

**Conceptualising the Haunted 'Future' of Nature in the 'Present'**  
**through David Klass' *The Caretaker Trilogy***

Kowsalya P  
(17PEN006)

Thesis submitted to  
Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education  
for Women, Coimbatore - 641 043.

in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the  
Master's Degree in English  
**April 2019**

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Signature of the Supervisor

  
Signature of the Head of the Department

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## **Acknowledgement**

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## Content

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**Chapter – 1**  
**Introduction**

# Chapter-1

## Introduction

Environmental literature is an emerging genre in the field of literature. It provides knowledge to the people regarding their relationship with nature. Every individual should understand that humans are interconnected, interrelated and interdependent on nature and its resources. According to Cheryll Glotfelty the term “ecocriticism” is defined as the study of the relationship between literature and the physical environment. It takes an earth-centered approach to literary studies. It is also called as Green Studies. Initially, this genre began in the United States of America in the late 1980s and it started its way towards the United Kingdom in the early 1990s.

The United States of America acknowledged Cheryll Burgess Glotfelty as the founder of ecocriticism. She was the co-founder and past president of the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (ASLE). She has published numerous essays on ecocriticism, nuclear landscapes, bioregionalism and western American literature. The works of the 19<sup>th</sup> century American writers like Ralph Waldo Emerson, Margaret Fuller and Henry David Thoreau embrace nature, life force and wilderness manifested in America. They were the initiators of the transcendentalist movement.

“Ecocriticism” is a term coined by William Rueckert in the year 1978 in his essay “Literature and Ecology: An Experiment in Ecocriticism.” A critic named Jonathan Bate is the founding figure of Green Studies which is the United Kingdom’s version of Ecocriticism. Americans praise the beauty of nature and embrace their life by living with it. British writers focus on warning people regarding the environmental threats that emerge from various forces like governmental, industrial, commercial, and neo-colonial.

The importance of environmental literature is that it provides information of the world in which all humans live. It helps the readers or the common people to have a deep knowledge about environment. It enhances their minds by explaining each and every aspect of nature and the ecosystem. Nature is not merely about beauty and wealth. It is something that should be embraced spiritually by every individual. Nature is predominantly affected by the unstable cultural practices of human beings. So everyone should have the insight of their act towards environment. Environmental literature acts as a mediator between the writers and the readers to gain a clear understanding of nature's relationship with human beings. Besides learning environmental literature as an academic component, it must be taken into consideration as a lifeline for earth to be peaceful. If ecocriticism is an exploration of the relationship between literature and environment then all genres in literature have ecocritical approach since it deals with the physical and the mental environment.

The emergence of ecocriticism has benefitted two genres of literature namely science fiction and fantasy literature. Generally, an ecocritical work urges a reader to embrace the natural world in different ways and it enables to know the relationship between man and nature. Eventually, ecocriticism incorporates the study of empirical knowledge and the methods of scientific observation. Science fiction texts and environmental philosophies explore the modern culture that has imperiled the lives of all organisms and also the exploitation of the natural world. In every ecocritical work, there exists a hidden theme of either spiritual or scientific understanding. When science fiction is combined with environmental literature, the writers are able to justify their ideas with the help of science. It acts as a strong supporter of environmental literature.

The concept of environmentalism began in the latter half of the twentieth century. It was a response of few writers regarding the dangerous environmental damages and destruction in the world. It not only brought out the threats of wildlife and wilderness but also of human life and health. Environmentalism focuses on the things that humans should not do to the environment and its themes feature abundantly in thrillers, literary novels, poems, wildlife documentaries, books and films. The consequences of environmental disasters are flooding, desertification, famine and eco-wars over diminishing resources. On the whole, environmentalism is a critique and a product of industrial modernity. Technology and its development have helped to create the global perspective that is fundamental to environmentalism.

Many new concepts and terms came into existence to explain the importance of nature and environmental literature. It is true that environmental literature deals with varied disciplines of study as it discusses the human lives with the natural surroundings, the day-to-day issues in the society, the changes in the atmosphere and the fundamental aspects needed for the survival of an organism. These concepts help to justify the problems covered in an environmental work. There are writers who contributed for the development of environmental literature by introducing various ideas and concepts.

A German biologist named Ernst Heirich Haeckel was the first to introduce the term “ecology”. He applied the term ‘Oikoloie’ to the relation of the animals, both to its organic and inorganic environment. The scientific study of natural interdependencies is called ecology. It proves that all forms of life are interrelated and share their environment with each other. It is based on the principle of interrelation between the physical environment and the organisms. It also draws on a range of specialized disciplines including Zoology, Botany, Geology and Climate Studies. This

concept was developed in reaction against the practice of isolating creatures for study in laboratories as well as for various other purposes. Ecology is divided into two categories namely deep ecology and shallow ecology.

Environmental literature has spread its influence in a wide range that it developed new branches in literature such as Ecofiction, Eco-poetics and Ecocriticism. There were different approaches like Ecofeminism, which appeared in the early 1970's as part of radical feminist movement. It focused on the feminine gender that is equated to the environment. Ecospirituality is another approach that connects the environment and spirituality. It exhibits that those who are interested in spirituality had belief in the beauty of the earth. People praised and worshipped nature for its strong connection with human beings.

Francoise d'Eaubonne, a French feminist was the first person to coin the term "ecofeminism", also called as ecological feminism. It is a branch of feminism that examines the relationship between nature and women. It is widely known as the third wave of feminism, in addition, this feminist theory establishes that environmental perspective is a necessary part of feminism. The oppression of women and the oppression of nature both run as a parallel in the concept of ecofeminism. It describes how women and nature are seen as property, here men being curators of culture and human beings as curators of nature. On the whole, men dominate women and humans dominate nature through various means in their life. There are many concepts that emerged in this environmental movement from the early 1970s till the present.

Harold Fromm is an American ecocritic who was born in New York City. He is widely known for his writings on environment and its issues. He co-edited *The Environmental Reader: Landmarks in Literary Ecology* with Cheryll Glotfelty. He is the author of *Academic Capitalism* and *Literary Value*. He was very much interested

in environmentalism, Darwinian evolution and consciousness studies. Initially, he started his writing on air pollution during 1970s. In his work *The Nature of Being Human*, he acknowledges the relationship between human mind and natural environment. Both Cheryll Glotfelty and Harold Fromm brought out the first and the best anthology on nature writing and its practitioners. Fromm's point of view on environmental problem is that it must be seen as a central philosophic and ontological question about the self definition of contemporary humanity. Fromm's works express some of his own physical experiences and observations with the insights gathered from both humanities and science.

Lawrence Ingalls Buell is considered as the pioneer of ecocriticism. His work *The Future of Environmental Criticism: Environmental Crisis and Literary Imagination* provides an overall idea of the ecocritical movement. It summarizes the emerging discipline of ecocriticism and traces the history of the ecocritical movement from its roots in the 1970s to its diversification and proliferation till date. It mainly focuses on the future of ecocriticism and proposes that the discourses of environment should become a permanent part of literary and cultural studies. His best known works on environmental criticism are *The Environmental Imagination* (1995) and *Writing for an Endangered World* (2001). He has also written a work titled *Emerson* in 2003. It was dedicated to the greatest American writer Ralph Waldo Emerson. He won the 2001 John G. Cawelti Award for his work *Writing for an Endangered World* which is considered as the best book in American Culture Studies. He was the recipient of the 2007 Jay Hubbell Medal for Lifetime Achievement in American Literary Studies which is the highest professional award given by the American Literary Section of the MLA.

Critics are not the only ones who have contributed their works for environmental literature, there are writers in literature who have dealt with environmental issues. They have written about both the awe and beauty of nature and also about the disappearing side of nature. Henry David Thoreau had experience in various fields still he proved himself as an essayist, poet, philosopher, abolitionist, naturalist, tax resister, development critic, surveyor, yogi and a historian. He belonged to the transcendentalist movement. He is best known for his book *Walden* (1854), which is the reflection of the simple living in the natural surroundings. His popular essay "Civil Disobedience" (1849), originally published as "Resistance to Civil Government" is an argument for the disobedience to an unjust state.

Thoreau's writings on natural history and philosophy are few among his lasting contributions. He has anticipated the findings of ecology and environmental history which are the two sources of modern day environmentalism. Some of his famous nature works are *Paradise (to be) Regained* (1843) and *Poems of Nature* (1895). He lived in Walden for two years and later he wrote a book by comprising it into one year. The book was first published as *Walden; or, Life in the Woods*. It is all about the voyage of spiritual discovery. The major themes of this work are self-reliance, simplicity, progress, the need for spiritual awakening and meditation. It preaches nature and its reflection of human emotions and that man is a part of nature.

Rachel Louise Carson was one of the finest nature writers of the twentieth century. Basically, she was an American marine biologist, author and conservationist. She has contributed lots of works to literature. Some of her works are *Under the Sea Wind* (1941), *The Edge of the Sea* (1955), *The Sea Around Us* (1951). Her most famous work *Silent Spring* was a bold move against the chemical pesticides and DDT. It was written in the year 1962. She was influenced by her friend from Duxbury who

wrote a letter about the loss of bird life due to pesticide spraying. This made her to write a non-fiction work that focuses on the effects of pesticides on the ecosystem. This work brought out the scientific facts that are involved in the use and abuse of agricultural and industrial chemicals. She had concern for all life forms both human and non-human.

From her childhood she had a great influence of nature in her life. She was raised as a child of the nature study movement. Having knowledge in science and a deep inclination towards nature, her works helped her to bring in an environmental movement in society and literature. Nature conservation is one of the themes of her works. She became an inspiration to the upcoming generation. She believed that preserving wild nature will help to promote human happiness.

Aldo Leopold is a prominent writer in the field of environmental literature. He was deeply concerned about the increasing speed and impact of industrialization on the natural world and human-nature relationships. He was an American conservationist, forester, wildlife ecologist, author and philosopher. His best known work *A Sand County Almanac* became very much influential with the rise of the modern environmental movement similar to *Silent Spring*. This work was written few months prior to his death and was published posthumously in the year 1949. It explores the idea of land ethics or a responsible relationship between people and the land they inhabit. He emphasized on both biodiversity and ecology and became a founder of the science of wildlife management. His works based on nature writings were notable for its simple directness.

David George Campbell is an American writer who was born in the year 1949. He is an educator, ecologist and an environmentalist. He is considered as an award-winning author of non-fiction. Basically he was a botanical explorer. He has carried

out research on all seven continents most notably in the Amazonian rainforests and Antarctica. His book *The Land of Ghosts: The Braided Lives of People and the Forest in Far Western Amazonia* won the Lannan Literary Award for Nonfiction. In this work he shares his research experience in ecological studies in the Brazilian Amazon. For over thirty years, he was conducting a research study in the place of extraordinary abundance. Some of his other works are *The Ephemeral Islands: A Natural History of the Bahamas*, *Islands in Time and Space*, and *The Crystal Desert: Summers in Antarctica*.

A research paper titled “Science Fiction and the Ecological Conscience” by Eric Otto deals with the connection between science and environment. Many science fiction novels have ended up with an ecological theme. In this work, the writer highlights the aspects of ecology in science fiction novels such as *Last and First Men*, *Twilight*, *Earth Abides*, *Dune*, *The Space Merchants* and various other novels. The work consists of different concepts that have emerged in environmental literature that helped in its growth. It proves that science and environment are interrelated and that each one is dependent on the other.

One among the environmental writers is the living legend David Klass, who was born in Vermont in the year 1960. He is an American novelist and Hollywood screenwriter. He had deep interest in sports because once he preferred playing sports rather reading books. This is reflected in his works later, where his protagonists are given characters that are deeply connected with sports. While studying at Yale University he won the Veech Award for Best Imaginative Writing. His writings include 40 screenplays and more than 14 young adult novels. He covers the genres of screenwriting, thrillers and young adult fiction. His works are *The Atami Dragons*, *Breakaway Run*, *Different Season*, *Wrestling With Honor*, *Night of the Tyger*,

*Samurai, Inc., California Blue, Danger Zone, Screen Test, Desperate Measures, You Don't Know Me, Home of the Braves, Dark Angel, The Caretaker Trilogy, Stuck on Earth, Second Impact, Grandmaster, Losers Take All.* Most of his novels subject creates awareness regarding environmental issues and a teenage boy's struggle for identity and life. His movies include *Walking Tall* and *Desperate Measures*. Currently he lives in New York City with his wife and their children.

David Klass' writing career began with the novel *The Atami Dragons* in 1984. This novel was inspired by his experiences as an English teacher in Japan. Though it was his first novel it did not reach the expectations of the readers. The new writer who took his first step was not a successful one. His novel *California Blue* written in the year 1994 focuses on the environmental issues and conflicts. It also reflects the life of a teenage boy who struggles to defeat nearly impossible obstacles.

The novel *You Don't Know Me* narrates the tale of a young boy who is abused in his school as well as in home. It was first published in the year 2001 which is considered to be a coming-of-age novel. This novel has been published in 18 languages and was named as ALA Best Book for Young Adults. The novel continues to be popular among young adult audiences in the United States and also internationally. His young adult contemporary novel titled *Losers Take All* was written in the year 2015. This novel narrates the life of a young boy and his friends who form an anti-athletic team and attract more attention than they could expect. The novel received maximum positive reviews on publication. It was nominated for the 2017 Missouri Gateway Readers Award.

David Klass' *The Caretaker Trilogy* consists of three volumes namely *Firestorm, Whirlwind* and *Timelock*. The first novel *Firestorm* was written in the year 2006. The protagonist of the series is an eighteen year old boy named Jack who lived

with his parents in America. He is portrayed as a powerful character who has the ability to save the earth from the evil people. Though he belongs to the future earth he is sent back to the turning point that is a thousand years back with the help of a time machine to change the critical situation of the earth. He was chased by few unknown enemies and he later finds that they are people from the future who are called as the Dark Army. They try to attack the Atlantic Ocean by trawling the coral reefs. They also try to bring an ecological imbalance which helps them to destroy the entire earth and bring the world under their control. It was prophesied by the Dannites that Jack was destined to save the earth. He fights against Dargon, the son of the Dark Lord who belong to the Dark Army, along with Gisco and Eko, and then he saves the Ocean by using firestorm as his weapon. The author tries to convey a message to the readers that there are people who try to destroy the natural resources which are deep under the Oceans for power and money.

The second volume of the trilogy *Whirlwind* was written in the year 2008. This novel narrates the adventure of Jack in the Amazon rainforest. Since the Dark Army lost their chance in destroying the Ocean they aimed at the rainforest and started deforestation. Jack's girlfriend P. J. is kidnapped by the Dark Army in order to take revenge against Jack for killing Dargon. The Dark Army gets back to the turning point to attack the earth and turn the future into darkness. The Dark Lord has occupied the Amazon forest in order to wipe out the trees and the people who live there. He captured many indigenous communities and kept them in the jungle prison to take the rainforest under his control. The Dark Lord has destroyed half of the rainforest by forest fire, logging, and expansion of roads. Jack, Gisco and Eko try to find a greatest wizard scientist Mysterious Kidah because only he has the power to kill the Dark Lord and change the fate of the future earth. Finally, Kidah and few others save those

people in the prison from the Dark Lord and Jack saves his girlfriend P. J. from the dangerous Dark Army. Once they come out of the forest, all the others return to their normal life. But only in the third part of the novel the author reveals that the Dark Lord has not died. This novel tries to highlight the importance of forest and the indigenous communities who live there in the forest.

The novel *Timelock* is the last part of the trilogy, it was written in the year 2009. In this series, Jack is taken back to his real place that is to the future earth by the time machine. He finds his real mother Mira, the Queen of Dann and comes to know that his father has been captured by the Dark Army. Throughout the novel, Jack was in search of his identity but later he comes to know that his real name is Jair and the date of execution of his father has also been set. The Dark Army is trying to destroy the dannites and rule the whole kingdom with all the advanced technologies. He used an Omega Box to create global warming in the Arctic Sea. The Dark Lord and the Omega Box joined hands in order to produce more heat and melt all the ice glaciers. The Omega Box is a powerful machine which is so strong that it cannot be destroyed. Many lose their lives in the fight with the Dark Army, as Jack promised to his father he decides to stay back in the future earth with Eko. At the end, everything becomes normal P. J. turns back to her real life with the help of Kidah. He stops the function of the time machine in order to prevent any further mis-happenings in the future. All their life is set and the earth is also saved from the evil power. This novel conveys a message to the readers that when people depend on technology they try to take power and rule humans. People need to know the limits of the development of technology.

The second chapter deals with the declining of species on earth. Human beings have completely destroyed the earth's resources to the fullest, such as poisoning the land with harmful chemicals, dumping the wastes of chemical industries in rivers, producing unwanted gases and polluting the air. All the destructive activities of humans have resulted in the imbalance of the life cycle. There are numerous species that are affected due to this reason. Many species including the flora and fauna have started to decline. There occurs an improper food chain in the ecosystem. Due to this, various species have become rare, extinct and endangered. The advancement of technology has also reflected its impact on the declining of species. In order to make more profit humans have destroyed all the nature's resources which will benefit them in the present. But in the future, the earth loses all its wealth and the forthcoming generations have to suffer without any basic needs.

The third chapter focuses on deforestation which has a strong effect on the indigenous people. Each and every part of the forest is wiped out by means of logging, forest fire, encroachment of lands and expansion of roads. The trees are the major source of living in the environment but they are cut down for the temporary needs of the humans. The indigenous communities who live in the forest are sent out by various authorities. They lose their livelihoods because industries have occupied their space. The forests have turned up into cultivating lands and the soil loses its fertility. When plants and trees are all cut down, there is a change in the climatic condition of the environment. Eventually, it harms the human beings as well as the nature. The natural resources should be used to a certain level but humans use it to live a luxurious life. Every individual should know the importance of trees that helps them to live by providing all the necessary things.

The fourth chapter is about the technological growth that has led the humans to starve in the future. Machines try to rule the world with the power that humans gave it. They created new life forms by themselves that are so dangerous. Humans got scared of those machines, since they are more advanced and powerful. They harm everyone and the environment without any courtesy or concern. Their aim is to change the natural world into a technological world. They try to bring an imbalance in the ecosystem by means of destructing the most valuable places that are entirely surrounded with nature. Global warming is the weapon used by the machines in order to attack the natural world which will lead to the change in the climatic pattern of the entire ecosystem. Due to these reasons the well nourished lands have turned into dry deserts.

The main aim of the study is to create ecoconsciousness among people regarding the various environmental disasters that has taken place. This research tends to help the readers and the society by providing ecological crisis for preventing disasters and harms that may occur in the future. The steps that should be taken by each individual to stop the environmental problems and issues are also discussed.

The objectives of the study are to explore the development of technology which has hindered nature's growth; to bring an awareness regarding the ecological imbalance in the ecosystem; to embrace the beauty of nature and its uses; to highlight the important aspects that leads to the destruction of nature and its resources and to establish few ideas that would help every individual in preventing the natural disasters.

Therefore, this research paper deals with the environmental issues that are highlighted in the novel *The Caretaker Trilogy*. It creates awareness to the society and helps the people to retain the environment though it has lost half of its wealth. The

various environmental issues that harm the earth are highlighted in the forthcoming chapters of the study.

## **Chapter – 2**

### **Nature's Impediment: Premonition of Declining Species**

## Chapter - 2

### **Nature's Impediment: Premonition of Declining Species**

Extinction of species is a natural process and it has been there from the earliest life forms like dinosaurs. Extinction may happen in two ranges such as global extinction and local extinction. The increase in the rate of extinction of species is on the whole called as biological diversity and biodiversity. The extinction of one kind of species not only has an impact on its own species but also on the other species by affecting the food chain.

This chapter deals with the declining of species from the natural environment which is one of the important aspects in the novels. In the novel *The Caretaker Trilogy*, the writer has brought awareness to the readers regarding the declining of various kinds of species on earth. As days pass by there are lots of species becoming rare to see, they have started declining due to various environmental issues. The main reasons for declining of species are climatic changes, technological development, deforestation and lack of food.

Environmental pollution may directly or indirectly affect the animals. The accumulation of toxic substance due to pollution has reduced the level of food items. Water pollution has affected the marine mammals because of high toxicity and fewer amounts of food resources. Seals, sea otters and whales are few mammals that are highly affected by these hazardous pollutants. The species that are not native to a particular region are called exotic species. The exotics contribute to the declining and the extinction of species in several ways.

The three volumes of novels explore the declining of various flora and fauna species on earth. One of the most effective strategies in preventing the extinction of species is to protect and preserve them carefully and not harm them. The lands that

are owned by governments and private organization to protect the threatened species are called as nature reserves state parks, national parks and designated wilderness areas. If the areas are protected and managed properly then the number of species becomes more. There are few species that are captured in order to increase their numbers since they are declining. Those species are left for breeding and there are few animals that are difficult to maintain and breed.

The need for energy consumption has been increased due to the increase in knowledge, skill and development of mankind for the exploitation of nature and its resources. Excess usage of energy results in excess production of carbon dioxide and other polluting gases. Due to increase in carbon dioxide there are large scale deforestation, industrialization and automobile use that leads to smelting of high altitude ice glaciers and increase in sea level causing submergence of coastal regions and the author has entirely covered up all these aspects in *The Caretaker Trilogy*.

The increased production of energy for the humans to live comfortably has made their lives miserable. The gas pollutants results in acid rain has affected the aquatic life as well as the forest. The growth and harmony of the ecosystem is mainly dependent on the well being of the species. More than other species humans have better understanding regarding nature's growth and development. Humans have the responsibility to respect and protect nature, its resources and other species.

The important cause of extinction is habitat modification. The over usage of herbicides and pesticides for crop production and soil fertility leads to the extinction of species and loss of biodiversity. The change in the habitat can easily endanger plant and animal species. Human beings are very much different from other living beings like plants and animals. Humans are not directly connected to soil. They are mobile

unlike other living things. They seek to again a broader view about other culture and people through physical mobility.

All the human activities have a constant impact on the natural world from climatic change to habitat destruction. Humans have altered the environmental conditions of animal species. The first response of animals to the human altered condition is behavioural change. Behavioural modification helps the organisms to improve their ability to survive and reproduce in the changing world. The first novel of the trilogy describes the different kinds of fish species that have undergone such modifications in the earth.

In the novel *Firestorm* Jack and few other people such as Eko, and Gisco are sent a thousand years back to save the earth. In the future, the earth becomes a desert where people starve for food and water. All the natural wealth has been destroyed by humans. The beauty, the diversity and the wilderness have completely gone. Everything is farmed and guarded by human beings. It is not only about land but also about the oceans where nothing is left. The evil powers that is the Dark Army who are part machines and part humans have aimed at the earth for completely destroying its wilderness. They need machines to rule the world and the life of humans should depend on them. Though Jack does not know the hindrances that are behind he was destined to the act of saving the earth by the People of Dann.

Eko tells Jack about the future world where they belong to. It is full of dry desert. People have destroyed everything for their pleasure. Nature's wealth has become a product which people take for granted and sell it for money. Due to the various environmental hazards, all the species in the Earth have started to diminish. Humans are the main source of all the environmental issues that harm nature. Klass says:

Most of them were horrible. The earth stripped of beauty. Barren and desiccated. Water holes and pockets of green like oases in an endless desert. People fighting over food, energy, and resources. And not just people but ... things! We created our own nightmare and now it's swallowing us up. (Firestorm 128)

People had changed the beautiful world given by God and created their own world with artificial things and technologies. Nature has lost all its capability to serve mankind. The natural wealth has become extinct. People did not care about the future generation and the world. The natural wealth has become a business for mankind which they use in excess unnecessarily. The real beauty of nature has gradually been taken off by humans themselves. Since people created their own world with food, resources and technological facilities, nature has started showing its anger by means of various natural calamities.

When Jack and Gisco were starving for food and water in the boat they were saved by a group of people from a ship. They have come for fishing in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. Fishing might be normal but its consequences are great. When large numbers of fishes are trawled fish species become extinct. Later it is hard to see such kind of species and is called as rare species. Though Gisco is just an animal and not a human, it understands the problem caused by means of fishing using trawler nets. For thousands of years people have been fishing and it is a good source of protein. It is a part of their livelihood. But when it is fished using a trawler net tons of fishes are dragged from the oceans.

The people in the ship had aimed to catch the reddish orange fillets which live upto hundred and fifty years. It is a kind of species which does not breed until they are twenty five. When a large school of this is species fished, it takes more than three

decades to replace it. Fillets alone do not fall into the net while trawling, various kinds of other fishes, squid, octopus, corals, crustaceans and anemones are also being dragged. It is called as bycatch. When it comes out from its atmosphere it starts dying and in a few minutes or hours it is completely dead. Human beings have lost their humanity which is clearly described by the author as:

Human ingenuity is what happened. Great factory ships set out from Europe that could catch a hundred tons of cod in an hour. In the blink of an eye the schools were gone for good and tens of thousands of Newfoundland fisherman like grandfather of this boozing blowhard were out of work. (Firestorm 198)

People did not care about nature. They were very much eager in developing their business by means of using natural resources. They found better ways to make profit. They used advanced technologies and instruments for fishing by which they can drag tons of fishes from beneath the oceans. Within a short span of time they could catch different kinds of fish. As fishing became easy many people started losing their jobs. Fishes are exported to various countries. They sell it for a great amount and make profit out of it.

First the smaller fishes are wiped out till the point of extinction. When smaller fishes are gone the bigger ones do not find their food and it is hard for them to live. Whales are also hunted, the whalers follow them in the ship till their breeding grounds and the whole population is wiped out. Bluefin tuna, pantagonian toothfish and swordfish are all going to be rare. In few decades all the fish species are going to be extinct.

Fishing alone does not lead to declining of fish species; pollution is one major problem. As technology develops, there are more and more industries. All the industrial wastes and dyes are dumped in rivers which directly joins the seas and oceans. The pollution in water makes the lives of the fish harder. They struggle to live and finally they all die. Oxygen is very much important substance for ocean and other marine species as well. The reduction in the required level of oxygen leads to physiological stress, behavioural changes and death of marine species. When there is change in climate the oxygen concentration decreases in the open ocean. So, the atmospheric condition of marine species differs.

Jack who belongs to the caretakers or the People of Dann is sent by his parents to save the world at the turning point of the earth. According to the People of Dann, people should not see nature as a source of making money. They should stop being consumers and corrupters who spoil nature's wealth but they should be caretakers and restorers who preserve it. It is time for people to be aware of the importance of nature and its wealth. People should start preserving instead of consuming the natural resources. It was prophesied that only Jack could save the world. Only he could find firestorm and save the oceans. So the Dark Army started chasing Jack to help them find firestorm to destroy the world. After the adventures in the deep ocean he fought with the Dark Army and saved the world from the destroyers of the earth:

A great legacy. And a tremendous responsibility. Your ancestors saw that the earth could be saved only if people changed every destructive and indulgent habit. We had to stop being consumers and corrupters, and start being caretakers and restorers. It was an all consuming way to live, to act, to think. I myself have followed it since my mother left me

with the people of dann. That was her parting gift to me. (Firestorm 129)

In the novel *Whirlwind*, Jack tries to rescue his girlfriend who is kidnapped by the Dark Army people. Jack was again given the responsibility to save the world by finding a time traveler named Kidah. Though Jack had no interest in all the adventures he was in the state to do it for saving the world from the evil people. Kidah was somewhere in the Amazon which could only be found by Jack. Jack and Gisco get into the Amazon rainforest, they were constantly attacked by the Dark Army. The Dark Lord was destroying the beautiful Amazon with his power by capturing the indigenous people and making them kill nature which they love more.

When there is more destruction there is more availability of resources. Animals are all hunted for bush meat in the forest. Most countries seek for industrial development. If resources are plenty people should not take it for granted in using them. There are generations yet to come to live in the world. When everything is used in excess the future generation will starve without having anything. The need and importance for the every species on earth is still unknown to many people and that is the main reason for the declining of species.

During the Amazon adventure Jack has once again lost P.J. in the river. P.J. was safe there with the Korubu chief in the canoe but Jack falls back in the river while trying to save P.J. Jack loses his consciousness and was found by Eko. Eko took Jack to a safer place, when Jack became normal he remembered P.J. and went back to see her. Jack was caught by Eko in the middle of the river and that was the time Jack found one of the rare species piracucu. Still there is more number of species that have become extinct in the current world. Klass describes it in the following manner:

Eko's eyes remain furious, but something else kindles in them.

Grudging administration. "It was a piracucu," she says softly. "The largest freshwater fish in the world. They breathe air, but they're not whales. They are almost extinct. But you managed to find a pretty good specimen." (Whirlwind 197-98)

The Dark Army are the one who are trying to destroy all the natural wealth. They are part machine and part man and as well they have the qualities of animals in them. First their aim is the Atlantic Ocean then the Amazon rainforest and finally it is the Arctic sea. In the Atlantic Ocean they tried to destroy the fish species by trawling down coral reefs where tons of fish species are wiped out. In the Amazon rainforest, they aimed at the animals by means of deforestation. Lastly in the Arctic Sea, the polar bears have lost their lives.

The development of technology is one of the major reasons for the species becoming extinct. Animals become extinct and genetically modeled animals are produced with the help of technologies. Machines do all the works of humans. As technology is getting a far better place in the society, humans lose their positions. Humans are replaced by machines. So the power of machines is increasing. For example, robots are modeled after humans. It does everything a man can do and cannot do. They are used in homes, schools, companies and so on. The world is becoming very much digitalized. People believe in the work of machines than manual work. Machines have started to rule the world.

Even animals are modeled and created in the Dark Army chamber. It is one of the worst things that could happen because machines themselves create their own world over powering human beings. "The last real lions went extinct in the middle of the twenty-first century, with all the other big cats. These are clones made from stored

DNA, engineered to follow commands and report back to overseers inside the fortress” (Timelock 122). When Jack and his mother Mira went to save the King of Dann, they found lions which were cyborgs. They were not real. Though it looked powerful and ferocious it was all manmade. Humans have taken over the lands, the home of animals. They hunted it and they started to decline. The far strongest king is now driven out of existence. The cyborgs are given instructions to guard the Dark Army.

In future, the earth will be entirely under the control of machines. The place of the Dark Army is completely surrounded by machines and robots. They create a new world with machines that are given lives. They combine species and machine to bring a new variety by cloning cells and nurturing them in gels. They even create human babies with the help of test tube. It is a world of mutants, cyborgs, and chimeras. Even at present, the growth of technology has dominated the earth.

Deforestation in the Amazon has led to the extinction of various flora and fauna species. Brazil is considered to be the world’s largest pesticide users. Soya cultivation is majorly done in the Brazilian Amazon. As the use of pesticides is high, there is loss of biodiversity and increased crop disease. Genetically modified seeds are grown there, which results in the ill-effects of natural resources. The soil which is good for cultivation becomes toxic due to the over usage of unwanted chemicals. Soil, water and air become contaminated. Due to this there is a change in climate.

The Amazon rainforest helps in keeping the global climate stable. But when there is malfunction in the area many species get affected and are dead. It was in Amazon more fish species was found than in Atlantic. Rare species of flora and fauna were also found in the Amazon rainforest. Gradually the destruction started happening and everything became extinct. In the name of progress and development the

evergreen trees were cut and the virgin waters were polluted in the Garden of Eden.

The author brings out the destructive aspect in the environment:

Then there was a time when all the glaciers and ice sheets had melted, all the whales and polar bears were gone, and the noble heart of polar regions beat on alone in a stiff, mournful cadence. The world was dying even at the equators, those hubs of life; but the top and bottom of the earth were lifeless and empty, wiped clear of what had once been so magnificent. (Timelock 108)

The Dark Lord has aimed at the Arctic Sea, where deep under the sea he has created global warming. Due to heat, the ice glacier slowly melts and there is a change in temperature and climate. The polar bears that are living in the arctic do not adapt to the climatic changes. The ice levels decrease and the water level increases. The change in temperature level leads the polar bears to struggle hard for their lives. The heat produced due to the global warming has made the polar bears go in extinction. Not only polar bears but also all the sea animals are affected and have started declining. From all the sides the natural resources were wiped out without any knowledge about it. David Klass has clearly highlighted the act of global warming in the following lines:

It's disappearing, Gisco informs me. And the Greenland Ice Sheet along with it. They've been melting at an accelerating rate for the past few decades. The Arctic is the most sensitive of earth's biomes to global warming-it heats up twice as fast as the rest of the planet. Even if the Dark Lord hadn't decided to lend a hand, the Arctic Ocean would have been completely free of ice in a few decades. (Timelock 181)

“Inexpensive Progress” is a poem by Sir John Betjeman which is all about modern times. The poem satirically attacks on the fascination of modern man in the cause of development of nature by its expense. It exposes how nature has been destroyed by means of industrialization and urbanization. The poet shows deep concern for nature. People exploit nature in the name of progress. Nature has been altered to the conditions of humans. In this modern era humans are very much concerned about the technological development rather than nature’s development. The environmental equilibrium has been deteriorated by means of technological progress which in turn proves to be dangerous for mankind in various forms like depletion of ozone layer, acid rain and increase in the ratio of harmful pollutants. The poet’s view of nature in the hands of humans and technology are clearly depicted in the lines:

And if there is some scenery,  
 Some unpretentious greenery,  
 Surviving anywhere,  
 It does not need protecting  
 For soon we’ll be erecting  
 A Power station there. (Betjeman)

*The Hungry Tide* is a novel by Amitav Ghosh which focuses on the environmental issues like declining of species and deforestation. This novel is similar in its subject to *The Caretaker Trilogy*. In *The Hungry Tide* the protagonist Piya does a research regarding dolphins that are becoming extinct in order to take a step to protect it. For fishermen, fishing is their only way of livelihood. They do not know the effects of fishing. The novel describes about a fisherman named Fokir, who is innocent. He does not know that his job will affect the environment. Due to fishing numerous fishes have been declined. Forest is another important aspect focused in

both the novels. *The Caretaker Trilogy* deals with the Amazon rainforest whereas *The Hungry Tide* deals with the mangrove forest in the Sunderbans region.

Rachel Carson in her book *The Silent Spring* has criticized about the use of pesticides. The excessive use of pesticides and insecticides kills harmful insects. But those pesticides consist of chemicals which are most harmful and hazardous to health. Industries are good in developing stories and marketing which people still believe. They produce chemical fertilizers and on the other hand they themselves find some other product which will solve the problems occurred due to such fertilizers. She was very much concerned about natural calamities and the environment.

Pesticides are sprayed without any control, this leads to sudden dying of birds and this has been pointed out by Rachel Carson in her book. The high usage of chemicals leads to soil infertility and lessening of groundwater. This book has brought in an industrial revolution and set fire on chemical fertilizers and industries. Carson had proved that those harmful pesticides can kill numerous insects, birds, human beings and all the natural resources. All these lead to imbalance in food chain which results in the declining of species.

K.R.Usha in her environmental work *Monkey-Man* describes the uses and the hazards of modern technologies. She points out the usage of modern inventions like satellites and android mobile phones which leads to the destruction of certain species through harmful waves and radiation. The entire ecosystem is affected. Satellite towers and mobile phones are the major cause of the endangered loss of bird species like sparrows. The internal magnetic compass of migratory birds has been disrupted by the interference of electromagnetic noise.

Commercialization and globalization are the two major factors that have adverse effects on the lives of living beings and natural resources. When there is development in the economic growth, there occurs ecological imbalance that results in loss of biodiversity. Bansuri Taneja and Ashish Kothari have discussed about biodiversity and its loss in their essay “The Many and the None”. The series of global climatic change, hydrological pattern and ecological functions are signs of the fast disappearance of biodiversity.

The poem “Divorced From Green” by Tanya Mendosa describes the life of humans which has changed from traditional to modern and developed life. The title itself brings in the whole theme that human beings have got divorced from nature. They have gone far from naturally given things by God. Humans live like aliens in their own land. People are exiled from the Garden of Eden given by God. They have created their own world with artificial things. Humans do not have any knowledge and warning regarding the extinction of fishes and dragonflies.

Vandana Shiva, an environmentalist gave a lecture on “Making Peace with the Earth”, there she spoke about the global corporate economy. Corporate companies have taken over all the power on the earth. The earth’s resources have been transformed into a supermarket where everything is for sale. She says that toxics, geoengineering and nano technologies are the weapons of mass destruction. All these technologies have killed living beings by grabbing food and water which affects the whole life cycle.

The earth’s water resources have been completely drained by industries. Green revolution was introduced as an industrial agriculture in India. The movement helped industries to grow better, they replaced soil fertility with chemical fertilizers. It destroyed soil fertility and increased greenhouse gases which resulted in climate

change. This movement became a mechanism for breeding new pests and creating new diseases. The demand for pesticides was increased and there was loss of various species like microorganisms and birds.

Harmful toxins were spread to various plants during the process of pollination. Crops and plants which are prone to these have started killing butterflies, bees, soil organisms and animals. The chemical fertilizers are very much hazardous, it caused birth defects and fertility problems. The poisoned natural resources not only killed bird and animal species, it also affected human beings. When people consumed these harmful foods they were also affected by various diseases and many were also dead. The improper food habit of the people is all due to the harms that humans do to the soil and land. The soil loses its fertility and becomes a wasteland and the food grown there affects the health of the humans. “An area size of France has already vanished, chopped down or burned,” he whispers back. “In thirty years it all will be gone. Every animal. Every tree. And the people...” (Whirlwind 133). The destruction of the ecosystem will occur in the near future and the signs of destruction of the entire world are the natural calamities that happen in the present. Nature has started showing its anger towards humans by means of various natural calamities and disasters. In few more years, everything will become extinct. Not only the animals and trees but humans too will disappear.

Recently there was a great decline in the population of large bodied wildlife species in the tropical forest and that has led to global bush meat crisis. It has threatened the forest ecosystem and people who depend on wild meat. The habitats are lost in unprecedented rates and are over-hunted in order to supply to the rural and urban population. One of the important threats to large scale vertebrates is habitat loss which leads to the extinction of species. The depletion of Amazonian wildlife is due

to hunting. When people hunt in excess for food, the habitats are distributed and are altered.

The causes for loss of biodiversity are hunting, poaching and commercial exploitation. Lots of wildlife habitats have been distributed and eliminated. There are selective destruction of few habitats and domestication. The change in the natural surrounding threatens the indigenous species. Few other factors are use of pesticides, medical research and zoos.

David Klass in his novel *The Caretaker Trilogy* has highlighted the natural disasters that are ruining the entire world. He has focused on the world's most important places such as the Atlantic Ocean, the Amazon rainforest and the Arctic Sea. This novel is considered to be a science fiction which has the theme of environmental awareness to the readers. He concentrates on the aspects of declining species, deforestation and global warming in the three novels.

After industrialization there is an increase in the rate of extinction of species. One of the most noted examples of the extinction species is passenger pigeon. There are certain plant and animal species that are threatened by the possibility of being on the verge of extinction but for each species the seriousness of the threat is different. The threatened species have been categorized into four types by the international union of conservation of nature. They are endangered, rare, depleted and intermediate species. Around six hundred species of animals have become extinct over the past two thousand years. Likewise three thousand plant species are also need to be conserved. Due to the demand of the fur, several spotted cats like jaguar and ocelot are in danger of extinction. The concern about extinction of species is mentioned in *Whirlwind*:

“There are only five species in the entire world,” she replies softly.

“The others live in the place like Yangtze and the ganges, but the pink

river dolphin of the Amazon are by far the smartest. Loggers shoot them for food, so there are only a hundred left.” She turns towards me, and her sad eyes have never looked more beautiful. “Soon they’ll all be gone.” (207)

The Brazilian Amazon is one of the well nourished areas on earth and rare species can be found there. Eko has power through which she can understand the language of different species. She has the ability to communicate with birds and animals telepathically. As she is from the future she knows the suffering of people who live in the future and the dry desert which was once the Garden of Eden. Eko has a good connection with dolphins. Jack and Eko find pink river dolphins which are found only in the Amazon. Eko is very worried because of those species that are becoming extinct. She says that the loggers hunt them for food and there are only few left which will vanish in few years.

Eko has lived her life without having any connection with nature. She has seen only starvation and the dry lands it was all because of the previous generation which destroyed them without any guilt or concern. The extinction of species has begun from the early twenty first century itself and it was the time when people went out of their limits in destroying things. “You have no idea. Parasitic nematodes were a blight for centuries, but they vanished in the great die-off three hundred years ago, when they hosts died. Dependency leads to extinction. These are the last worms left on earth. They’re marvelous creature in their way.” (Timelock 44)

Global warming has made the marine species extinct. The Dark Lord has come to the turning point where he produces heat to melt the ice glaciers in the arctic sea. As he was not able to destroy the Atlantic Ocean and Amazon rainforest, he has targeted the arctic. The whales in the arctic couldn’t live in the atmospheric level.

They began declining due to the warmth and the whalers who hunt or kill them for some business profit. Klass proves that most of the species has gone extinct and the left out species on earth are only few that are highlighted in the novel as:

The mysterious whales of the northernmost arctic, the oceanographically erudite hound explains to me. They went extinct soon after the turning point from a combination of warming water and the whalers with high-powered rifles and harpoon guns. These must be a good percentage of the last narwhals left on earth. (Timelock 183)

Humans should take a step forward in saving nature. Even if there is a change in one person, it is a positive approach towards the welfare of nature and its resources. As humans, they should know the limitations of using the resources. The luxurious life of the present generation will be the mysterious life of future generation. There are both advantages and disadvantages in the economic growth of a country. The increased development of technologies shows a growth in the economic level but when in the case of natural resources there is no growth level. There is a huge difference which can be made equal by the help of humans. Humans can only help to make everything normal.

The aspect of declining of species is not just a simple thing as it has a great impact in the upcoming years. The novel brings out the idea that humans should be aware of the natural disaster and the reduction of various species. In the end machines may overpower the world of humans with the growth in technology such as laser, cyborgs, chimeras and many others. All these issues can only be stopped with the mentality of humans towards gadgets, automobiles and other technologies.

Every individual on earth should know the need and importance of nature and its resources. Humans play a major role in the destruction of nature though they are a part of it. They may think that it is all because of the growth in technology but the important thing is that humans are the ones who develop machines and give them more power. One of the major factors is that science and technology has entirely changed the life of humans. In few situations people harm nature unknowingly, they may focus on the development of technology but in contrast it leads to the disaster of nature. At times they try to destruct it for their own purpose of living which later leads all living beings to a disastrous life.

## **Chapter – 3**

# **Extremity of Pastoral Life: Deforestation and Indigenous Communities**

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Deforestation results in the devastation of the tropical forest by means of logging, farming and road building. There is a rapid progression in the rate of deforestation in the Amazon. Humans being a part of the environment should know the value of nature and its resources on earth. Initially, Jack was sent back a thousand years back to save the Oceans with the help of firestorm from the Dark Army. The next task of Jack was to save the Amazon rainforest from the Dark Lord. The Dark Lord is Dargon's father who was deforesting Amazon by capturing the indigenous tribes and logging woods in the forest. His aim was to destroy the world's most valuable place where rare species, fresh water, medicinal plants and valuable trees are found. He thought indigenous tribes would suffer more than the others. Since Amazon is considered to be the lung of the planet Earth, the Dark Lord has aimed in destroying the precious aspects in nature. The Dark Lord is full of vengeance that he is taking revenge against the People of Dann who act as the Caretakers of the Garden of Eden, the earth.

There is a great impact of deforestation on indigenous people. These people live only in the forest and their whole life is dependent on it. Indigenous people have started lose their livelihood and they do not have home to stay. The Dark Lord has caught most of the tribesmen and kept them in his prison. He was very favorable to the loggers. Though Jack was assigned to save the forest, he went there to save his girlfriend P.J. who was kidnapped by the Dark Army. During the adventure in the Amazon a small boy accompanied Gisco and Jack in entering the Amazon forest. As the Dark Army is trying to rule the world, it does not have any concern for the natural

resources. Though nature and its resources are considered to be the most precious and irreplaceable things they are also destroyed. All the destructive activities of the Dark Army have a strong impact on the earth not only at present but also in the future.

The Dark Lord has gone to an extent of destroying the nature. He tries to overpower the earth by means of all his destructive activities. All his activities affect humans, animals, plants and various other species, which leads to the end of the natural environment. “Everything he can. He’s deforesting the Amazon. Wiping out huge tracts of irreplaceable virgin rain forest, the destruction of which is having a terrible effect on the future earth and strengthening the hand of the Dark Army” (Whirlwind 78). People are not worried about the future generation who are going to live in this earth, they are seeking their own needs and benefits from the nature’s resources. They use excess of nature’s resources without the thinking that there are people who require all the resources that they use. Every human being needs to know the fact that God has given all things in excess for their living. But each one should know how to utilize it properly.

Jack was destined to save the earth from the Dark Lord and the Dark Army. When Jack tried to save the small boy during the Amazon adventure, Gisco reminds him that there are numerous people dying each day. Gisco who clearly knows about the future world says Jack that he has lot of responsibilities to do and saving that small boy or few would not be the right choice. Amazon rainforest is one of the most important places on earth. The Dark Lord tries to overpower the world by means of destroying each and everything in the valuable rainforest. By destructing Amazon, all the rare species are destroyed. The earth loses its soul which has been nourishing it in various ways.

People starve due to famine in the earth. There is no enough water and food for human beings to live and survive in the world. The fate of people who live in the future can only be changed by the step that Jack takes at the present. So each and every action of Jack is very much important. Jack needs to make clear decisions in all his actions. Even a small mistake can make people's life more miserable than they are at present:

It's just one life. The entire future is threatened by what the Dark Lord is doing in the Amazon. You haven't seen it. I have. A world stripped of its lungs today is a world wheezing its way to a terrible death a thousand years from now. Millions of people are suffering horribly and depending on us. Your duty is to the many, Jack, and not to the few, and especially not to the one. (Whirlwind 105)

Humans are not the only ones that are threatened by tropical deforestation, non-humans such as other living beings are also affected due to tropical deforestation. The main reason is that the tropical rainforests occupy more than half of the planet's biodiversity. The Amazon rainforest is a place where many special inhabitants and the unseen tribal communities are found. The Amazon is extremely rich in both flora and fauna.

Forests were their first home for earlier humans. There are numerous tribal communities found in the Amazon tropical rainforest. People from other countries started entering the forest, from then onwards the tribal people have been losing their space. The tribal people have been living in forests for a long period and they considered forests as their lands. Those people knew everything about the forest. They lived with nature and it was their only happiness. Outsiders started destroying all the

resources for various reasons. If there is no forest then there is no food, water and medicine.

Indigenous people are forced to go outside the forest by Governments, businessmen and multinational companies. Since the rainforest consists of precious tropical hardwood, cheap soil for agricultural use, and minerals and metals, people see the economic opportunities in the tropical rainforest and aim at exploiting them. Moreover, the rainforest lands are in great demand as it does not belong to anyone. Though the indigenous people live there for a long period they are exploited by the outsiders. The outsiders are common people and Government who grab the land from the poor tribal people.

When common people started entering the rainforest, the tribal people started disappearing. They do not have any knowledge about them going out of their homes and lands. They all move into the world which is outside the forest. They start losing their bond towards nature. Gradually their lifestyle and culture changes and they live like common people. Their life as tribal people has changed completely. As years pass by their knowledge about the plants, animals and other things in the forest are also lost. "Five centuries ago, when the Europeans first came knocking, more than ten million Indians lived in the rain forest," Ernesto tells me. "Today there are fewer than two hundred thousand. Each time a tribe disappears, we lose all the knowledge they have accumulated about plants and animals" (Whirlwind 133).

Generally, the indigenous communities have experienced less frequent deforestation but due to various environmental issues forests appear to be increasingly threatened. Though indigenous people lived in forests for a longer period they lacked the formal legal recognition to claim it to be their lands. There are many illegal

activities by the miners and the loggers which have a tremendous effect on the tribal people.

Forest fire is one of the major reasons for the deforestation of the Amazon rainforest. The Dark Lord who has captured most of the indigenous people has made them to destroy their own lands by forcing them to burn the forest. Those indigenous people have no other option burn plants and trees which they love the most. Ernesto who is one among the captured tribes is the chief of it, says that the Dark Lord's aim is to destroy the whole rainforest only with the help of the indigenous communities. It is because those people have a true bonding towards nature as they lived among them.

After sending the indigenous people and burning the forest, the lands are sowed with seeds like rice and soy. Those seeds are cultivated in large acres that the whole forest has changed into a cultivating land. Since the cultivation of new crops has developed there is change in the intake of food. People got used to western food and it paved way to the others who cultivate hybrid plants and other elements that are used to make fast food items. The entire rainforest was destroyed to earn lots of money by making western foods. People do not understand the seriousness of the change in the food habit which makes their health poor. The soil is also very much affected due to these changes. There are people who change the forests into cultivating lands which the author points out in these lines:

I ask Ernesto why they burned the forest. "In four months, it will be seeded with rice or soy," he explains. "The grains will go to feed cattle who will end up as hamburger in Western fast food restaurant chains. So, acre by acre, our beautiful rain forest becomes millions of double cheeseburgers." (Whirlwind 140)

The indigenous population was taken as slaves by the outsiders and were killed, robbed or infected by diseases to which they had no resistance. There are many special inhabitants and most uncontacted tribal societies living in the Amazon rainforest. Indigenous people are not only affected by means of tropical deforestation many other people also experience the same harm. Many people are threatened in their survival by deforestation.

The Brazilian Amazon is deforested by the loggers. The loggers are completely closing in on the tribal people's forest homeland. Expansion of roads and making new way from one place to another are few reasons to cut down the trees. The loggers make new paths to take the valuable trees from the forest. Due to the improvement and expansion of the roads the environment has been highly affected. Those new roads brought more loggers and settlers which increased the impact of deforestation. The tribes undergo increasing pressure because of the deforestation in the rainforest. Outsiders seem to be the trouble makers for the tribal people. This leads the tribal people to stay away from them and to chase them away with bows and arrows.

Since, Mahogany trees are too costly and are considered to be the green gold of Amazon they are cut down and taken out of the forest by destroying all the other trees. The loggers are keen in making economic profit rather making ecological profit. They aim at the most valuable trees and when there is no path to take it out of the forest they make a new path through which they can take the wood. Due to the increased destruction of trees the availability of hardwood has also increased. As the density of the forest lessens, there is no place for animals to live. The hunters were able to hunt animals easily and those are used as bush meat. The land in which trees were grown is all gone. It is used as farming land to cultivate food crops. On the

whole the main idea is to make new roads by means of destruction. The author talks about the plight of the Mahogany trees:

“Mahogany trees,” he answers. “If loggers spot a valuable tree, they’ll cut a road for miles so that it can be dragged out. Once those roads are cut, the forest can be developed. Other loggers will pour in to the harvest the less valuable hardwoods. The more that’s cut the more becomes available. The animals will be hunted for bush meat. The land will be cleared for farming. So the whole trick is getting loggers to cut that first road.” (Whirlwind 149-50)

Tropical deforestation has created social and ecological harm. Humans tend to be the victims due to the disappearance of the oldest human societies, it also leads to ecological degradation, destruction and the disappearance of plant and animal species. In such cases the victims are found easily but when it comes to the perpetrators, people who are responsible for the harm are anonymous. Destructors cannot be found and even if they are found they cannot be punished. It is all due to the people who run after money and the higher authorities who cannot be questioned.

Tropical deforestation is one of the major reasons for global warming. It is because when trees are cut down the temperature increases and leads to global warming. There occurs an imbalance in the environment due to the climatic changes as well. Earth gets heated due to direct fall of sun rays resulting in the depletion of the ozone layer. Even the cosmetics that are used by people harm the atmospheric conditions. The advanced machineries like refrigerator, washing machine and air coolers emit unwanted gases that affect the ozone layer.

Ernesto explains Jack that there are some people who do their duty sincerely. They cannot be bribed to make them under the control of the destroyers. When the government employees work sincerely the work of the destroyers gets more complicated. In such a situation the destroyers use the most vulnerable weapon, the forest fire to destroy the forest. Until then the forest is under the control of the Indians or the indigenous people. Since they lived there for so long they were responsible for the things that are in the forest. When the forest gets fired up the foresters lose their earnings and the government looks for foreign investors who can plant cheap soy and give profit by means of it. The word development here means that destroying natural resources and running after artificial and genetically modified things. The impact of corruption by the government that has led to deforestation:

“There are a few misguided heroes in our government who can’t be bribed or threatened,” he explains. “They’ve set vast tracts of land aside for the Indians, and sometimes even I can’t get at them. Torching the trees ends the argument. Once the forest is gone, the Indians retreat. And I can bring in foreign investors to plant soy. A few cans of gasoline is all it takes to develop the most sheltered parts of the forest.”

(Whirlwind 150-51)

Colonel Aranha or the Dark Lord who planned to destroy Amazon by means of forest fire sends all the prisoners, the indigenous people along with the Dark Army to the forest. They take gasoline or fuels with them to fire one part of the Amazon rainforest. It is because the Dark Lord wants the destruction to be done by the indigenous people who love the forest more than anyone else. Jack was one among the people who went to light the forest with fire, that was the time he realized he

should take steps to save the forest from the hands of the Dark Lord. The author clearly portrays the importance of the most valuable places on earth as:

“The Amazon plays a far more complex role than just being the lungs of the planet,” the colonel explains. “It’s more like a giant air conditioner, with a benign effect on global climate. It’s also a major repository of fresh water, which will become the most vital resource in the years ahead. And like the coral reefs that my son was fond of, the Amazon is one of the earth’s irreplaceable breeding grounds. Its diversity is without parallel.” (Whirlwind 155)

The colonel who has imprisoned Jack tells that the Amazon rainforest plays the major role in being the lung of the planet Earth. Earth seems to be well nourished only because of nature and its resources. Since the forest is completely surrounded by trees and freshwater, the Earth’s climatic conditions maintain the atmospheric level. Due to this reason humans are able to survive. It is not only in the case of humans, other species like plants and animals also live peacefully or else the climate would have changed and there will be a rise in the temperature. Excess of heat leads to the depletion of the ozone layer and the Earth gets affected very much. Amazon is the place where all life forms grow, it also acts as the centre for flora and fauna to flourish.

By damaging the Amazon rainforest the Colonel could achieve the destruction of the earth which was his son’s desire. The Amazon is a place where the soil is very rich. It does not contain any impure elements and that helps to increase the groundwater level. Due to this activity the rivers are able to flow easily without any hurdles and the trees grow densely in the forest. All these things keep the entire ecosystem in a good condition.

The coral reefs in the Atlantic Ocean are so valuable that the Dark Army thought of destroying it. Similar to that the Amazon forest is also one of the precious places that the Caretakers or the People of Dann are trying to save. The step by step destruction of the Dark Lord has a great impact on the Earth as well as on the people who are living in the future. Jack is one among the Caretakers who has the responsibility of saving the people by means of saving the Earth where all the natural resources are available for the present as well as the future generation.

Eko felt that she has entered some prehistoric forest. Initially the place was so green and pure, it was before humans started to destroy the planet. The place was not civilized and everything was before the period of civilization. It was not only like going backward in time but to an untouched wilderness. It was a new world for Eko as she has only seen the dry desert which was the result of civilization and economic development. At that time there were no loggers who try to wipe out the entire forest by deforestation. Eko noticed that there were lots and lots of species in the Amazon rainforest.

From Eko's perspective human beings are the main reason for nature's loss. She seemed to be very much worried that humans do not help in the growth and welfare of the nature. Humans have the ability to think, create and control everything, and these are few things that separate humans from animals. Human beings created more farmland in order to feed more people, it was all done after deforestation. There's no value in planting more saplings after destroying all the trees. In order to develop the production of food, people used insect resistant crops. With the help of all these and better weather conditions humans have ruined the creation of God. Humans have lost humanity and are being ingenuine to all other creatures and this is what the author tries to bring out:

Because we're human,' Eko tells me, and there's a ring of disdain and self-loathing in her voice. 'That's the reason. That's what humans do. That's what sets us apart from the rest of the animals. We think. We create. We try to control. And for a bunch of good reasons, like trying to create more farmland and feed more people and have insect-resistant crops and better weather, we played God more and more. And we couldn't do it. We weren't up to it. (Firestorm 127)

Trees are useful in many ways. There are different kinds of plants and trees on Earth. They provide medicines, fruits, vegetables, firewood, furniture, and various other things. Plants and trees are the main reasons for humans to survive naturally without any harm. They inhale carbon dioxide and exhale oxygen which is very much important for the survival of living beings. Trees are completely beneficial in the sense even after they are dead and dried, they are used as firewood. From its early growth and till the end it helps humans and animals.

Papers are made of trees and there are many other things materials that are made of trees. Trees are the home for many animals as they provide them shelter and food. They are the main source for the ecosystem to function properly. If a tree has been cut down then it is considered to be as an ill omen in some places. People do believe all those things and still they fail to protect trees. Some trees like cinchona and kapok have medicinal values that help to prevent and cure various diseases. One of the trees named cinchona helps in preventing malaria and the medicine is prepared from the bark of the plant. The loggers have made sure in wiping out all the trees that saves the lives of the humans. Loggers are all well planned in aiming at the most important and valuable trees all they do is to earn money. The leaf of the cinchona tree looks beautiful like a teardrop. Humans do not have any guilt or consciousness in

harming the trees which helps the humans throughout their life. The author concentrates on loggers who are focused on deforesting one of the valuable trees like cinchona:

‘A cinchona tree,’ she tells me. ‘Quinine, which prevents malaria, is distilled from its bark. Loggers have pretty much wiped them all out, but that’s a lovely specimen.’ Its leaves seem to drip down like teardrops in the fading greenish light. ‘Strange that humans should do such harm to trees that have done us so much good.’ (Whirlwind 210)

Similar to the cinchona tree, there is one more tree named the kapok tree, which also has its own benefits. It has lived for thousand years and it is believed to be a sacred tree. Mayans have named the kapok trees as the tree of life. They also believed that the roots of the tree has reached deep under the world and as their branches touched and supported the heavens. It is something strange that human beings harm the environment which helps them to survive.

In the novel *Whirlwind*, Kidah who is considered to be a legend belongs to a tribal community. It has been believed that Kidah’s ancestral tribes who lived in the forest did not have any contact with the other people outside the forest. Many other indigenous tribes also have a doubt in their existence. Since those people lived in perfect harmony with the plants and animals they were named as the People of Forest. There are still so many tribal people living inside the forest by protecting the left out nature and its resources. Klass proves that civilization has changed the lives of all people and has led the beautiful planet into a worst state:

I’ve seen the end result of civilization, Eko fires back angrily. Before I came back on this mission I smelled it and heard it and even tasted it. I saw what the advanced technologies of the self-described smartest

species to ever walk the earth did to this green and beautiful planet.

And if I were you, I wouldn't be so quick to label these tribesmen, who treat the trees and animals around them with such respect, as savages.

(Whirlwind 232)

When Eko and Jack were in the forest, they met various kinds of indigenous tribes. The tribal people were unaware of the outside world and about the technological development. They were too innocent in approaching both Eko and Jack. By seeing their immature behavior Jack calls them as savages and Eko gets angry and shouts back at Jack. She wants to convey that though the people are not civilized they are far better than the civilized people. Since she has come from the future she says that she has seen the result of civilization. Being civilized and advanced in technologies will not be sufficient to save the earth. They should know to respect nature which looks after everyone as a mother. But in contrast humans have done enough to this beautiful planet.

Nature does not depend on humans but in contrast humans are very much dependent on nature. Nature has its own pattern and system of cleansing itself. The air supply of the ecosystem is normal only because of the trees that are present in the forest. If there are forest fires created by humans, the trees will not be able to do their purifying cycle properly. Finally, the trees are led to the stage of not producing oxygen. The oxygen level in the atmosphere decreases and on the other hand the level of carbon dioxide emitted increases. The emission of excess carbon dioxide changes the temperature in the atmosphere. The gas then turns into large clouds which strongly have an impact on the climatic conditions. The advantage of growing trees according to Eko is that:

And nature has its own defenses, its own cleaning system, Eko tells me. The trees of the rain forest cleanse the air of carbon dioxide and produce oxygen. If you burn the rain forest, the trees can never do their cleaning job again. At the same time, you convert millions of them into vast clouds of carbon dioxide. (Whirlwind 237)

In “Many and the None”, the author had mentioned a person named Jagat Singh Choudhury who belonged to the Kumaon Himalaya. He had explained that there should be all kinds of trees like fodder trees, fuel wood trees and few other trees which keep the soil moist in the forest. Trees such as banj, kafai, ayar and burans will keep the soil humid. The leaves of those trees will make humus and that will have organic diversity. The forest should also consist of fruit trees and those trees that supply wood for building purposes. One of the most important trees that a forest should contain that will keep the environment clean is the broad-leafed ones. Rambans, bans and ringal are the trees that are used for industrial purposes.

In the novel *The Hungry Tide*, Amitav Ghosh had brought out an ecological awareness to the people about the anger of nature towards humans. The novel is set in the mangrove forest, Sunderbans which is considered to be the world’s largest ecosystem. The Sunderbans region has derived its name from a tree named sunderi tree or the mangrove. It comprises of both water and earth and it is the intersection of landscape, water, human beings and the culture. The people of Sunderbans struggle hard with the natural world to live. The author wants to convey the message that the entire ecosystem has been affected and nature is in utmost anger destroying all the things. It is similar to that of the novel *Whirlwind*, in which the Amazon rainforest was aimed at to be destroyed and in *The Hungry Tide* it is the mangrove forest of the

Sunderbans. All the tribal communities who lived inside the forest are forced to leave their places or homes in which they survived for years and years.

The novel *The Hungry Tide* describes the wild, untameable and fierce qualities of nature and for which humans and their activities are the reason. It gives a clear insight about the shifting islands, tigers, and other predators, poor soil, and minimal contact of tribal people with the outsiders. It also provides various representations regarding the Sunderbans ecosystem of mangrove forest and mudflats, and also the constant transformation of the island. Due to the tidal flows, the islands have temporarily submerged in the seawater.

The landscapes have come to the edge of a desert in the sense everything has been destroyed.

The feet meet cement,  
 and are forever divorced from green.  
 It all depends on how long one feels the weights as alien  
 and not a part of growing body,  
 stunting spirit. (Mendoza 5)

These lines are from the poem “Divorced from Green” in which Tanya Mendoza describes how civilization and development made people to go far from the Mother Nature. Earlier people used to walk on meadows and grasslands but now everything has changed. Nowadays people walk on cement paths due to destruction of nature. Humans are now alienated from the Earth, the Garden of Eden. Roads are created by deforestation and that resulted in people getting divorced from nature and greenery. But in this twenty first century people have understood the seriousness of living in this developing world.

“The Greek Kapok Tree” is a tale by Lynne Cherry, a tale about the Amazon Rain Forest. The major themes covered in the tale are environment and organisms. In this tale a young man who has the intention of chopping down the great kapok tree enters into the Amazon Rain Forest. But unconsciously he falls asleep under the tree and the animals which live in the forest explain him about the importance of Kapok trees for their survival. The young man understands the interdependency among the animals, plants and people. A few hours later when he wakes up he had a different thought towards the rain forest, he then leaves the rain forest deciding not to cut down the great kapok tree. So, on the whole, every human being should understand the connectivity towards trees and nature. If a tree has been cut down it not only has an effect on the trees it also affects the animals and human beings who are living in the forest.

Gieve Patel, who is considered to be the man of letters had written a poem “On Killing a Tree”. This poem highlights the cruel behavior of human beings towards nature. Humans thoughtlessly cut down the trees for their immediate gains that made the common home, the forest impoverished. Humans encounter lots of environmental hazards such as climate change, endangered species, environmental degradation, natural catastrophes, pollution, and water scarcity. The Earth is like a mother who nurtures her children, the humans. Those children are against their mother who tries to annihilate her without any concern. The poet wants to convey that the merciless butchery and the deserted graveyard compel the readers for an attitudinal transformation towards nature:

No,

The root is to be pulled out –

Out of the anchoring earth;

It is to be roped, tied,  
 And pulled out entirely,  
 Out from the earth-cave,  
 The source, white and wet,  
 The most sensitive, hidden  
 For years inside the earth. (“On Killing a Tree”)

The trees are not only cut down, but are also pulled out from deep under the soil. They are destroyed from their roots. The trees are too strong as they live for years and years. They have roots going deep under the soil endlessly. But those people who are trying to destroy are too conscious of killing from their roots. It takes years to grow a tree whereas it can be chopped down so easily within minutes. The technological development also plays an important role here, because many advanced and digitalized machines are created in order to cut down trees. It makes the work of humans less and simple.

Vandana Shiva in “Making Peace with the Earth” has said that humans can get everything inside the forest such as food, fibre and medicine. She had mentioned a person named Lavanya Gowda who said that Earth and forest give everything and the only thing that people need to get from outside the forest is salt. She also spoke about the indigenous people who has been captured and dominated by the corporate companies. The rights of the tribal people are lost and they try hard to make peace with the earth. Vandana Shiva said that privatizing the earth’s resources leads to wars like water wars, biodiversity wars and land wars.

In the novel *Whirlwind*, when the group of outsiders colonized the lands of the indigenous people in the Amazon, it resulted in encountering many generations of people with the external world. Those encounters were all unpleasant to the

indigenous people and their communities. The tribal population and other forest inhabitants are the victims of violent loggers and land grabbers. The landlords and the large landowners wish to transform the rainforest into an agricultural land. The only way by which they can lead a peaceful life is by giving their own rights on their land and life. There are too many conflicts in the Brazilian Amazon besides the land conflicts over timber and pastoral land, conflicts over soy cultivation have also been aroused. In general, violation of human rights and conflicts are some common issues in the Amazon rainforest and the crimes that are connected to deforestation.

Earlier writers used to write their works based on the theme of praising nature. They embraced the beauty of nature and also about the life with nature. They all wrote about the pastoral setting of nature in the rural areas. Buildings and industries have occupied the entire space in urban areas, whereas rural areas are filled with nature. But later on writers were so keen in creating awareness to the people about the environmental hazards. They expressed their anger through their works. Destruction of nature is the theme of the present day writers. The main reason is that humans are destroying each and every aspect of nature. People are moving away from the nature with which they are interconnected and interdependent.

In a recent news article “World’s poorest people bearing costs of rainforest conservation that benefits entire world, scientists warn,” it is stated as “That’s because of course instead of you and me having to fly less, and drive less, and people in cities around the world having to live their western lifestyles less – it’s poor people in faraway places having to change their livelihoods” (*The Independent*). The world is going forward with better technology facilities which change the lifestyle and culture. The impact of these changes affects the poor people and also the indigenous people in various ways. When rich people wanted to live a western life, the poor people are the

ones who sacrifice their lives. The lives of poor people are decided by means of the life of rich people.

A study has found that the rise in temperatures and increased droughts are taking their turn in the Amazon as the trees are unable to adapt to the climatic changes. The researchers who examined the growth in few parts of the rain forest have found that global warming was connected to the changing tree composition. But some tree species had died and there are not enough species springing up to replace them. Those species which can live even in the dry condition are better adapted to live whereas the other moisture required species seem to vanish. One of the most important ecosystems on the planet is the Amazon rainforest. Deforestation has become a significant threat to the rainforest region as the trees are cut down and cleared in order to make way for cattle farms and crops like soy.

Even the untouched and undisturbed parts of the rainforest away from the human influence are threatened by climate change. Dr. Kyle Dexter an ecologist at the University of Edinburgh has said that, “The impact of climate change on forest communities has important consequences for rainforest biodiversity” (*The Independent*). Climate is something which plays an important role in the growth of nature. When there is climatic change, then the forests are very much affected. Similarly, when trees are reduced and the forest’s resources are affected there is change in the climatic conditions. On the whole, nature is interconnected like humans.

The direct causes for deforestation are expansion of farming land, forest and other plantations, logging and fuel wood, overgrazing, forest fires, mining, urbanization or industrialization and infra-structure, air pollution, wars and role of the military, and tourism. The indirect causes are colonialism, exploitation by industrialized countries, the burden of debt, overpopulation and poverty,

transmigration and colonization schemes, land rights, land tenure and inequitable land distribution and resources, economic causes, undervaluing the forest and corruption and political cause.

When there is change in the ecosystem, it can also have harmful consequences to human health as well. Estimation proves that almost one quarter of the global burden of disease is attributed to the environmental changes that contribute to the air, soil and water pollution. It is considered that one of the main causes of global environmental change, and land use change are human modifications of land and the ways that are used for few purposes such as agriculture, infrastructure development and timber harvesting. A study conducted in the Amazon region has described that there are health effects both directly and indirectly due to the change in land use.

The strategies through which deforestation can be decreased are reducing the population growth and by increasing the per capita income. The area and standard of the management of the protected areas should be increased. The government and non-government institutions and policies need to be strengthened. Promoting sustainable development and encouraging the substitutes will help the reduction of deforestation. To prevent the ecological imbalance in the Brazilian Amazon, the pressure of deforestation on indigenous lands needs to be decreased. Future programs regarding environment should aim at avoiding deforestation and other conservation outcomes on indigenous lands. The tropical rainforest has rapidly disappeared as the football field started to increase.

One of the important reasons to preserve tropical rainforests is that a quarter of the medicines come from them. It is ultimately in the interest and effort of the humans to preserve nature as it is associated with the need and limit of the emission of the greenhouse gases. Humans, who were hunters and gatherers in the rain forest, did not

destroy the environment in which they lived. They respected it as it gave them food, water, medicine and shelter. In the present scenario, advanced agriculture and industrial development of the modern societies destroy their environment. People need to realize that it is high time to take steps to preserve the left out nature and its resources. Every individual should have an insight that they are dependent on nature and if nature gets disturbed it affects the whole ecosystem of which man is an important part.

## **Chapter – 4**

### **Parching the Earthly Paradise: Role of Technology**

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Human beings have a deep connection with nature, from their birth till the end of their life they are linked to nature and its resources in one way or the other. Though nature is a strong supporter of humans, its significance is not realized by many people. At this point of time, nature has started taking its turn against the activities of humans. When all the living beings needed comfort they depended on nature but the ill behavior and attitude of humans towards nature have made it to take revenge against them. The initiative of the destruction of nature and its resources came up when humans got civilized. When each generation started getting more civilized, they looked for the hands of technology. Humans believed that technology will make their work less and easy. The time consumption of doing their work became very much less. And that was the time that technology started its destruction. When technological communication increased, humans decreased their communication with nature. The life of human with nature started to shrink.

Though technology has its own scope in the current world, it has both advantages and disadvantages. The more people opt for the technologies they are equally affected because of it. People started to find more machines which makes their work lesser. Machines need to be a support for human beings but rather it became a threat by destroying everything. The entire world has been ruined by the human beings and their activities. But still humans blame nature for the natural calamities that affect humans and their lives. The importance and benefits of nature are still unknown to numerous people in the world. The excess availability of natural resources does not mean that they will remain the same until the end. People on earth need to know the limitations of using all the resources. Humans are also a part of the

ecosystem, they should not be dominant over nature. Each and every thing on earth is interdependent. When one part of the ecosystem is affected all the other parts are also affected eventually.

Jack thought of buying flowers to his girlfriend P.J. and so he went inside a flower shop. Suddenly, the flower shop turned into a room filled with machines and computers. Since the Dark Army was chasing Jack, the People of Dann came there to save him. It was because he belonged to the People of Dann and he was considered as the beacon of hope. Jack was taken back to his own world in the future through a time machine. People from the future used time travelling to come to the present period and change the fate of the future generation and earth. Jack woke up in a place which was completely like a desert. There were no trees, no houses, no water and no natural surroundings. The temperature was too high due to the direct sun fall in that place.

Jack and Morgan pass through the sandstorm. The surface feels like a blast furnace because of the direct rays of the sun. As they pass by there appears hills and mountains, few remaining parts of small towns and cities. They also pass the urban graveyards which was once a well flourished land. They see the shadows of humans who are desperately in need of food. When they both move through the place they all come out from some hiding places in order to get help from them. They find that those people are really struggling hard to get enough food. People beg for food for their survival. They are not protected by any shelter. There is a direct attack of the sun over them and their struggle for food also makes them too weak. Their bones are covered with clothes because they are too lean without any muscles. Those people may even die without moisture and water. Jack thought of helping those people but Morgan warned him not to give them anything. It was because he saw Jasai. By

seeing Jasai, all the other people flee in different directions. They are very much scared by seeing him. Klass says:

“Shadows scuttle around the ruins. Humans! Desperate women and children emerge from hiding places and hold out hands as we speed by. They’re begging for food and they look like they need it-haggard faces, unprotected from the glare. Stick-thin bodies poking out of ragged clothes.” (Timelock 50)

Jack thought that Jasai belongs to the Dark Army since all the people are scared of him. Morgan tells him that Jasai is a Dannite. He got separated from the People of Dann when they lost the war against the Dark Army. Jasai wants to force the end of the human species. Humans are the reason for all the things that happens on earth. The earth was once a beautiful place and humans are the ones who brought disgrace to it. When the People of Dann believed that the earth could be protected, Jasai preached everyone saying the Dann was wrong. He said that the only thing that could save the earth was the end of human’s presence. When the entire human race is killed or removed from the earth, it becomes a far better place with its extreme beauty. The followers of the People of Dann also believed in the words of Jasai. Few people supported him and believed that the death of mankind would solve the entire problem:

Yes, Morgan agrees, they blame themselves for what’s happened to the earth. According to their fanatical founder, humans are abominations in the eyes of God, responsible for every wretched thing that’s happened to the once beautiful earth. Dann claimed that the planet could be saved and healed. Jasai preaches that Dann was wrong, and

that humanity's last duty is to remove its own foul presence. (Timelock 51)

The earth which was once a beautiful place has changed into a grave. The marshlands have become dry lands and the rivers are all dried. Since it is a dry desert they cannot walk on it. They do not have any transport facility, they travel with the help of a nematode. A nematode is a giant worm which has adapted to survive in all conditions. Morgan and Jack climb on the back of the nematode and they used it for travelling. Their destination was to reach the People of Dann, but the nematode leaves them half way through because they have reached the kill zone which was a very dangerous place.

The earth has lost all its beauty and resources which helps the other living beings to survive. All the living beings are under a great sin: the sin of starvation due to lack of food and water. They kill each and everything that they could eat. The deep hunger in them makes them to kill their own species and eat them. They hide under the ground and wait for some eatables to pass them. All the species that are living there have turned dangerous and poisonous. When species go extinct a problem occurs in the food chain, which leads to the death of their own species as well as others. Those species which are hidden under the sand also has the capacity to eat humans.

Morgan said that many legends have told about the presence of mutant locusts deep under the ground. It eats everything that it sees and if there is nothing to eat then it eats its own species. There are even lizards which are huge in size like dinosaurs, they hide and wait inside the dunes for so many weeks to hunt and eat something. The last one which is too dangerous are the goliath scorpions. It has twelve eyes and a humongous stinger poised to strike. When it tries to attack it moves on with its eight

legs and sprays acid from its mouth. It is huge in its size as well. The author has predicted the future earth and portrayed the hunger of all animals as:

If the legends are true, there are swarms of mutant locusts, which emerge from the ground and eat everything they set upon, and then each other. And there are lizards as big as dinosaurs, which hide themselves in dunes and remain motionless for weeks until something passes by. Worst of all are the hairy red desert goliath scorpions. Just one sting and all your blood turns to- (Timelock 53)

Morgan warns Jack to move safely on ground as all those harmful species may kill them in order to fill their stomach. He said that the one good news is that the heat will kill them before those locusts and lizards. Jack was worried about Morgan because he was the reason for Morgan's suffering. Though there was nothing in that place, Morgan lived a much peaceful life in the hutch before the arrival of Jack. While thinking of that suddenly Jack is attacked by the red hairy scorpion. With much effort they killed the scorpion and escaped.

Almighty God has given humans a beautiful world to live a luxurious life. It is believed that when God made two human characters Adam and Eve on earth, he gave them the liberty to live happily with all comfort in the Garden of Eden. They were entirely covered with the glory of God. The only thing that God warned of was not to touch the Tree of knowledge of good and evil. The Garden of Eden was a natural surrounding filled with plants, trees, birds, animals, two humans and angels who protected everything in it. When Adam and Eve disobeyed the sayings of God, they were cursed and expelled from the Garden of Eden. It was the fall of mankind. Though God has given them such a beautiful life, humans have completely screwed up everything by eating a fruit from the tree of knowledge. Jack has a sense of guilt

within himself by seeing the wiped out dry lands. Jack tells that the Garden of Eden may be a myth or truth, but the world he came from was similar to that. It was a lush garden, the skies were so clear and the oceans were filled with variety of fishes. But the world in which he is at present is a typical desert. There is nothing left in the earth, everything has been ruined. The earth seems to be a graveyard. The Garden of Eden has at present changed into a dry land:

Was the Garden of Eden really here, thousands of years ago-a leafy glade between beautiful rivers with the tree of knowledge hanging with tempting fruit? As trudge along, I can't help feeling a tremendous sense of guilt at how we screwed it all up. I don't know if I believe in the Eden myth, but in a sense the whole world I came from was like a lush garden, with clean skies and fish-filled oceans. And now there's nothing left but gravel. (Tiemlock 56-57)

Few ninjas who belonged to the Dannites saved Jack and Morgan from the heat and dangerous creatures. They saved them only after knowing that Jack was the Prince of Dann as written in the prophecy. He has come back using time travel to the future world. Jack saw his real mother, Mira who was the Queen of Dann. She took care of the entire kingdom because of the absence of the King. The King was captured by the Dark Army and the date of his execution was also set. Mira said that Jack was brought to save his father from the Dark Army. Only then Jack came to know that the life he lived in America was all built of lies, it was all made to protect Jack from the Dark Army. The Dark Army knew that Jack has prophesied to save the future world from them, so in order to save Jack from the Dark Army, the People of Dann has send him a thousand years back to the earth.

Mira tells Jack about the extremely dangerous device which was built up by the Jasai to destroy the entire human species. The device was a machine named as the Omega Box. It was not just a machine, it is completely conscious of what is to be done. The Omega Box has joined the Dark Army in order to damage the world. The damage has a strong effect on the world and due to this humans cannot survive in the living hell that is the earth. The device helps the Dark Army to destroy and damage the earth. All these destructions help the Omega Box and the Dark Army to rule the entire earth in the future. As a result of technological development, machines have got all the abilities more than humans. Though humans are the reason for the development of the machines, their growth somehow has an effect on humans and on nature. The destruction of nature and humans are the result of the growth of technology. The evil power and machines have joined together to rule the earth:

Both a who and a what. It's a living doomsday device, built by the Jasai cult, with the power to wipe out all human life. The Omega Box was originally a machine, but it's developed a consciousness and a will of its own. It's thrown in its lot with the Dark Army. It wants to help them damage our earth in the past, so it can rule with them in the years to come. (Timelock 66)

Jack and Mira decided to go to the Fortress of Aighar, the kingdom of the Dark Army to rescue the King of Dann. There are guards and security scanners all around the place. No one can enter the Fortress other than the cyborgs, chimeras and others who belong to the Dark Army. Humans can be cheated easily but machines cannot be cheated because they are too clever than humans. Jack and Mira trace the route through which they can enter into the Fortress and find the King of Dann. Initially, they should cross the flat desert. Then they have to travel both day and night

to reach the place in order to rescue the King before the date of execution. They both have to risk their lives because if they are found by the Dark Army it is sure that they will no more be alive. The dangers that they have to cross are the drones, orbiting scanners, gravel storms, giant scorpions and a swarm of locusts. All these are highly dangerous things and creatures. They also need to cross the acid moat which is before the entrance. As they draw closer to the Dark Army, the security devices get increased and the number of scouts, traps and land mines are also more. Their only chance for them is to travel by underground. The development of technology and other harmful animals that are present in the future earth:

A red line begins to trace our route across the map on the cavern wall.

‘The first leg will take us across flat desert. We must travel day and night, and risk discovery and instant annihilation by Dark Army drones and orbiting scanners. The other principal dangers will be gravel storms, giant scorpions, and a swarm of locusts that has filled the sky from the dry oasis to the hills.’ (Timelock 74-75)

Jack asks his mother about the clues or the way by which they can enter in and rescue his father without being spotted by the Dark Army. Mira says that it can be done only with the help of the star of Dann. She also said that the star was kept inside the watch by the People of Dann or the caretakers. It was such a powerful weapon that they can use it during their hardest period to save themselves and the people.

Unfortunately, Jack has thrown the watch in the middle of the Amazon because of his anger towards his father. This happened while he and P. J. escaped from the Dark Lord. Due to this reason, Eko was sent a thousand years back to find the watch with the help of P. J.

When Eko and P. J. came in search of Jack's watch in the Amazon they saw the beauty of nature which was mesmerizing. Eko was dumbstruck for a moment. By seeing Eko, P. J. felt that she has a deep connection with it. In contrast, Eko was astonished by its beauty. Eko has never seen a place like that before, as she came from the future earth. She says to P. J. that she will not be affected even if the world is saved or not. All their efforts to save the earth will have a direct attack on the future earth and the future generation. But their present life will remain the same and all the things will be available for them to survive. They will have food, water, shelter, and all the other resources in excess. The seasonal changes will be proper. There will be sunshine and sunset, various kinds of birds will fly high in the sky and all the fishes will swim peacefully without any disturbance. The ecosystem will function normally. The only people who will suffer are the people in the future. The author tries to convey that the present generation need not worry about anything since they have enough of everything that are necessary to live.

“If the future is ultimately saved or the earth dies-it is of no consequence to you,” Eko told her. “During your lifetime, you will still have enough food to eat, enough fresh water to drink, and the seasons will change. The sun will shine, birds will fly, and fish will swim. Go home and enjoy it, and let the rest go.” (Timelock 109)

Eko and P.J. are both in love with Jack, in turn Jack has concern for both of them. It was prophesied that Jack and Eko will rule the world if they saved the earth in future. But Jack as an American citizen loves P.J. and he does not knew that it was not his real life. When P.J. came to know that Jack will marry Eko in future she planned to do something by which she will become Jack's wife. P.J. knew that Eko has the ability to exchange souls so P.J. thought it would be a correct thing to do so.

Eko who needed the help of P.J. to find Jack's watch consoled her by exchanging their souls for few minutes. At that time, P.J. got a chance to see Eko's childhood memories and her world. Eko's world was full of disasters, the oceans were lifeless and are filled with acids instead of water. The land was so dry and it lost its capacity to provide groundwater. As there are no moisture and vapour, the clouds are missing in the sky. The bright sun was the only object that was shining in the sky by slowly killing all the souls present there. After seeing this, P.J. understood the seriousness of their struggle. She helped Eko and decided to get back with Eko to the future life. She was ready to leave her present life to see Jack. Eko takes P.J. along with her. The author's prediction of the future earth is brought to light through the character Eko:

P.J. saw that world the way Eko recalled it, in a series of indelible images. The lifeless, acid oceans. The parched land, drained of groundwater. The cloudless skies with a merciless sun blistering down through an ever-thinning atmosphere. It was a disaster but it was also a cause. P.J. felt the young woman latch on to that cause as a reason to live. (Timelock 102)

After receiving the Star of Dann, it has been put into a silver locket that dangles in a thin chain. Mira tells Jack to put the chain. They both have become invisible to others and that was the only way for them to enter into the Fortress of Aighar. They have taken few weapons along with them. They cross the most dangerous boundaries by risking their lives. They see mountains from a distance and when they move closer to it, they find it to be artificial. Those are man-made or the Dark Army would have made them. They have already seen that place as an image while they were in the Dannites' desert. The computer wiz has shown them, but for both of them visualizing it directly was too different. All those were a result of the

growth of science and technology. The future was considered to be the Dark Ages because nature has become man-made or machine-made. The future earth is filled with advanced machines and few other artificial things that are made by machines themselves. Klass says:

A forbidding mountain looms in the distance. As we jog closer I recognize it, though it's hard to believe that such thing could be man-made or rather Dark Army made. This was the terrifying image the computer wiz showed us in the Dannites' subterranean desert hideout. In real life it's even more menacing-the biggest, baddest castle of the Dark Ages, rendered creepier by futuristic science. (Timelock 121)

The Fortress of Aighar was a world of machines. All the people present there were machines in the form of humans. All the machines are given the qualities of either humans or animals. There was a laboratory which was completely filled with machines. There were computers and robots, and most of the works there are done by machines. Mira and Jack were astonished by seeing such things. The laboratory was bigger than five football fields and they looked all around the laboratory. They heard different kinds of sounds like soft animal yelps, plaintive wolf-like howls and human babies crying for their mothers. All those were given birth by means of test tubes. Humans did not play any role in that Kingdom. Machines were too clever that they themselves created new varieties of species. The cells are cloned and different species are combined together, and as a result new life forms were created. The result of growth and technology of machines is what depicted in the novel as follows:

It's a maternity ward without mothers, a hatchery and neonatal facility and assembly line for the soulless world to come. Machines are creating new and hardier life-forms, cloning cells and nurturing them

on gels, combining species and machines to create even funkier variations. (Timelock 132- 33)

The scarcity of food and shelter was not only a problem for human beings alone; it has also affected all the species that are living on earth. The polar bears in the Arctic Sea suffer without food. They hunted seals for their living but the increase in temperature has made their lives too hard. They can only live on ice glaciers but the melting of ice has led them to struggle for a place to live in. "It's hungry and confused, my father explains. It was hunting seals, and tried to swim from one piece of drift ice to another. But the ice is melting because of rising temperatures and there was no place to pull itself up and rest" (168).

Next to the Amazon rain forest, the Arctic seemed to be the most valuable place on earth. Gisco tells Jack that the Arctic is considered to be the earth's air conditioner. Since the destruction of the Amazon was impossible the Dark Lord's next attempt was the Arctic Sea. When the rays from the sun directly fall on the ice glaciers, the ice melts. Due to this the land and sea absorb more light and heat from the sun which increases global warming. The level of sea water rises and acres of land for cultivation and drinking water decreases. There will be change in the temperature level which leads to varied climatic and weather conditions. On the whole, if the earth is to be destroyed the only thing that is to be done is melting the ice glaciers. Each and every aspect of the ecosystem will be highly damaged and that will be the worst thing that had happened. The planet will never get back to normal. The whole planet and those who live there will suffer a lot in the future. The significance of the Arctic Sea and the effect of global warming that lead to climatic changes:

Arctic ice is the earth's air conditioner, Gisco tells me. It reflects the sun's rays. When it's gone, the land and sea will absorb much more

light and heat. Global warming will speed up and the ice sheet will melt. As the seas rise, coastlines will be swallowed up, and wars will break out over food and water. The ocean currents will shift, creating extreme weather conditions [...] The dog stops and shrugs. Basically, if you want to screw up the planet, melt all the polar ice and just stand back and wait. (Timelock 182)

The Dark Lord was speeding up the temperature deep under the Arctic Sea. He was not the only reason for global warming. Humans on the other side had done everything that would affect the planet. The effect of greenhouse gases on earth was one of the major aspects of destruction by humans. For every year the ice caps have melted up to ten percent. With the help of the Omega Box, the Dark Lord was damaging the earth with an accelerating speed. Due to heat, the ice cap gets melted and it leads to the melting of Greenland Ice Sheet. When the Greenland Ice Sheet melts, the sun's rays directly falls on the earth which is an abnormal thing that happens.

The Caretakers join hands together to fight against the Dark Army and the Omega Box. The King of Dann, the Prince of Dann, Kidah, Eko, P.J. and Gisco are the people who fight with them. They somehow killed the Dark Lord but it was not so simple to destroy the Omega Box. It was such a powerful force which cannot be destroyed at all. The King of Dann loses his life during the war between those evil forces. The Omega Box said that Jasai's preaching and idea to destroy the entire human race was correct. It also said that it will kill all the others and get back to the future to rule the Dark Army in the place of the Dark Lord. Since the Dark Lord was dead there will be no one to rule or lead the Dark Army. Those machines which were built and made in the laboratories will never turn against the Omega Box, as they do

not know any other thing rather obeying the Omega Box. They are just machines who have been programmed accordingly to work against the evil forces. It was an additional support for the Omega Box to take over the control the Dark Army. The desire of a powerful machine to rule the earth and humans in the future:

“The future appears more clearly to me than to your pathetic seers,” the Omega Box answers. “I see a dead King and a foolish Prince who will soon join his father in darkness. Jasai was right-you humans deserve to die. I will be happy to speed the process along. Then I shall return to the future, and rule the Dark Army in place of their fallen lord. They who have been built in laboratories and had their DNA stitched together will accept me as their leader.” He amps up the heat beam. (Timelock 231)

John W. Campbell is an American writer whose short story “Twilight” was published in 1934. This short story deals with the same theme as *The Caretaker Trilogy*. The story narrates the experiences of a character named Ares Sen Kenlin, a time traveler who has seen the distant future where the millions of years of technological progress have culminated in a world. The world is so mechanized that most of the humans are intellectually dying. The author tries to bring out the fact that machines will exist even after the extinction of human beings. Though man has created the machines, they are given priority than humans. When humans feel more superior to nature, they become the losers of the entire nation. Humanity is subjugating the wild and natural world by creating a post natural world. The story also tells about the effect that the end of nature is depended on the human species. The twilight of the human race is prompted by the mechanized society. Since the human race has moved towards constructing a simplified, sanitized and mechanical world

rather towards understanding the natural complexity and the necessity to adapt to natural change it is in its twilight. The death of the human race has been associated with that of anthropogenic or human-caused deterioration of ecological systems. The work clearly explains about the ecological decline and the human extinction.

*The Space Merchants* is a collaborated work by Frederick Pohl and C.M. Kornbluth. This novel unfolds the background of the future earth which is similarly narrated in the novel *The Caretaker Trilogy*. The novel describes a world in which water supplies are limited and clean ourselves is considered as something waste. The pure air has been polluted and people suffer due to the lack of food. Since the land loses its fitness to grow food crops organically, corporate companies who are the food manufacturers seek the method of artificial food supply for the global world. This work shows that the growth of the economy is very much dependent on the advertising industry. People who are the consumers keep consuming more than their need and the producers are forced to produce more and more in order to fulfill their needs. Humans encourage the growth of industries being the consumers and that is the reason for the exhausted world in the future. As a result of this, the future earth will possess little quantity of clean water, polluted air, overpopulation, deforestation and dead soil. The writers tried to bring out the social consciousness by which the future world could be saved from scarcity, sterility and pollution.

*The Time Machine* is a science fiction by H.G. Wells which was first published in the year 1895. In this novel, a time traveller goes for a voyage to the past and the future earth. In the first voyage, he goes forward almost a million years to a world that has been cultivated into a perfect garden but in which humans have degenerated into divergent subhuman species of predators and prey. In the second voyage, the time traveller advances a billion years to view the final decay of the sun

into a red giant and the mere extinction of all life on earth. Likewise in *The Caretaker Trilogy*, the People of Dann and the Dark Army have used time travelling to go to the turning point. One was in the idea of saving the earth and the other tried to destroy the earth.

In a recent news article “Yemen crisis: Five million children at risk of starvation, Save the Children warns,” Ms Thorning-Schmidt has said that ‘Millions of children don’t know when or if their next meal will come. In one hospital I visited in North Yemen, the babies were too weak to cry, their bodies exhausted in hunger. This war risks killing an entire generation of Yemen’s children who face multiple threats, from bombs to hunger to preventable diseases like cholera’ (*The Independent*). All those myths are stories regarding starvation and the end of human life have become a truth. Till date, from various parts of the world there are numerous people who have died without food and water. There are malnourished children who are prone to many diseases because of lack of food and enough nutrients for the body. They are all directly attacked in their cognitive stage itself. In Yemen, there are five million people who starve for food. The lands have lost their fertility to cultivate and there is no source of groundwater. It has nearly become a desert in the current period.

Many countries like South Sudan, Yemen, and Somalia are positioned to be under the list of famine countries. In a recent news a grandmother named Ban who belonged to South Sudan said that, ‘The rations have been cut, the country is in parts still at war, we cannot find work for ourselves, we cannot return home because our homes are still occupied, my husband was killed’ (*The Independent*). Those people in that country could not find any source of income for their survival. The government has not given proper assistance to the poor people who are starving to death. People have so many difficulties while living in this world, they need the power to overcome

all those hurdles. But they should be given a chance or a way in order to help themselves. Rather than concentrating on the most important things in life, the world concentrates more on unwanted issues and events. People are not given their rights which the government actually needs to give them in order to survive in this typical world. The basic needs of the people are robbed by some unknown people in the same society.

In this modern era, technology transports human beings to a virtual environment. People are very much addicted to gadgets and various other technologies. They are separated from the natural world by themselves. Humans need to be conscious of each and every movement they take towards nature. The stages of climatic changes and the scarcity of food and water have started occurring a few years ago in this world. Every year there are millions and millions of people who are dying without food and water. Government needs to take proper actions to provide the basic need for every individual. There should be no country demarked named as famine and drought country. Every individual person should promise that they will respect nature and never harm it anymore.

**Chapter – 5**

**Conclusion**

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### Conclusion

Environmental literature emerged as a new genre first in the United States of America due to the loss of nature's wealth to a large extent. Unlike the past there has been a rise of the destruction of activities in the environment. David Klass wrote *The Caretaker Trilogy* on seeing the various environmental issues that has devastated his country. Since he belongs to the United States, he was aware of the disasters that have taken place. Still there are numerous environmental destructions happening all over the world and the United States is very much affected because of it. This trilogy creates an awareness regarding the harms that humans have done to nature. The author concentrates on the young generation as they are going to be the citizens of the future world. Every species needs to know the importance of the ecosystem in which it lives. David Klass wants to prove that it is the duty and responsibility of the young people to protect the world. The main characters in his novels are the life savers who tackle all the problems and fight for the lives of all the other people.

*The Caretaker Trilogy* conveys a strong message to the readers that it is high time to look into the environmental disasters taking place on earth. There is a continuous attack on the environment which the author tries to unravel through his works and bring eco-consciousness among people. The three volumes of works describe a beautiful world that is changed into a place where humans struggle to live. The most valuable parts of the ecosystem are gradually destroyed by diverse actions of humans. Human beings are the major reason for the destruction of earth. People make their lives easy by means of proposing advancement in technologies. Humans do not control machines, but instead machines try to control human beings which will

become true in few more years. People are very much dependent on machines as there are new technological advancements taken place. Both science and technology dominate nature and the environment through varied forms. Since there is development in technology, the environmental growth has started to decline.

Environment has been harmed in numerous ways such as toxic and nuclear waste, destruction of the rainforests, global warming, loss of topsoil, high rate of extinction and degraded habitat and all these are the major issues that are concentrated in *The Caretaker Trilogy*. Depletion of resources threatens the standard of people's living; pollution diminishes the health; reduction of biodiversity leads to the loss of potential medicines; changes in climatic factors affects the home of all living beings and finally it leads to the eradication of wilderness which is ultimately the loss of awe and beauty of nature.

The author has predicted the plight of the future earth in *The Caretaker Trilogy*. His works bring an ecological awareness to the society regarding the depletion of nature and its resources. He focuses on the young generation which can bring an enormous change in the world. Since his novels are written for young adults, it reaches to knowledge of the readers and creates a revolution. He knew that a message learnt by the young generation will change the lives of the entire world, since they have the power to make the impossible as possible. His works make the readers to get into the character and make them understand the concept that he tries to convey. He brings in both science and fantasy to stir up the minds of the readers through his works. He has a strong notion that every individual should understand the importance of the environmental disasters that take place on earth.

All the three novels highlight the reduction of species on earth due to various environmental hazards. Each and every species on earth is connected to each other. Such species have their own speciality and that helps the other species to survive peacefully. Food is an essential component of all the lives on earth. In order to sustain their lives, animals depend on other animals to complete a balanced food chain. The importance of food chain will be known to every individual only when the species starts declining. There are varieties of species on earth that have declined due to the harmful activities of human beings. Fishing and hunting are few jobs that have played a vigorous role in harming the beautiful species in the environment. When technology came to the hands of humans, nature has lost its beauty. Humans have become money-minded which is a substandard quality that they have developed. Every individual must understand that the declining of species will lead everyone to a dreadful state. Humans should let other species live without harming them and their surroundings. Humans need both flora and fauna for their survival. So, there should not be any dispute between humans and other kinds of species.

The second novel *Whirlwind* describes the impact of deforestation on indigenous communities and their lands. Trees being a part of the ecosystem play a major role in the lives of all living beings. It provides various resources for the survival of mankind and animals. All the shrubs, plants and trees make the forest help other organisms to live among nature. Human beings and animals have a close relationship with the environment, since from the past centuries they have been living with them. Forest is the home to birds, animals and other flora species. Humans are connected to the forest and they are called as tribal or indigenous communities. Every aspect of nature is somehow connected to various species that are present in the environment. People try to destroy the natural beauty by wiping out large tracts of

trees from the forest. They do not have the knowledge that their life will be under trouble if the trees are cut down. The ecosystem that is filled with greenery has been gradually changed into lands filled with buildings, factories and dry lands.

In the third book *Timelock*, the author predicts the future earth which will be completely destructed. When the environment is abused, the entire ecosystem is ruined. It affects every individual on earth in one way or the other. Humans do not know their limitations of using nature's wealth and that affects nature's health. They use all the resources in excess unknowingly and at times knowingly. This over usage leads everyone to a dangerous future. To ignore all these issues people should preserve nature and its resources from the present state itself. The consequences of the problem may be too harmful to the future generation. It directly affects the future and those people who live will undergo all the sufferings. People will suffer in famine and drought due to various environmental disasters that has made the world to lose its wealth. The whole world will be devastated without the natural surrounding and the living creatures. The advanced technologies will start reigning the earth with all its evil power that would destroy the rest of the planet.

Humans should know the importance of natural resources which help them to survive. They will find hard to live in the world without the habitual things that they need. It is the responsibility of every citizen on earth to protect and preserve the entire ecosystem. If the environment is affected due to some natural disaster and loses its value, it would be difficult to regain the lost beauty of nature as shown in the *Paradise Lost*. Human beings and other organisms are given all the things to fulfill their necessities. God has provided the Garden of Eden to all the organisms on earth to live a luxurious life but the fall of man had made the whole world to suffer in the

later period. This is a moral lesson to every individual on earth regarding the do's and don't's that will help to sustain the left out environment.

Nature is the mother of all living creatures. Every human should be spiritually attached with nature and they should embrace it through their actions. Humans need not respect or protect nature but the only thing they need to do is to not harm it by any other means. The only way of restoring the ecological balance is the reduction of human population and their activities. The lives of humans on earth are temporary and every generation will have a particular period to live on earth. Naturally, the forthcoming generation will find the same world with the left out resources to satisfy their needs. So the present generation will have to take few remedial steps to overcome all the environmental disasters that have occurred. They need to reduce the usage of gadgets, electronic items and other technologies that harm the natural environment. Though people knew the value of the ecosystem they have not yet stopped destroying it.

People feel that being civilized and having the knowledge for using advanced technologies will project them as high class people among others. Many people think that those people who live in flats, apartments and cities are happy and live a leisurely life. But the reality is that the people in villages and countryside are living a wholehearted happy and peaceful life than the people in cities. They may not be updated regarding the developments in the society but they have the knowledge that they learnt from Mother Nature.

Nature is represented as a teacher and mother in many works. Many poets and writers have written that the real knowledge can be acquired only when everything is learnt outside the four walls. As Thoreau mentioned in his *Walden*, life in the woods has given him immense pleasure and happiness than the life that is surrounded to

books and other accessories. However, books are considered as barren leaves when compared with the natural leaves that are fresh all around. When people come out of their comfort zone they achieve more things. They need to know that there is a strong connection between nature and other living beings. When humans live with nature their life becomes holistic.

Humans should know that they should spend their maximum time with nature to live a peaceful and healthy life. At present, there are so many diseases that have affected the lives of numerous people because of the changing lifestyle and food pattern. People make their lives hard by the temporary happiness that they get from artificial things. The Government has also taken measures to protect the environment by banning plastics and encouraging the use of organic products. However, every individual should take part in preserving the rest of the surrounding or else the blooming green lands will turn into barren lands. The novels give a warning to the people that they must take precaution at present to save the future earth. So, even at this critical stage there is a chance for everyone to change the fate of the world by protecting the ecosystem.

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