents an implicit normative claim that too much of something is present in the environment. Datum 1/POL/DNA/8 suggests human domination of nature through the act of burning toys, which leads to pollution. From a social ecology perspective, this represents a disregard for the well-being of the natural environment. This aligns with social ecology's criticism of anthropocentrism, which places human interests and desires above the well-being of the broader ecological system. This disregard for the environmental consequences demonstrates a lack of respect for the natural world and prioritizes human desires over ecological wellbeing. This prioritizing of human wants over the needs of the environment exemplifies the	Valid

					problematic aspects of consumerism and our tendency to exploit natural resources for fleeting gratification. Bookchin (2006) notes that human beings don't behave differently from animals or pose an inherent ecological problem. Instead, the social development that propels them beyond their biological origins often becomes problematic for both human and nonhuman life.		
2.	2/POL/ DNA/3 2	He seemed to remember that there had even been pseudo-births and that broken dolls were buried with ceremony in consecrated ground.	32	POL	DNA	<p>Act of burying broken dolls is a form of soil pollution. This means they are adding harmful things to the ground, which is not good for the environment. This kind of action is considered a form of environmental damage, specifically soil pollution.</p> <p>Datum also shows the dominating nature when broken dolls are buried with ceremony, it is done only to fulfill human desires. It indicates that seemingly innocuous human activities, like disposing of broken dolls cause embody larger issues of environmental degradation. This reflects a broader pattern where human actions, driven by a focus on immediate needs and a lack of ecological awareness, contribute to the deterioration of the natural world. Bookchin (2006) notes that human beings don't behave differently from animals or pose an inherent ecological problem. Instead, the social development that propels them beyond their biological origins often becomes problematic for both human and nonhuman life.</p>	valid

3.	3/POL/ DNA/5 2	The windows were curtained, there was a thin trail of smoke from the chimney and to the left of the path some attempt had been made to clear the earth of the knee-high grasses and to cultivate a vegetable garden.	52	POL	DNA	Datum shows air pollution in the form of a thin trail of smoke from the chimney. Smoke is a form of air pollution, exposure to smoke can worsen health conditions. As Garrard (2012) state that pollution is an ecological problem because it does not name a substance or class of substances, but rather represents an implicit normative claim that too much of something is present in the environment. The presence of smoke suggests the use of fire, likely for heating or cooking. The controlled emission of smoke from the chimney reflects human manipulation of natural elements for their own comfort and survival. It indicates the utilization of natural resources (wood, perhaps) to meet human needs. This act of human domination of nature causes air pollution.	valid
4.	4/POL/ DNA/7 7	They were raised on low stilts and he could see beneath the floors the detritus of long-forgotten holidays half-buried in the dirty sand: the gleam of silver paper, an old plastic bottle, the rotting canvas and splintered struts of a deck chair, and a child's broken spade.	77	POL	DNA	The portrayal of discarded items beneath the raised floors serves as a visual representation of pollution. Datum suggests the dominating of humans over nature by illustrating a scene where human-made detritus is present in the natural environment. The detritus mentioned represents a form of pollution and highlights the way in which human dominating nature activities can negatively impact the natural world.  Datum indicates a historical aspect of human presence in the area, suggesting that people have used the beach for recreational purposes. The fact that these remnants are half-buried in the sand suggests a disregard for the environment. Humans have left their waste behind without proper	valid

						disposal or consideration for the impact on the natural surroundings. The list of items, such as glitters of silver paper, old plastic bottles, rotted canvas, fragments of deck chair supports, and broken children's shovels, represents various forms of human-generated waste. These items are not only discarded but also contribute to environmental degradation. The things that have been mentioned show that humans dominate nature.	
5.	5/POL/ DNA/1 52	It had been a hot day in late June when Oxford had become a place to escape from, her hot pavements blocked with tourists, her air stinking with car fumes and loud with the clatter of alien tongues, her peaceful quads invaded.	152	POL	DNA	The mention of car fumes implies air pollution. Emissions from vehicles release pollutants into the air, contributing to environmental degradation by affecting air quality. This aligns with the ecocriticism perspective, which examines the interactions between literature and the environment, including how human actions affect nature. Datum portrays a scenario where human activities, particularly the use of cars and associated air pollution, dominate and negatively impact the natural environment. This aligns with the principles of Social Ecology, which call for a thoughtful and ecologically conscious approach to human interactions with nature to achieve a more sustainable and harmonious coexistence.	valid
6.	6/POL/ DNA/2 27	It was then that they heard the metallic rattle of the helicopter. Half-imprisoned by the interlocking boughs they had little need for extra concealment but instinctively they moved from the path into the green tangle of the elder bushes and stood motionless, hardly breathing, as if every	227	POL	DNA	Datum conveys a level of noise that is not only loud but also potentially harmful to the auditory well-being of individuals and possibly the local ecosystem. Garrard (2012) notes that the proliferation of types and sources of 'pollution' means that artificial light and noise may now be	valid

		intake of breath could reach up to that glittering object of menace, to those watching eyes and listening ears. The noise grew to an ear-shattering clatter.				considered pollutants. The loud and disruptive noise created by the helicopter is not only a form of noise pollution but also symbolizes the imposition of human activities on the tranquility of the natural world. The phrase "metallic rattle of the helicopter" signifies the intrusion of a human-made, mechanical object into the natural environment. This indicates that human domination of nature, as illustrated by the loud sound of helicopters cause environmental degradation in the form of noise pollution. Bookchin (2006) notes that military would continue to demand ever more lethal instruments of death and devastation. Helicopter's intrusion and characters' response, aligns with social ecology theory by illustrating a scenario where human activities, especially those driven by militarization, dominate and disrupt the natural environment.	
7.	7/POL/ DNA/2 35	But with the second the thin shavings burst into flame and the fire leapt like a celebration, filling the shed with the smell of wood smoke.	235	POL	DNA	The combustion of wood generates smoke, which often contains particulate matter and other pollutants. Emission of wood smoke can be considered a form of pollution. Ecocriticism often examines how human activities, even seemingly mundane ones like starting a fire, can have ecological implications. In this case, the focus is on the introduction of wood smoke into the environment, which can be seen as a form of pollution affecting air quality. The act of intentionally igniting a fire is a human intervention in the natural environment. It signifies the use of natural resources for a specific purpose,	valid

					in this case, generating heat or light. The metaphorical use of “like a celebration” suggests a human-centric view of the fire, framing it as a positive and joyful event. This anthropocentric perspective reinforces the idea of humans asserting control over the natural element for their own purposes. The burning of wood produces smoke, and the description of the shed being filled with the smell of wood smoke indicates the release of particulate matter into the air. Wood smoke can contribute to air pollution and have environmental consequences.		
8.	8/WLD/ SHD/5	If there had been no Omega, the conservationists would protest at the acres of countryside, some of it our most beautiful, which have been distorted and rearranged to provide ever more challenging courses.	5	WLD	SHD	Garrard (2012) notes the idea of wilderness, signifying nature in a state uncontaminated by civilization, is the most potent construction of nature available to New World environmentalism. Datum reveals a shift in land use, transitioning from countryside (representing wilderness) to golf courses. Shifting can result loss of native vegetation, disrupting ecosystems and reducing biodiversity. Maintenance of golf courses may involve the use of fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides, which can lead to water pollution and harm to local ecosystems. Furthermore, the phrase "If there had been no Omega" suggests the favoring of a particular group over others, leading to social inequality. Bookchin (2006) advocates for a more equitable and decentralized societal structure, where resources are collectively managed for the well-being of the entire community. This stands in contrast to a	valid

					scenario where a particular entity, like "Omega" in the text, could potentially monopolize or control resources, leading to social inequality and domination. The existence of Omega makes land use transitions cause wilderness to be degraded. This should have been protested by environmental activists, but because of the assumption that every Omega must be protected and free from all punishment, there was no protest.	
9.	9/APO/ 1	Early this morning, 1 January 2021, three minutes after midnight, the last human being to be born on earth was killed in a pub brawl in a suburb of Buenos Aires, aged twenty-five years, two months and twelve days.	1	APO	Narrator (who is also the main character, Theo Faron) tells that the last human being to be born on earth was killed, implying that there were two "apocalypse" events. First, humans have failed to reproduce, which will result in extinction and then the end of human life. Second, the murder incident itself. Tragic narratives of the End, on the other hand, are radically dualistic, deterministic and catastrophic, and have tended historically to issue in suicidal, homicidal or even genocidal frenzies (Garrard, 2012).	valid
10.	10/APO /2	All over the world nation states are preparing to store their testimony for the posterity which we can still occasionally convince ourselves may follow us, those creatures from another planet who may land on this green wilderness and ask what kind of sentient life once inhabited it.	2	APO	Narrator envisions the worst possibility, that is, humans no longer exist on the planet. This implies an apocalypse for humanity, as there is no longer any life of theirs on the face of the Earth. What remains are traces of their existence, and the imagination of a scenario where the Earth becomes greener, turning into wilderness.	valid
11.	11/APO /2	Twenty years ago, when the world was already half-convinced that our species had lost for ever the power to reproduce, the search to find the last	2	APO	Datum provided suggests environmental degradation and the possibility of an apocalyptic scenario through the lens of Greg Garrard's	valid

		known human birth became a universal obsession, elevated to a matter of national pride, an international contest as ultimately pointless as it was fierce and acrimonious.			ecocriticism theory. Datum mentions that the world was already half-convinced that our species had lost the power to reproduce. This loss of reproductive ability suggests a severe decline in the health and viability of the human population. The search for the last human birth has become a global obsession and competition, but the overall tone of the sentence suggests that these efforts are in vain, highlighting the severity of the environmental crisis and the potential for a catastrophic outcome, such as human extinction.	
12.	12/APO /3	There have been many diseases which have been difficult to diagnose or cure and one which almost depopulated two continents before it spent itself.	3	APO	Datum shows that the apocalypse narrative occurred when one disease (infertility) almost reduced the population on two continents before finally disappearing, although it was not just one disease but many. This marks the end of time (at least the apocalypse for humans). Garrard (2012) state that tragic narratives of the End, on the other hand, are radically dualistic, deterministic and catastrophic, and have tended historically to issue in suicidal, homicidal or even genocidal frenzies.	valid
13.	13/APO /7	It was in that year, 2008, that the suicides increased.	7	APO	Describing suicide as a form of human apocalypse suggests it's a devastating event, like a personal catastrophe for those involved, emphasizing its profound impact on individuals and communities. Garrard's ecocriticism emphasizes the interconnectedness of humans and the environment. Suicides may be seen as a reflection of the deteriorating relationship between individuals and their surroundings, possibly	valid



					influenced by ecological crises. Increased suicides may symbolize a cultural response to a perceived infertility crisis, illustrating the profound impact of ecological problems on the human psyche.	
14.	14/APO /7	Pleasure need not be less keen because there will be centuries of springs to come, their blossom unseen by human eyes, the walls will crumble, the trees die and rot, the gardens revert to weeds and grass, because all beauty will outlive the human intelligence which records, enjoys and celebrates it.	7	APO	Narrator's estimation considers this scenario a form of apocalypse following human extinction, because despite the enduring beauty of nature, it envisions a future where humans no longer exist to appreciate and celebrate it. The idea is that without human presence, the ongoing beauty of the world goes unnoticed and uncelebrated, marking a significant loss. In ecocriticism, apocalyptic narratives often explore scenarios where human actions lead to catastrophic consequences, including the potential extinction of the human species.	valid
15.	15/APO /8	The children's playgrounds in our parks have been dismantled.	8	APO	Narrator tells this because there are no more children being born; in other words, the human species is just waiting for its extinction.	valid
16.	16/APO /46	There was a silence; then Jasper said: "You've heard of the Quietus, I suppose, the mass suicide of the old?"	46	APO	The mention of the Quietus, which is described as a "mass suicide of the old," suggests a catastrophic event that involves a large-scale self-inflicted loss of life. In ecocriticism, apocalyptic narratives often feature extreme events that reflect the consequences of environmental degradation and societal collapse. The Quietus can be interpreted as a response to an infertility crisis that has reached a point where individuals, particularly the elderly, choose mass suicide as a perceived solution. The introduction of the Quietus serves as a narrative device commonly found in apocalyptic literature. It	valid

						creates a sense of urgency, highlights the severity of the environmental crisis, and explores the psychological and emotional toll of living in a world on the brink of collapse.	
17.	17/APO /SHD/9	In some countries, so we are told, they are ritually sacrificed in fertility rites resurrected after centuries of superficial civilization.	9	APO	SHD	Datum shows that humans were faced with apocalypse of their own species, leading them to revive fertility rites that involved ritual sacrifice. If humans (especially from a specific generation, Omega) continue to be sacrificed for rituals in fertility ceremonies, it can accelerates the scarcity of humanity itself. Datum also implies a power dynamic where those in charge reintroduce these rituals, symbolizing social hierarchy and domination, especially as it involves a specific generation (Omega) undergoing the sacrifice. This human sacrifice ritual was revived again due to the effects of environmental degradation in the form of humans becoming infertile.	valid
18.	18/APO /SHD/9	I occasionally wonder what we in Europe will do if news reaches us that these burnt offerings have been accepted by the ancient gods and a live child has been born.	9	APO	SHD	Datum suggests an potential human extinction or apocalypse, through the mention of "burnt offerings" being accepted by ancient gods. This means that humans will be sacrificed for certain rituals in the hope that humans will be fertile again and give birth to children. But what actually happens is the opposite, if these things continue to be perpetuated then the number of people will continue to decline. The mention of "burnt offerings" and the acceptance of these offerings by "ancient gods"	valid

					<p>indicates a belief system or religious framework. Such beliefs often play a significant role in shaping social structures, with certain individuals or groups asserting authority over others based on their interpretation or control of religious practices. Datum suggests a scenario where rituals and religious practices play a role in maintaining or reinforcing social hierarchies, with those controlling or interpreting these rituals exerting influence and domination over others. The speculative nature of the sentence reflects an awareness of the potential societal impact of such events and how they might contribute to or challenge existing power structures. Datum suggests a scenario where humans, driven by dominance and perhaps misguided beliefs, engage in activities that cause apocalypse (human extinction) to occur sooner than it should.</p>		
19.	19/APO /SHD/94	<p>Theo said: "I was at the Quietus at Southwold last Wednesday. What I saw was murder. Half of the suicides looked drugged and those who did know what was happening didn't all go willingly. I saw women dragged on to the boat and shackled. One was clubbed to death on the beach. Are we culling our oldpeople now like unwanted animals? Is this murderous parade what the Council means by security, comfort, pleasure? Is this death with dignity? I'm here because I thought you ought to know what's being done in the Council's name.</p>	94	APO	SHD	<p>The term "apocalypse" can be used metaphorically to describe catastrophic events that reflect a profound breakdown in the relationship between humanity and the environment. In this case, the forced and violent elimination of individuals, apparently justified by the Council for reasons of security, comfort, and pleasure, raises ethical questions and implies a severe degradation of human values and dignity. In the context of social ecology, which advocates for decentralized decision-making and a cooperative society, the described events represent a stark departure from the principles of equality,</p>	valid

						justice, and ecological harmony. The form of human domination over humans as narrated in the datum is the cause of human extinction (apocalypse) happening faster than it should.	
20.	20/APO /SHD/9 9	The mass emigrations, the great internal tumults, the religious and tribal wars of the 1990s have given way to a universal anomie which leaves crops unsown and unharvested, animals neglected, starvation, civil war, the grabbing from the weak by the strong.	99	APO	SHD	The consequences listed, such as "starvation, civil war, the grabbing of the weak by the strong," paint a picture of a dystopian, apocalyptic scenario. The mention above underscores power dynamics and social hierarchy. In a scenario where the strong take advantage of the weak, there is an imbalance of power and control, leading to social domination Datum shows the existence of social hierarchy and domination causing environmental degradation.	valid
21.	21/APO /DNA/3	We have given names to the viruses and germs which, even today, take possession of us, much to our chagrin since it seems a personal affront that they should still assail us, like old enemies who keep up the skirmish and bring down the occasional victim when their victory is assured.	3	APO	DNA	Datum describes viruses and germs as assailants that "take possession of us" and continue to assail us "like old enemies." It implies a prolonged and persistent assault, creating a sense of ongoing vulnerability and conflict between humans and these microscopic entities. The phrase "when their victory is assured" suggests a grim inevitability, hinting at the idea that the viruses and germs will ultimately prevail. This sense of an assured victory contributes to the apocalyptic undertones, as it implies a scenario where the ongoing assault leads to widespread harm and potentially human extinction.  The expression "much to our chagrin" and "personal affront" suggests that humans feel a sense of displeasure and offense at being affected by viruses and germs. This shows that the existence	valid

						of viruses and germs has the effect of human domination over nature. This emotional response indicates a perceived violation of human autonomy, reinforcing the idea that humans should be in control and not subject to the whims of nature. Sense of human agency and a belief in the capacity to overcome the challenges posed by viruses and germs, reinforcing the notion of human dominance over the natural world.	
22.	22/DW L/DNA/ 20	But at heart I am touched only by the thought of Woolcombe; the imagined smell of its musty deserted rooms, the rotting panels in the library, the ivy creeping over its crumbling walls, a wilderness of grass and weeds obscuring the gravel, the tennis court, the formal garden; by the memory of that small back bedroom, unvisited and unchanged until the coverlet rots at last, the books turn to dust and the final picture drops from the wall.	20	DWL	DNA	Datum included in the environmental degradation type of dwelling as it vividly portrays the progressive decay of Woolcombe, encompassing both the interior and exterior spaces. Garrard (2012) notes that undisturbed nature inevitably sustains a balanced ecology (p. 145). In this case, humans transformed nature into dwellings for them to live in, which they then abandoned due to the extinction of their kind (humans). Their dwellings have become unkempt wrecks of houses that should have been a place for living creatures that lived and grew before they built the dwellings. Datum also indicates human actions dominating nature. It is humans who construct buildings for their purposes, and it is also humans who leave them neglected due to the extinction of their kind. The form of human domination over nature by building dwellings and then leaving it causes environmental degradation. The imagery of a wilderness of grass and weeds obscuring the man-made elements like the gravel, tennis court, and formal garden reflects a return to a more natural	valid

						state, indicating a form of ecological reclamation.	
23.	23/DW L/DNA/ 51	In places the boarding had been smashed and through the splinters and spears of jagged glass edging the window frames he could glimpse the remnants of peeling wallpaper, flowered patterns once chosen with anxious care but now in tattered fragments, frail transitory banners of departed life.	51	DWL	DNA	The description of smashed boarding, jagged glass, and peeling wallpaper suggests a state of decay and neglect within the environment of these dwellings. This degradation can be interpreted as a reflection of broader environmental concerns, highlighting how human-made spaces can suffer and deteriorate over time, mirroring the impact of neglect and the passage of time on the environment. It is humans who change nature into dwellings where they live, and humans are also the ones who abandon it. This implies that humans take part in inhibiting natural growth by building dwelling which they ultimately abandon. Datum shows a form of human domination of nature causing degradation and neglect of the environment. The current state of disrepair and neglect signifies a disregard for the natural materials and resources used in constructing the dwelling. Datum portrays a form of human impact on the environment, suggesting that the built environment is not being treated in a sustainable or ecologically responsible manner.	valid
24.	24/AN M/34	Somehow a young deer from the Magdalen meadow had made its way into the chapel and was standing peaceably beside the altar as if this were its natural habitat.	34	ANM		The mention of a young deer standing peacefully beside the altar in a chapel suggests a departure from its "natural habitat" in the Magdalene meadows. The fact that deer are wild animals in man-made structures such as chapels implies environmental disturbance or change, possibly caused by human activity. Garrard (2012) stated	valid

					that for most modern readers, domestic animals are beloved, familiar and invisible, while the fascination and remoteness of wild animals is provoked and informed by wildlife documentaries and movies.	
25.	25/AN M/99	The mass emigrations, the great internal tumults, the religious and tribal wars of the 1990s have given way to a universal anomie which leaves crops unsown and unharvested, animals neglected, starvation, civil war, the grabbing from the weak by the strong.	99	ANM	Datum describes "animals neglected," indicating a disregard for the well-being of wildlife and domesticated animals. This indicates environmental degradation in animal species due to neglect, where humans and animals should be able to live side by side and care for each other. Animals are part of ecosystems, and their neglect implies a disruption in the balance of nature. This can lead to adverse consequences for both the animals and the broader environment. Garrard's ecocriticism encourage readers to reflect on the ethical responsibilities humans have toward non-human species and the role of compassion and empathy in fostering sustainable and harmonious relationships with the natural world.	valid
26.	26/ERT /6	It seemed at the time a welcome development in a world grossly polluted by over-population.	6	ERT	Overpopulation is seen as the beginning of Earth's degradation because too many people can lead to increased demand for resources, like food and water, which may result in deforestation, pollution, and damage to the environment. The idea is that as the population grows, it puts a lot of strain on the Earth, causing negative impacts on ecosystems and natural balance. Lovelock (2000, as cited in Garrard, 2012) portrays the rapidly growing human population as a 'serious planetary malady.	valid

27.	27/ERT /53	On either side of the porch was a terra-cotta pot containing a single rose bush, the stems now denuded but still bearing a few starved winter-blighted buds.	53	ERT	Datum 27/ERT/53 suggests a form of environmental degradation on the earth. The description of a single rose bush in a terra-cotta pot with denuded stems and a few starved, winter-blighted buds indicates that the plant has suffered from adverse environmental conditions. The denuded stems and winter-blighted buds suggest that the rose bush has been negatively affected by seasonal changes or harsh weather conditions, implying a disruption in the natural balance of the environment.	valid
28.	28/ERT /59	“Why should they? They live without hope on a dying planet.	59	ERT	Datum suggests environmental degradation on Earth within the framework of Greg Garrard's theory of ecocriticism by conveying a sense of hopelessness and a perception of the planet as dying. In ecocriticism, the emotional and psychological responses to the environment are often examined alongside physical changes. The phrase “live without hope” indicates a negative outlook, possibly rooted in a recognition of environmental problems. The notion that the planet is “dying” implies a state of decline or degradation in the Earth's ecological health	v
29.	29/ERT /DNA/7 1	The Suffolk countryside, crimped and barren under the winter sky, looked unchanged, but the road itself had deteriorated, making the drive as bumpy and hazardous as a cross-country rally.	71	ERT	Datum suggests environmental degradation on earth by describing the deterioration of the road. While the Suffolk countryside appears seemingly unchanged, the focus on the degraded condition of the road implies a human impact on the environment. The terms "crimped and barren" describe the natural landscape, suggesting a	valid



					potentially altered or damaged environment. However, the emphasis on the deteriorated road makes a more explicit connection to environmental degradation. The sentence reflects how human activities, such as the construction and maintenance of roads, can contribute to the degradation of the environment.		
30.	30/ERT /99	The mass emigrations, the great internal tumults, the religious and tribal wars of the 1990s have given way to a universal anomie which leaves crops unsown and unharvested, animals neglected, starvation, civil war, the grabbing from the weak by the strong.	99	ERT		The mention of "crops unsown and unharvested" points to agricultural neglect, indicating a failure to cultivate and manage the land effectively. This neglect contributes to environmental degradation in terms of earth.	valid
31.	31/ERT /DNA/8	Now they have finally gone and the asphalt playgrounds have been grassed over or sown with flowers like small mass graves.	8	ERT	DNA	The act of replacing natural elements with artificial surface signifies human influence and control over the environment, indicating a deliberate decision to alter the landscape in accordance with human preferences. Land that should be a place for biodiversity to grow and develop has been turned into a playground by humans. Datum illustrates the manifestation of human domination over nature in the form of transforming natural land into artificial spaces. The act of building asphalt playgrounds on natural land represents a human-centric approach to the environment, where the natural landscape is altered to suit human needs and desires. The decision to build asphalt playgrounds on natural land reflects an anthropocentric worldview, where human activities take precedence over the preservation of	valid

					natural ecosystems. The abandonment of these asphalt playgrounds further highlights the transient and often unsustainable nature of human alterations to the environment. The fact that the asphalt playgrounds are eventually abandoned and left to be reclaimed by grass or flowers indicates a lack of long-term consideration for the environmental impact of such interventions.	
32.	32/SHD /2	What possible interest can there be in the journal of Theodore Faron, Doctor of Philosophy, Fellow of Merton College in the University of Oxford, historian of the Victorian age, divorced, childless, solitary, whose only claim to notice is that he is cousin to Xan Lyppiatt, the dictator and Warden of England.	2		SHD The social behavioral changes depicted in this data involve assessing the potential vulnerability of the government. Consequently, after the occurrence and confirmation of humans are no longer fertile. Xan Lyppiatt takes control of England and names himself the Warden of England. Later this development acquired an oppressive hierarchical and then an exploitative class form (Bookchin, 2006). Environmental degradation in the form of human infertility has the effect of social hierarchy and domination, illustrated by the dictatorship of Xan Lyppiatt.	v
33.	33/SHD /4	As the years passed and the united efforts under the aegis of the United Nations came to nothing, this resolve of complete openness fell apart.	4		SHD United Nations leads countries in seeking a collective solution to share resources, information, and solutions openly among nations to address human infertility. After yielding no results, countries began to distance themselves from the organization and the world. This leads to increased competition, hoarding of resources, and strengthening of social hierarchies. It can be seen that environmental degradation in the form of humans being infertile has an effect on social	v

					hierarchy and domination. Research is conducted in secrecy by each country, and if there are any developments, they will not be shared with other nations. This indicates a social gap where, in matters of health (especially concerning the potential extinction of humans), there should be no secrecy, and knowledge should always be open to everyone.	
34.	34/SHD /4	But there was no inter-race co-operation; the prize was too great. The terms on which the secret might be shared were a cause of passionate speculation and debate. It was accepted that the cure, once found, would have to be shared; this was scientific knowledge which no race ought to, or could, keep to itself indefinitely.	4		SHD Research on the causes, solutions, or remedies for human infertility should not be confined to a single race. If that were to happen, it would lead to social disparities and the emergence of a social hierarchy and domination, causing other races to be marginalized. This is depicted in datum 34/SHD/4, meaning that environmental degradation in the form of human infertility has an effect on social hierarchy and domination.	v
35.	35/SHD /4	The spying still goes on but it is twenty-five years now since a human being was born and in our hearts few of us believe that the cry of a new-born child will ever be heard again on our planet.	4		SHD The use of spies implies a lack of openness in information (regarding human infertility crisis solution) between parties. This indicates the presence of social hierarchy and domination, where some parties are unaware, certain parties have knowledge, and there are also those with advantages who can infiltrate anywhere. This shows that environmental degradation in the form of human infertility has an effect on social hierarchy and domination.	v
36.	36/SHD /5	Some have become exclusive, keeping unwelcome members out, not by prohibition, which is illegal, but by those subtle,	5		SHD Datum indicates a social hierarchy where some groups use subtle signals to exclude unwanted members, reflecting a form of domination and	v

		discriminating signals which in Britain even the least sensitive are trained from childhood to interpret.			privilege. This behavior, ingrained from childhood in Britain, suggests a system that reinforces the control and exclusion of certain groups. Bookchin (2006) notes that social ecology is based on the conviction that nearly all of our present ecological problems originate in deep-seated social problems. If human domination over humans continues to be perpetuated, then those who have power or privilege can do whatever they want whether it can have a negative impact on ecology or not, they don't think about it. This shows that social hierarchy and domination can cause ecological problems.	
37.	37/SHD /7	Xan, who had by then taken over as the Warden of England, tried to stop what was becoming an epidemic by imposing fines on the surviving nearest relations, just as the Council now pays handsome pensions to the relations of the incapacitated and dependent old who kill themselves.	7		SHD Datum describes a situation where in the past if one of the family members committed suicide then the other surviving family members would bear the fine. The imposition of this fine might even be troublesome for the surviving family members. Datum shows social hierarchy and dominance as Xan, the Warden of England, tries to control an epidemic by imposing fines on the surviving relatives. This reflects a system where those in power use penalties against vulnerable individuals, highlighting a sense of control and inequality in society. The existence of an epidemic (apocalypse) through suicide shows that environmental degradation has an effect on social hierarchy and domination.	v
38.	38/SHD /8	The dreaded gangs of the Painted Faces who drive round the countryside at night to ambush and	8		SHD The fact that these gangs engage in activities like ambushing and terrorizing travelers indicates a	v

		terrorize unwary travellers are rumoured to be Omegas.			form of dominance and control over others, reinforcing a social hierarchy where certain groups assert power and influence, potentially causing fear and submission among those they target. Datum implies an unequal distribution of power and suggests that these gangs, identified as Omegas, exert dominance through intimidating actions. Environmental degradation in the form of infertile humans has the effect of social hierarchy and domination as depicted by the Painted Faces (Omega). This stems from the fact that Omegas are the last generation to be born, and they are considered to have the hope of fertility, even if they do not, they are a sign of the existence of a species called humans.	
39.	39/SHD /8	It is said that when an Omega is caught he is offered immunity if he is prepared to join the State Security Police, whereas the rest of the gang, no more guilty, are sent on conviction to the Penal Colony on the Isle of Man, to which all those convicted of crimes of violence, burglary or repeated theft are now banished.	8	SHD	Datum affirms the existence of social hierarchy and domination by describing disparate treatment based on generational identity. The offer of immunity to an Omega who joins the State Security Police implies a form of privilege extended to individuals from that specific generation. This differential treatment, where one generation is given immunity while others face severe penalties, underscores a societal structure where certain age groups hold advantages over others, reinforcing the presence of social hierarchy and domination based on generational distinctions. Environmental degradation in the form of human extinction has the effect of social hierarchy and domination. This difference in treatment is based on giving special treatment to Omegas in the hope that they will be a	v

						fertile generation and can give birth to children.	
40.	40/SHD /9	Men and women, the Omegas are a race apart, indulged, propitiated, feared, regarded with a half-superstitious awe.	9		SHD	Datum suggests that the Omegas, men and women, are seen as a special and powerful group. They receive special treatment, are feared, and viewed with awe, indicating a system where the Omegas dominate and hold a higher position in society. Human infertility (Apocalypse) has the effect of Omega domination over other communities.	v
41.	41/SHD /9	As I passed, the females turned on me their blank, incurious gaze, which nevertheless signalled an unmistakable flicker of contempt.	9		SHD	Datum shows that as the narator (Theo Faron) passed by, the females (Omegas) looked at him with a disinterested and blank expression, but there was a clear hint of contempt in their gaze. This shows that the environmental degradation described by infertile humans has an effect on females (Omegas) hold a higher status or dominance in the social hierarchy, displaying a dismissive attitude towards the narator (Theo Faron).	v
42.	42/SHD /10	The males briefly scowled, then averted their eyes as if from an object unworthy of further notice and gazed again over the quad.	10		SHD	Datum shows that the Omega males briefly scowled at the narator (Theo Faron) and then looked away, treating the speaker as if not worth paying more attention to. This suggests that the Omegas have a higher status or dominance, indicating a social hierarchy where they have control in the situation. Datum shows that environmental degradation in the form of infertile humans has an effect on social hierarchy and domination.	v
43.	43/SHD	At one time it wasn't possible to walk down the	32		SHD	The mention of prams and groups of admiring	v

	/32	High Street without being encumbered by their prams, by groups of admiring quasi-mothers.			quasi-mothers implies a societal norm or expectation related to motherhood and childcare. The use of the term "quasi-mothers" suggests a form of imitation or emulation rather than a genuine, traditional motherhood role. The social hierarchy and domination are evident in the implied societal expectations regarding gender roles and the idealized image of motherhood. The use of public spaces like the High Street as a setting reinforces the societal norms that dictate certain behaviors and appearances, contributing to the reinforcement of a hierarchical structure within the community. Although they are pushing baby strollers containing 'dolls', they feel that their lives become much more meaningful and alive. This happens because of the effects of environmental degradation in the form of humans no longer being fertile. They behave as if they were the mother of the doll in the prams.	
44.	44/SHD /47	He dismissed the idea. "I don't think I want strangers here, particularly not Sojourners. I don't trust those people. It's asking to get murdered under my own roof. And most of them don't know what a day's work means. They're better used mending the roads, cleaning the sewers and collecting the rubbish, jobs where they can be kept under supervision."	47	SHD	Datum reflects social hierarchy and potential domination in Murray Bookchin's social ecology theory as the speaker expresses distrust and reluctance towards strangers, particularly Sojourners. By categorizing them as untrustworthy and suggesting specific tasks like mending roads and cleaning sewers for them, reinforces a division of labor and social roles that implies a hierarchy. The desire to keep these individuals under supervision further underscores a perceived need for control, indicating a power dynamic. This perspective contradicts social ecology principles,	v

					which advocate for a more equal and cooperative relationship between humans and their environment, highlighting how societal attitudes can perpetuate hierarchical structures. The assignment of specific roles to Sojourners reflects a form of social hierarchy and domination, and these dynamics can have implications for how the community addresses ecological issues, potentially hindering a more inclusive and cooperative approach.	
45.	45/SHD /52	The old were too weak for the work, the middle-aged, on whom the burden of maintaining the life of the State largely depended, were too busy, the young cared little for the preservation of the countryside.	52		SHD Datum shows social hierarchy and domination by suggesting that different age groups have unequal roles and influence in society. This division of responsibilities based on age implies an unequal distribution of power and influence, contradicting the idea of a more equal and cooperative relationship between people and the environment in social ecology. This hierarchical structure can impact the way society addresses ecological problems, potentially hindering a holistic and collaborative approach that involves people of all ages in the preservation of the environment.	v
46.	46/SHD /54	It was not the face of a man at peace with himself or his world, but why should he be, missing by only a few years the distinction and privileges of being an Omega? His generation, like theirs, had been observed, studied, cosseted, indulged, preserved for that moment when they would be male adults and produce the hoped-for fertile sperm.	54		SHD The term "Omega" suggests a categorization or classification system, indicating a social hierarchy that places individuals into different groups. Those who meet certain criteria (in this case, becoming an Omega) are given distinct privileges, while others are excluded. Datum illustrates how social dynamics, including hierarchical structures and the domination of certain groups, can impact the way	v



					a society addresses ecological problems. When individuals are valued primarily for specific traits, such as fertility, rather than holistic contributions to the community and environment, it can lead to imbalances and limitations in addressing broader ecological challenges.	
47.	47/SHD /58	We import Omegas and others from less affluent countries to do our dirty work, clean the sewers, clear away the rubbish, look after the incontinent, the aged.”	58		SHD The act of importing labor implies a power dynamic, where those in more affluent countries exercise control over the labor force of less affluent nations. The use of the term "dirty work" suggests tasks that are considered undesirable or low in social status. Importing labor for specific tasks, especially those considered undesirable, can be seen as an exploitative practice. It reflects a hierarchical structure where certain groups are assigned menial or low-status jobs, perpetuating social inequality. If certain groups are systematically assigned roles that involve environmental impact, it may contribute to ecological problems, as sustainability considerations may be neglected.	v
48.	48/SHD /58	They work for a pittance, they live in camps, the women separate from the men. We don't even give them citizenship; it's a form of legalized slavery.”	58		SHD The use of the term "pittance" suggests extremely low wages, indicating economic exploitation. The separation of women from men and the denial of citizenship highlight social divisions and a lack of equal rights. Describing it as a "form of legalized slavery" emphasizes the extreme nature of the exploitation and domination, drawing parallels to historical practices of enslavement. Datum exemplifies how social dynamics, including labor	v

					practices and citizenship policies, contribute to a hierarchical structure that can impact both social justice and ecological well-being. It reflects a situation where human domination of certain groups has tangible consequences for both the individuals involved and the environment they inhabit.	
49.	49/SHD /60	The Warden is a dictator masquerading as a democratic leader.	60		SHD In social ecology, which advocates for a more egalitarian and cooperative society, the term "dictator" implies a concentration of power in the hands of one individual, typically to the detriment of democratic principles. This situation reflects a form of domination where a leader, instead of fostering equality and cooperation, holds power in a manner inconsistent with democratic ideals. The domination of the dictator who appoints himself Warden of England stems from the ecological problem that humans can no longer be fertile.	v
50.	50/SHD /65	“They shouldn’t treat human beings like that. No matter what they’ve done, what they are, they shouldn’t treat people like that. We have to stop it.”	65		SHD Datum express a concern for the mistreatment of human beings, emphasizing the idea that individuals should not be treated in a dehumanizing manner, regardless of their actions or identity. This perspective aligns with the principles of Bookchin's social ecology, which advocates for social justice, equality, and the recognition of the inherent value of all individuals. Mistreatment of individuals can have social ramifications, and in turn, social issues can impact ecological problems. As Bookchin (2006) notes that social ecology is based on the conviction that nearly all of our	v

					present ecological problems originate in deep-seated social problems.	
51.	51/SHD /71	But when he reached the outskirts of Reydon he saw small gangs of Sojourners with their overseers, obviously preparing to make a start on repairing the surface.	71		SHD In social ecology, which advocates for a more equitable and cooperative society, the mention of overseers implies a hierarchical structure where certain individuals or groups are tasked with directing and supervising the labor of others. The sentence reflects the potential exploitation and control of certain groups by others, emphasizing the need to consider and challenge social hierarchies to achieve a more just and cooperative society. As Bookchin (2006) notes that social ecology is based on the conviction that nearly all of our present ecological problems originate in deep-seated social problems.	v
52.	52/SHD /89	He is impervious to public opinion. His creed is simple. There are things about which nothing can be done and to try to change them is a waste of time. There are things that ought to be changed and, the decision once made, the change should be put in hand without procrastination or clemency.	89		SHD Datum suggests the existence of social hierarchy and of domination by describing an individual who is impervious to public opinion and adheres to a specific creed. The notion that he (Carl Inglebach, the Minister for Justice and State Security on the Council of England) is "impervious to public opinion" implies a lack of responsiveness to the collective views and concerns of the community. This can be indicative of a hierarchical structure where the decisions and actions of one person take precedence over the considerations and input of others, reflecting a form of dominance. As Bookchin (2006) notes that social ecology is based on the conviction that nearly all of our present ecological problems originate in deep-seated social	v

					problems.		
53.	53/SHD /90	Here once a year Parliament meets, the Members elected by the District and Regional Councils. No bills are debated, no legislation is enacted, Britain is governed by decree of the Council of England.	90		SHD	The mention that Parliament meets only once a year and that its members are elected by the District and Regional Councils may initially seem democratic. However, the absence of debates, legislation enactment, and the governance of Britain by decree of the Council of England indicate a concentration of power in the hands of a select group, specifically the Council. The described political system in the datum appears to lean towards a more centralized and possibly authoritarian structure, which may be at odds with the principles of social ecology. This concentration of power could impact how ecological problems are addressed, potentially leading to policies that do not adequately consider the diverse ecological needs of different communities.	v
54.	54/SHD /90	The official function of Parliament is to discuss, advise, receive information and make recommendations. Each of the five members of the Council reports personally in what the media describe as the annual message to the nation. The session lasts only for a month and the agenda is set by the Council.	90		SHD	The description of the Council setting the agenda suggests a potential for unilateral decision-making (domination of humans over humans). Decisions made without broad participation and representation can result in policies that may not effectively address ecological problems or consider the diverse ecological needs of different communities. The concentration of power in the Council and the limited function of Parliament may result in centralized decision-making on ecological matters. This can lead to policies and recommendations that do not sufficiently reflect the diverse needs and perspectives of local	v

					communities, hindering the effectiveness of ecological solutions.	
55.	55/SHD /97	If people choose to assault, rob, terrify, abuse and exploit others, let them live with people of the same mind. If that's the kind of society they want, then give it to them. If there is any virtue in them, then they'll organize themselves sensibly and live at peace with each other. If not, their society will degenerate into the chaos they're so ready to impose on others. The choice is entirely theirs."	97		SHD Datum suggests that some individuals may engage in harmful behavior such as assault, robbery, terror, and exploitation. This implies the existence of a social structure where individuals exert power and control over others through aggressive or harmful actions. As Bookchin (2006) notes that social ecology is based on the conviction that nearly all of our present ecological problems originate in deep-seated social problems. The proposed response to those engaging in harmful behavior is to let them live with others who share similar inclinations. This approach implies a form of justice based on outcomes, allowing those who cause harm to experience the consequences of their actions within their own community.	v
56.	56/SHD /97	You were born in 1971, weren't you? You must remember the 1990s, women afraid to walk the streets of their own cities, the rise in sexual and violent crime, old people self-imprisoned in their flats—some burned to death behind their bars—drunken hooligans ruining the peace of country towns, children as dangerous as their elders, no property safe if it wasn't protected with expensive burglar alarms and grilles.	97		SHD The description of women being afraid to walk the streets, a rise in sexual and violent crime, self-imprisoned old people, and incidents of harm like fires and vandalism indicates a breakdown in the social fabric. The portrayal of a society where individuals, particularly vulnerable groups like women and the elderly, feel threatened or confined reflects a form of domination or control that disrupts the sense of community and safety. This economic disparity and the need for personal security measures reflect a form of social hierarchy based on access to resources. A society in disarray may prioritize immediate security concerns over	v

					long-term environmental considerations. The focus on personal safety may divert attention and resources away from addressing ecological problems, contributing to environmental neglect. These social conditions, influenced by elements of social hierarchy and domination, can cause environmental problems.	
57.	57/SHD /97	Theo said: “There’s disquiet about the treatment of Sojourners. We import them as helots and treat them as slaves. And why the quota? If they want to come, let them in. If they want to leave, let them go.”	97		SHD There are concerns about how temporary or migrant workers (Sojourners) are treated. Theo thinks there is a problem with how they are treated like lower-class workers, almost like slaves, and questions why there are restrictions (quota) on their movement. This points to a situation where these workers may not have the same rights or freedom as others, indicating a form of control and dominance by those in power. If a society engages in the mistreatment or exploitation of certain groups, it can lead to environmental problems.	v
58.	58/SHD /127	The last batch of Sojourners, the sixty-year-olds and some who had fallen sick, had to be forcibly repatriated.	127		SHD Datum implies the use of coercion or force to relocate a specific group of individuals, in this case, the sixty-year-olds and those who had fallen sick. The use of force to compel a particular group to relocate implies a power dynamic where one group or authority has the ability to dictate the actions of another. This exercise of power through force points to a hierarchical structure where decisions are imposed top-down, potentially reflecting a lack of consideration for the autonomy and well-being of the individuals involved. As Bookchin (2006) notes that social ecology is based	v

						on the conviction that nearly all of our present ecological problems originate in deep-seated social problems.	
59.	59/SHD /136	It isn't easy for anyone under sixty-five to get an exit permit; since Omega only the aged can travel as they will.	136		SHD	Datum suggests that access to the ability to travel freely is restricted, creating a barrier for individuals who are in the certain age. The restriction of exit permits based on age implies a hierarchical control where a particular age group. Authoritarian control over travel permits may result in environmental decisions that prioritize the interests of those in power over the broader ecological considerations. This can lead to unsustainable practices that can cause ecological problems.	v
60.	60/SHD /141	The announcer said that a group of them are planning to free all the convicts on the Isle of Man, that they might even organize an invasion from the island and try to depose the Warden.”	141 (150)		SHD	The act of planning to free convicts implies a challenge to the established legal and penal system, indicating a resistance against institutionalized forms of authority. In the context of social ecology, which promotes decentralization, autonomy, and the rejection of hierarchical systems, this sentence implies a confrontation with the dominant power and authority on the island. The idea of freeing convicts and challenging the Warden suggests a resistance to the existing social hierarchy and a desire for a more egalitarian and decentralized social order, aligning with the principles of social ecology. Decisions driven by the need to suppress dissent may neglect sustainable practices, leading to environmental degradation.	v
61.	61/SHD /145	Nothing as crude as physical torture would be necessary. The State Security Police would have	145		SHD	Datum suggests that physical torture might not be employed directly; instead, the focus is on the use	v

		the necessary drugs and the knowledge and ruthlessness to use them.			of drugs as a means of control. This implies a more sophisticated form of manipulation and domination, where those in power have access to substances that can be used to manipulate individuals mentally and emotionally. Concentrated power can result in decisions that prioritize control over ecological considerations. The dominance of power, combined with the use of drugs to control people can cause ecological problems.	
62.	62/SHD /146	There was one man in Britain who had absolute power, absolute authority, absolute control, and he was that man's cousin.	146	SHD	Datum mentions that there was one man in Britain (Xan Lyppiatt) who possessed absolute power, authority, and control. This concentration of power in the hands of a single individual indicates a hierarchical structure where one person holds supreme influence and dominance over others. Bookchin (2006) notes that as long as societies maintain hierarchical structures and economic classes, freedom from domination will remain elusive, despite attempts through rituals, incantations, ecotheologies, and the adoption of seemingly "natural" lifeways (p. 39). System of domination and authority that extends beyond individual merit or democratic principles, aligning with Bookchin's concerns about social hierarchy and domination that can lead to ecological problems. The existence of this absolute authority is the effect of environmental degradation in the form of human infertility, which then Xan Lyppiatt appoints himself Warden of England in the last general election.	valid



63.	63/SHD /147	They were on the outskirts of the city before he spoke. “When did they take Gascoigne?” “About two hours ago. He was placing explosives to blow up a landing stage at Shoreham. There was to be another Quietus. The Security Police were waiting for him.” “Not surprisingly. You’ve been destroying the embarkation stages. Obviously they kept watch. So they’ve had him for two hours. I’m surprised they haven’t picked you up yet.”	147		SHD The fact that Gascoigne was taken by the Security Police while attempting to carry out an act of resistance suggests the authority and power of the Security Police in monitoring and suppressing dissent. The mention of the Security Police "waiting for him" and the narrator's surprise that they haven't been apprehended yet indicates a high level of control and surveillance. This situation reflects a hierarchical structure where a centralized authority, represented by the Security Police, has the power to monitor and act against individuals perceived as threats to the established order. The use of force to counteract sabotage may prioritize short-term security over long-term environmental sustainability. Responses driven by security concerns may overlook the broader ecological consequences of actions.	v
64.	64/SHD /148	He said: “You’ve lasted this long because the Warden wanted you to last. He could have had you picked up months ago. He didn’t because you’re more useful to him at large than imprisoned. He doesn’t want martyrs. What he does want is the pretence of an internal threat to good public order. It helps buttress his authority. All tyrants have needed that from time to time.	148		SHD Datum revealing the manipulative tactics employed by the Warden to maintain control. Warden allows certain individuals to remain at large because they serve his purpose of creating a perceived internal threat to public order. This strategy involves fabricating the existence of a supposed secret society with subversive intentions. The Warden uses this narrative to manipulate public perception, instilling fear and justifying his authoritarian rule by positioning himself as a protector against an imagined threat. Warden's actions exploit the fear of chaos and disorder to reinforce his control, ultimately subverting the principles of a society built on grassroots	v

					democracy and decentralized decision-making. Existence of such structures and explore how this domination of humans over humans can potentially contribute to ecological problems.	
65.	65/SHD /149	Under an undemocratic government there can be no acceptable dissent any more than there can be moderate sedition.	149	SHD	This lack of acceptable dissent implies a top-down control structure where those in authority dictate what is considered permissible discourse. The phrase "no acceptable dissent" suggests that any form of disagreement or criticism is not tolerated, reflecting a suppression of diverse opinions and a denial of the principles of freedom of expression and democratic participation. The absence of acceptable dissent may hinder open discussions about environmental issues. Without diverse perspectives and criticism, there may be a lack of effective scrutiny of policies that impact the environment.	v
66.	66/SHD /170	“I thought that your group were arguing that he does it badly, that he’s a merciless tyrant. So you’re proposing to replace one dictatorship with another. Benevolent this time, I suppose. Most tyrants begin that way.”	170	SHD	Datum suggests that there is a man (Rolf) criticizing the current leader, accusing him of being a "merciless tyrant." However, the speaker (Theo Faron) questions the effectiveness of the Rolf's solution, expressing the concern that they might be suggesting replacing the existing dictatorship with another one, albeit one his see as benevolent. A dictatorship may prioritize its interests over ecological considerations. Policies driven by authoritarian rule may neglect environmental sustainability, contributing to degradation.	v
67.	67/SHD /188	And then Luke was down, and his murderers fell upon him like beasts round their prey, jostling for	188	SHD	The violent and brutal act described reflects an absence of empathy and a breakdown of social	v

		a place, raining their blows in a frenzy. The dance was over, the ceremony of death ended, the killing had begun. They killed in silence, a terrible silence in which it seemed to Theo that he could hear the crack and splinter of every single bone, could feel his ears bursting with the gushing of Luke's blood.			cohesion. In social ecology, hierarchical structures often contribute to a lack of cooperation and empathy among individuals. The scene describes a moment of crisis and violence, where the focus is on the immediate act of killing. A society that does not value the sanctity of life is more likely to engage in activities that harm ecosystems and contribute to environmental degradation.	
68.	68/SHD /192	He thought that the technicians had been careless or that they're just not bothering to test half the specimens they take. Luke was exempt from testing. He had mild epilepsy as a child. Like Julian, Luke was a reject.	192		SHD The exemption of individuals like Luke and Julian from testing implies a form of exclusion or marginalization. Exclusion and marginalization can extend to neglecting certain communities or groups in environmental decision-making. Inequitable testing practices may result in a lack of comprehensive environmental assessments. It is proven at the end of the novel that Julian is pregnant with Luke's child, due to exclusion (a form of hierarchical structure and domination) in testing causing the authorities to miss out on data on people who are still fertile due to their own policies. This shows that the existence of a hierarchical structure and domination can cause environmental degradation.	v
69.	69/SHD /240	She had been garrotted and the body dumped into a large wicker chair to the right of the fireplace. She lay there sprawled, legs askew, arms flung over the ends of the chair, the head thrown back with the cord bitten so deep into the skin that it was hardly visible.	240		SHD Datum describes a violent and brutal act, it does depict an extreme form of domination and control over an individual. The act of garroting, the manner in which the body is positioned, and the violence inflicted on the victim all suggest an exertion of power and domination over the person. This is consistent with social ecology's critique of	v

					hierarchical systems that rely on coercion. Conflict between resistance and the established power structure can have ecological consequences if not resolved peacefully.	
70.	70/SHD /244	He said: “My darling, it’s over for her now. She’s beyond their reach for ever. Miriam, Gascoigne, Luke, they’re all beyond the Council’s reach. Every time a victim dies it’s a small defeat for tyranny.”	244	SHD	Datum suggests the existence of social hierarchy and domination by portraying a struggle against oppressive forces, represented by the Council. The mention of "every time a victim dies" acknowledges the existence of victims who have suffered under some form of tyranny or oppression. If this oppression (a form of social hierarchy and domination) continues to exist, then what will happen is that victims will continue to fall and human extinction (environmental degradation) will occur more quickly than it should. Liberation from social hierarchy and domination may contribute to a more environmentally conscious and sustainable society, emphasizing the interconnectedness of social and ecological well-being.	v
71.	71/SHD /256	Xan laughed. “I’ll probably marry her. Anyway, she’ll be looked after. Go back to her now. Wake her. Tell her I’m here but on my own. Reassure her. Tell her you’ll be helping me to care for her. Good God, Theo, do you realize what power is in our hands? Come back on the Council, be my lieutenant. You can have anything you want.”	256	SHD	Datum highlights the acknowledgment of power and influence held by those within the Council. This recognition underscores the hierarchical structure where a few individuals have significant authority and control. Centralized decision-making without broader representation may lead to policies that neglect diverse ecological perspectives and favor the interests of the ruling elite, potentially causing harm to the environment. The offer for Theo to return to the Council and be Xan's lieutenant positions Theo within this hierarchical	v

					system, reinforcing the idea of dominating power relations.	
72.	72/SHD /259	He looked down at the great sapphire in its glitter of diamonds, at the ruby cross, twisting the ring, aware of its weight. Placing it on his hand had been instinctive and yet deliberate, a gesture to assert authority and ensure protection. He had known that the Grenadiers would come armed. The sight of that shining symbol on his finger would at least make them pause, give him time to speak.	259		SHD The use of terms like "assert authority" and "ensure protection" implies that the ring, and the symbols associated with it, serve as a representation of power and control. In social ecology, which advocates for decentralized and non-hierarchical structures, the act of wielding a symbol associated with defeating a tyrant may signify a shift in power dynamics. However, the fact that Theo feels the need to wearing the ring to make the Grenadiers pause suggests the continuation of a power dynamic where symbols of authority are essential for protection. Hierarchical structures may prioritize individual or elite interests over ecological sustainability, potentially leading to environmental degradation. If Theo wears the ring and then continues to rule the way Xan Lyppiatt came to power, then ecological problems will continue to follow.	v
73.	73/SHD /8	The toys have been burnt, except for the dolls, which have become for some half-demented women a substitute for children.	8		SHD Burning of toys, excluding dolls, signifies a cultural or societal decision. Dolls become for some half-demented women a substitute for children, suggest a structured hierarchy where traditional family dynamics, such as reproduction and parenthood, are disrupted. This is the effect of environmental degradation in the form of an infertility crisis (apocalypse), which then causes humans to be unable to carry out their role as caregivers for their children. As Bookchin (2006)	Valid,

					state that women formed their own food-gathering and care-taking groups with their own customs, belief systems, and values.	
74.	74/DN A/225	The car shot over the rim of the lake and hit the water with a splash that seemed to wake every bird in the forest.	225		DNA The act of got rid of car to the lake implies a certain level of disregard for the natural environment. It portrays car as a force that disrupts the habitat and peacefulness of the lake. This action reflects a form of human impact on nature that doesn't consider the ecological integrity of the surroundings. Disturbances in water bodies can harm aquatic life, disrupt habitats, and contribute to ecological problems. As Bookchin (2006) notes that social development by which they (human) grade out of their biological development often becomes more problematical for themselves and nonhuman life (p. 31). The act of pushing a car into a lake is a form of human egoism so as not to be caught by a dictator's pursuit without thinking about the effects that will arise in the lake ecosystem.	v