

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents introductory remarks of the research including background of the research, statement of problem, research objective, research significant, and definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of the Research

Nature has become the most important part in our life. Indirectly, nature and living beings shape a close relationship as an inseparable part in this world. Ashton argues that all human and non-human lives, as well as animate objects and inanimate objects around those lives, are linked in complex web of interdependent interrelatedness (Ashton, 2011: xii). It means that not only living beings who have a relationship with nature but also inanimate objects. Buell argues in Sukmawan's journal (<http://fib.ub.ac.id>) that *“Benda mati memiliki hubungan yang erat juga dengan alam. Benda mati tidak hanya sebagai bingkai, kehadirannya dapat menunjukkan bahwa adanya sejarah manusia yang diimplikasikan dengan sejarah alam.”*

Nature has become part in literature works. In literature, nature plays an important role in the whole story, either in whole setting and plot. This proved not at least literary works use natural diction in poetry, setting and plot in prose. Literary works often use nature as background imagery physical or object. However, along with development, literature has undergone many changes as well as with nature. Both of these elements can go together and inseparable. Most of the literature requires nature as inspiration in the story which is made, while nature requires literature as a conservation tool in its preservation.

Nature plays important role for the survival of living beings. Every living beings require nature to survive and nature also needs living beings to its preservation. In this case, human should act more in the preservation of nature. However, this is happening now that human does not give contribute to nature as nature has contributed a lot to human and living beings. Some of the damage which is occurred by human blindly without thinking about the preservation of nature. This damage causes global warming faster. Global warming gives negative impact to ecosystems on the Earth. The increase of Earth's average surface temperature due to effect of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels or from deforestation, which trap heat that would otherwise escape from Earth (<http://www.nmsea.org>).

The phenomenon of global warming is also seen in the *Wall E* movie script which is more telling about the damage of nature by human exploitation continuously. The damage of nature came from BNL (Buy N Large) company that controls the economy, including the government. The consequence of the Earth is filled by electronic waste which is not recyclable, the human survival is threatened. For anticipation of human extinction, CEO BNL company do mass evacuations for five years using Axiom ship which is designed to travel outer space, provide every human purposes and equipped with robots that run automatically to serve human needs. Global warming is tried to anticipate by the government who is create robots unit named the *WALL-E* for decreasing pollution on the Earth by compressing electronic waste until melting process. However, after walking for a long time, the government decided to cancel the project.

Ecocriticism is more concentrated on the discussion of nature through literary criticism as a form of expression of good or bad quality for nature. Ecocritics seeks to offer a truly transformative discourse, enabling us to analyse and criticise the

world in which we live (Greg, 2004: 4). Ecocriticism is more focused on the environment in which we live, that is the Earth. The widest definition of the subject of ecocriticism is the study of the relationship of human and non-human, throughout human cultural history and entailing critical analysis of the term 'human' itself (Greg, 2004: 5). Ecocriticism is unique amongst contemporary literary and cultural studies because of its close relationship with the science of ecology (Greg, 2004: 5). Therefore, the discussion of literature oriented nature, ecocriticism also one branch of literature that has a close relationship with the science of ecology. Ecocriticism assume that all objects, whether animate or inanimate object can be seen in the ecological network and ecology can be used as a tool in the critical approach. The emergence of ecocriticism is a logical consequence of the existence of ecological that require human attention.

Based on the background above, the researcher is interested in analyzing how human's and robot's role of nature using ecocriticism theory. In the *Wall E* movie script, people feel isolated both physically and culturally as a result of advances in science and technology which is developing rapidly, thus gradually eliminating the real role in preserving nature which is then replaced by technology that humans create. In this film it can also be seen that nature is in a dangerous zone due to the role of human who are not doing properly, so that nature can not contribute to human and living beings. For that explanation, the researcher will concerned on the problem about nature and its relation with human's and robot's role of the nature in the *Wall E* movie script.

1.2 Statement of Problem

The main problem of this research is analyzing how human's and robot's role of the nature in the *Wall E* movie script and presenting how the characters give impact for nature through the relevant theory by Greg Garrard as main theory and

other theory of ecocriticism. Therefore, the problem of this research is formulated into two questions:

1. How are the role of human and robot on nature in the *Wall E* movie script?
2. What steps do the human beings and robot conduct to preserve the nature in the *Wall E* movie script?

1.3 Research Objective

1. To know the role of human and robot on nature in the *Wall E* movie script.
2. To find out the steps of the human beings and robot conduct to preserve the nature in the *Wall E* movie script.

1.4 Research Significance

Particularly, the research is generally directed to the students of English Literature, the readers, and the literature society, and also especially for further analysis using ecocriticism. Furthermore, this research could be used as a reference for those who are interested in enriching the literary knowledge.

In generally, the researcher hopes the result of the study has benefit for readers who interested in literature and know more about ecocriticism works and solve the problems that reflects in movie script.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

To avoid any misunderstanding, in this section will be presented some key terms which contains in this research. These terms may have different meaning or understanding. The definition in this research are:

1. **Nature:** The physical world and everything in it (such as plants, animal, mountains, oceans, stars, etc.) that is not made by people.
2. **Ecocriticism:** The study of the relationship of the human and non-human, throughout human cultural history and entailing critical analysis of the term 'human' itself.
3. **Ecology:** The study of the relations of living things to their surroundings.
4. **Robot:** The machine can do certain human tasks automatically.
5. **Literature:** Writing valued as works of art, novels, plays, and poems.
6. **Global Warming:** The increase of Earth's average surface temperature due to effect of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels or from deforestation, which trap heat that would otherwise escape from Earth. This is a type of *greenhouse effect*.
7. **Technology:** The study and use of science of practical tasks in industry, bussiness, etc.