

### An Ecocriticism Analysis of Human-Nature Relationship in the Film *Jungle Cruise* (2021)

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#### ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini berfokus pada representasi alam dan hubungan manusia-alam dalam film *Jungle Cruise* (2021) yang disutradarai oleh Jaume Collet-Serra, melalui karakter-karakter yang berinteraksi dengan alam di sekitar mereka dengan menggunakan teori ekokritik Glotfelty dan Garrard. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode penelitian kualitatif berupa penjelasan dan deskripsi. Film ini berfokus pada perjalanan Frank, Lily, dan McGregor di Amazon untuk mencari pohon legenda “The Tears of the Moon”. Data yang dikumpulkan dalam penelitian ini berupa dialog dan tindakan karakter yang mewakili ekokritik. Data dikumpulkan dengan menonton film *Jungle Cruise* secara berulang, fokus pada dialog, adegan, dan menyoroti peristiwa yang terindikasi. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan ekokritik untuk mengidentifikasi representasi alam dan hubungan manusia-alam. Analisis data menunjukkan bahwa film *Jungle Cruise* merepresentasikan alam melalui wilayah liar, tempat tinggal, dan hewan. Hubungan manusia-alam melalui koeksistensi, penyediaan, dan eksploitasi alam.

**Kata kunci:** ekokritik, film, manusia, alam, representasi, hubungan

#### ABSTRACT

This research mainly focused on the representation of nature and the human-nature relationship in the film *Jungle Cruise* (2021), which was directed by Jaume Collet-Serra through the characters that involved with nature around them by using the ecocriticism theory by Glotfelty and Garrard. The researchers used qualitative research in the form of explanations and descriptions. This film focused on the journey of Frank, Lily, and McGregor in the Amazon to find the legendary tree “The Tears of the Moon”. The data used in this research were the dialogues and actions of the characters that represented the ecocriticism. The data were collected by repeatedly watching the *Jungle Cruise*, focusing on the dialogue, scenes, and highlighting the events that were indicated. This research used an ecocriticism approach to identify the representation of nature and the human-nature relationship. The analysis of this data showed the *Jungle Cruise* film represents nature through wilderness, dwelling, and animals, and the human-nature relationship through the coexistence, provision, and nature exploitation.

**Keywords:** ecocriticism, film, human, nature, representation, relationship

### A. INTRODUCTION

All activities of humans and other living things on earth are influenced by and affect what happens to nature. Living things and nature live interdependently. Akhiyat (2021) stated that nature plays an important role in various aspects of life. For example, humans utilize nature as a resource for daily survival, as a place to build houses, a source of food and drink, a place for activities, and a place for all the material resources needed. According to Glotfelty & Fromm (1996), the world and human life affect and are affected by each other. The relationship between humans and nature can directly or indirectly produce positive and negative relations. Positive interaction between humans and nature produces sustainable ecosystems; otherwise, negative interaction between humans and nature produces environmental degradation. To achieve a harmonious life and stable ecosystems, the relationship between living things and nature must be balanced. Nevertheless, sometimes humans consider themselves as the dominant species in the natural environment, and they do whatever they want to the surrounding environment.

The environment has become an increasingly major topic of research. Because humans consider themselves to be in a dominant role in nature, they do whatever they want to the surrounding environment, which can have a negative impact, and the effect is increasingly evident. This concept also refers to the Anthropocene. Anthropocene is the concept that Earth has entered a new geological era characterized by human dominance over the entire planetary system, also called human-centrism. Humans are not merely inhabitants of Earth but a geological force capable of altering the planet's conditions comprehensively, from climate change, deforestation, pollution, to the loss of biodiversity (Malhi, 2017). Such irresponsible human activities are increasingly widespread. According to Naem (2023), since the early 2000s and the issuance of mining business licenses, illegal coal mines have been taking place in Kalimantan. Mining activities resulted in several environmental damages due to the absence of waste management and reclamation mechanisms.

To maintain the stability of the ecosystem, it is necessary to have public awareness and concern for the environment. According to Jones, J., Walters, L., Rust, N., & Verissimo, D. (2019) nature-themed programs shown on screen and which have a wide reach, can indirectly help make a positive contribution to the natural environment and are potentially effective in persuading, raising the audiences' awareness, and giving insight about the environment around them and then make them contributing to it. Therefore, film becomes one of the media to help spread and form awareness and concern for the importance of nature as a source in fulfilling various human needs.

The *Jungle Cruise* film, which the researchers chose as an object of the research itself, is related to the condition between humans and nature. The film *Jungle Cruise* is an action-adventure film that was released on July 30, 2021, under the production of Walt Disney. This film is about a man named Frank, who is the captain of an Amazon jungle cruise, and then meets a woman named Lily Houghton, a scientist who wants to find a legendary tree, "The Tears of the Moon," in the Amazon hinterland with good intentions. The petals of the legendary tree are believed to have the power to heal all kinds of diseases, and Lily thinks it can help future medicine. There are curses from the indigenous Amazon tribe who guard the tree due to violating the rules of the forest, but no one had ever succeeded in finding it, until the presence of Lily Houghton. Their adventure begins and is full of challenges because they are faced with the presence of Joachim, who also wants to find a legendary tree but with bad intentions and for

personal interests and power, and they have difficulty dealing with the wilderness and how to survive in the Amazon jungle and rivers. This film depicts human relationships with their environment, directly and indirectly depicting the good and bad relationships between humans and nature.

The researchers are interested in analyzing the film using ecocriticism theory to analyze the relationship between humans and nature that is shown in the film. By using this theory, the researchers examine how the characters in the film represent various human attitudes towards nature, and from the film, the setting of nature itself is described, the jungle and river as the representatives of nature, and also as the object of human actions.

## **B. LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **1. Film**

Film is a visual and verbal work of art combined with narrative elements and cinematographic elements. Film is a work of visual and verbal art combined with narrative elements and cinematographic elements, but also through cinematographic techniques that involve visual and audio aspects to convey messages and emotions to the audience (Petrie & Boggs, 2018). Film is a work of art created to tell a story through moving images and recorded sound. The film was acted out by the characters and presented to people. Stories and the events of the film are usually inspired by human life. Film can take us on a journey and an experience that engages our minds and emotions, and can provide knowledge after observing the elements of the film, such as the theme, plot, characters, characterization, and the *mise-en-scène*.

#### **a. Elements of Film**

The elements of film are the basic components that make up the film. These elements include several narrative, visual, and technical aspects that interact with each other to convey stories, themes, and emotions to the audience.

##### **1. Theme**

In general, theme is an idea or the central concept of the story. In film, the theme is broader than an idea, but also refers to the main focus that holds the film together. Theme determine the cast that will be in it, how it looks, the title, and how the film will be made (Petrie & Boggs, 2018).

##### **2. Plot**

Plot focuses on the continuity of one event to another in a story. It generally relates to the cause and effect of each event that occurs. Plot can change and influence the whole story. A good plot is enough to keep us guessing, but clear enough that we can see clues about how it will end (Petrie & Boggs, 2018).

##### **3. Character and Characterization**

A character is an actor who plays a role, performing dialogue, monologues, expressions, and actions according to the scenario created by the author. The character is one of the important elements in literature. Characters are not only human, as they also can be non-human, like animals, or other creatures that are made to have abilities and traits as humans in general.

Characterization is a literary element used by the author in the stories to explain the characters' specifics. Characterization can be seen in the different behaviors,

attitudes, and characteristics of the character, seen in full throughout the story. Details will also be included by the author to help the reader get a sense of the character's personality. Characterization is divided into two types, direct and indirect characterization, which are distinguished as telling and showing based on how the characterization depicts the character's impression. Direct characterization occurs when a character's personality is evident in the narrative through how the author and other characters describe them (telling), while indirect characterization is evident when a character's personality is inferred from their appearance, actions, and manner of speaking, or through their descriptions, actions, and dialogue (showing) (Gill, 1995).

#### 4. Mise en Scene

Mise en scene is all the elements placed in front of the camera to be recorded and arranged by the director, thus creating the desired meaning and atmosphere in the film. In French, Mise en scene means “stage setting” and includes setting, costumes and makeup, lighting, and staging: acting and character movement (Bordwell & Thompson, 2019).

## 2. Ecocriticism as Literary Criticism

The ecocriticism term was coined in the late 1970s by William Rueckert in his essay “Literature and Ecology: An Experiment in Ecocriticism”. He wrote that ecocriticism entailed the “application of ecology and ecological concepts to the study of literature” (Glotfelty & Fromm, 1996). Mu'in (2016) defines ecology as the science that studies the relationships of living things that interact with each other or with their environment. According to Buell (1995), ecocriticism is divided into two waves. The first wave focused on the representation of nature in literature. The second wave is focused on environmental justice and human-environment interactions. Glotfelty defines ecocriticism as the study of the relationship between literature and the physical environment, and it utilizes an earth-centered approach to literary studies. Ecocriticism is not only the study of nature, such as plants or animals, but all aspects related to the human and non-human physical environment that can create a good ecosystem for humans and the earth (Mishra, 2016).

## 3. Representation of Nature

Representation of nature is a reflection of how humans understand and give meaning to the natural environment around them. Through representations of nature, the complex relationship between humans and nature can be understood. By analyzing how nature is depicted in a literary or visual work, we can gain an understanding of human beliefs and concerns about their environment.

#### 1. Pastoral

Garrard's book *Ecocriticism: The New Ecocritical Idiom 1<sup>st</sup>*, explains that pastoral has existed and shaped our construction of nature since the Industrial Revolution. In the concept of pastoral, harmonizing life with rural life as a peaceful place away from the problems of urban life. Pastoral is similar to when people move from the city to the countryside in search of a quieter and simpler life (Manullang, 2021).

#### 2. Wilderness

“The idea of wilderness signifies nature uncontaminated by civilization” (Garrard, 2009, p. 59). This refers to wilderness as a natural environment that is wild,

has minimal touch from modernization of life, still maintains traditional forms of life, and is a possibly dangerous place. It can be a beautiful place where ecosystems can thrive naturally, there are wild flora and fauna, but it can also reflect how the complexity of the human relationship with the environment shows the importance of protecting certain habitats and species from the environmental crisis that is occurring.

Wilderness is a place far from highways and cities, where there is little evidence of modern human societies. Wilderness has landscapes and living systems on it still largely in their natural state, largely undisturbed by the impacts and activities of human societies, other than indigenous peoples who largely follow a hunter-gatherer way of life (Hawes, 2018). In the wilderness, it is mostly natural land and also refers to an area that provides natural resources in the form of flora and fauna that can be utilized as a source of food, tools, or building materials, and many more by humans.

### 3. Dwelling

According to Garrard (2004), dwelling is a state that refers to people's relationship with the environment they occupy over a long and continuous period of time and reflects nature as a place to live that has social, spiritual, and moral ecological meanings. It refers to the physical residence, land as a place to live, and the earth as the environment in which humans live. This concept highlights how humans live, interact, and depend on the environment in which they live, and how these relationships influence and are influenced by environmental conditions. For example, in the movie "Avatar: The Way of Water," forests and seas serve as living spaces for various creatures.

### 4. Animals

Animals are also part of nature. Animals play an important role in maintaining the balance of the ecosystem. Animals are also represented as a form of relationship between humans and other species as friends, objects of exploitation, and representations of wildlife. Animals as objects of exploitation are depicted by humans' utilization of animals as food sources, agriculture, entertainment, or research. According to Garrard (2004), there is a difference in treatment obtained between wild animals and domestic animals by humans; domestic animals will get better treatment than wild animals because they are used to help their needs as friends or transportation. Meanwhile, wild animals tend to be neglected, as seen through humans' act of ignoring the hunting of wild animals, which can lead to extinction.

### 5. Pollution

Pollution is not a new ecological problem that humans face, although it remains one of the greatest problems facing humanity, and it can impact the health of living things. These issues occur not only from natural phenomena but also as a result of bad habits carried out towards the natural environment, especially humans. "Pollution is an ecological problem because it does not name a substance or class of substances, but rather represents an implicit normative claim that too much of something is present in the environment, usually in the wrong place" (Garrard, 2004, p.6). Garrard defines pollution as not merely a substance or class of substances but rather a concept that signifies an imbalance. Pollution can毒icate the air, water, soil, and damage the ecosystem.

### 6. Apocalypse

The apocalypse is often portrayed as the end of the world, where environmental damage occurs as a result of human actions, causing widespread destruction. Garrard in



his book *Ecocriticism: The New Ecocritical Idiom 1<sup>st</sup>* writes “For at least 3,000 years, a fluctuating proportion of the world's population has believed that the end of the world is near” (Garrard, 2004, p. 85). They have even believed that the end of the world will happen in the future. The apocalypse is imaginative and has not yet happened, so it can change public perception and behavior to take the consequences of human actions on the environment more seriously (Garrard, 2004).

### 7. Positions

In his book, Garrard lists six different positions of approach to environmental issues, *Cornucopia* as a form of viewpoint that believes an increase in population and wealth will allow changes in environmental conditions to be better and can be resolved. *Environmentalism* is a category of people who are concerned about environmental issues such as climate change and other issues with the aim of protecting and preserving the environment. *Deep ecology* argues that humans and other creatures have equal value and should coexist without destroying. *Eco-feminism* is an approach that links forms of exploitation of nature with the oppression of women, the similarities in the way nature and women are treated in the view of a society of patriarchal domination, capitalism, and exploitation. *Social Ecology and Eco-Marxism* says that ecological problems are the result of socio-economic, political, or power domination, and *Heideggerian Ecophilosophy* approaches that help us humans to understand that our existence in the world is to appreciate, feel, and see the existence of nature, not just about the domination of power over nature.

### 8. The Earth

According to Garrard (2004), the earth has intrinsic value and the right to be respected and protected, not only as a place for humans to live but also including the flora, fauna, and ecosystems within it. In his book, Garrard also cites the *Gaia Hypothesis* by James Lovelock, which illustrates that the earth is a living thing that can work independently and can adjust to changes to maintain its balance. According to Lovelock, as cited in Garrard (2004), the sun on earth is getting hotter, but the earth and we still feel cold and experience ice ages. This shows that *Gaia* can maintain the earth's temperature all this time.

## 4. Human and Nature Relationship

Humans are part of nature, humans depend on nature to survive, and nature provides whatever humans need, in the form of food, shelter, water, air, and others. Likewise, nature needs humans to be sustainable and maintained (Akhiyat, 2021). Humans and nature should create a good life, coexist, balance, and be beneficial to both of them, but there must be something that creates an imbalance. Therefore, the relationship between humans and nature is divided into two, there are positive relationships and negative relationships that affect each other.

A positive relationship happens when both communities, such as humans and nature, can provide for each other to keep the balance of their relationship by understanding, respecting, and being aware of all living things on earth. A negative relationship occurs when only one benefits while the other suffers losses in the form of exploitation, destruction, and others that create imbalance due to a lack of understanding and awareness of the importance of all living things in nature.

### 1. Co-Existence

Coexistence is the state of living in peace; it happens when both humans and nature live together and benefit each other. “Coexistence usually happens when humans take something from nature for various goals and then give something positive back to nature as an appreciation” (Ananda, 2024, p. 13). Co-existing can be compared to mutualistic symbiosis because, according to Lord (2013), symbiotic mutualism is a mutually beneficial relationship, where this relationship occurs when both organisms benefit each other. Each individual provides an advantage to the other to survive; both are interrelated. An example of this is when humans do reforestation to maintain the balance of nature and as a form of gratitude for taking advantage of cutting down trees for material needs.

### 2. Provision

Provision happens when nature provides for humans, but humans do not give something back, good or bad. It only benefits one of the organisms. According to Berkes (2007), provision is when humans get benefits in the form of natural resources, such as foodstuffs and others. Provision is the material and non-material forms provided by nature (Ostrom, 2009). An example of this is when humans utilize wild plants or animals as food from the forest without reducing the population of these plants or animals.

### 3. Nature Exploitation

According to Moore (2015), the nature exploitation is a form of capitalism that causes a crisis in the natural conditions. Exploitation in the relationship between humans and nature occurs when one organism takes excessive advantage of another organism for its benefit. Humans do this exploitation to nature without considering the impact that will occur. Even though it also has an impact on them in the end.

## C. METHOD

The researchers used the qualitative research method. Creswell (2014) defined qualitative research as a method that focuses on exploring and understanding the meaning of how people or groups make sense of social or human issues. Qualitative research methods use descriptive data to provide a detailed understanding of human experiences and social phenomena, through the form of written or spoken language of observable characters. This research tends to explain the dialogue and actions or behavior of the characters from the scenes in the *Jungle Cruise* film directed by Jaume Collet-Serra, which was published on July 30, 2021, under the production of Walt Disney. It is used as the material to analyze the representation of nature and the relationship between humans and nature that can be found using the ecocriticism approach in the film.

The researchers used several steps to collect the data. First, the researchers watched the film, read theses, journals, and other readings related to ecocriticism while taking notes to get a better understanding. Second, the researchers rewatched the film to focus on the elements of the film that connected to the theoretical approach and highlight the data, and third, the researchers interpreted the data that had been collected. The data were analyzed using ecocriticism theory by Glotfelty and Garrard. After the data were collected, there were some steps that the researchers used in the process of data analysis. First step, the researchers focused on identifying the representation of nature and the relationship of human-nature through the dialogues, scenes,

and actions or behavior of the characters in the film. In the next step, the researchers presented the data analysis that had been selected for the analysis to find out the representations of nature and the human-nature relationship in the *Jungle Cruise* film, based on the actions shown by the characters toward nature. The last step, the researchers would reread the analysis and discussion from the beginning to the end, then interpret the data in relation to each other and drew conclusions about the representation of nature and the human-nature relationship.

### D. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This section presents the findings and discussion of the ecocritical analysis of human-nature relationship in the film *Jungle Cruise* (2021). It explored and displayed the representation of nature through the use of wilderness, dwelling, and animals, as well as the relationship between humans and nature in the form of co-existence, provision, and nature exploitation.

#### 1. Findings

##### a. Representation of Nature

##### 1. Wilderness

The representation of wilderness is portrayed in the *Jungle Cruise* film. There are some scenes that show Frank taking his passenger on a jungle cruise tour, and one of the passengers on the tour is curious about the plants she sees and wants to touch them.

##### Data 1



Fig. 1. Frank tells his passenger not to touch something carelessly (00:12:53)

Frank: Hey! Hey! Hands on the boat! **Know this about the jungle, everything that you see wants to kill you and can.**

Based on the data above, the wilderness represented through the scene when Frank, the captain of the ship and also the tour guide, explained to the passengers what they were passing along the way. At one point, a passenger was attracted to a beautiful plant and wanted to touch it. Frank quickly reprimanded the passenger and prohibited her from touching the plant. Frank explained that everything in this jungle could be deadly or dangerous. From the data above, Amazon jungle is a wild land and dangerous place that emphasizes that it contains wild flora or fauna where anything can threaten human safety, by the idea of wilderness as a place that is wild, uncontrolled, and potentially dangerous to humans due to the lack of touch from modern civilization and the existence of ecosystems can thrive naturally, far from cities and highways, where natural life takes place without much interference from modern humans. From this data, mise en scene helps shape the atmosphere and characterization of the characters, and the forest setting also creates a frightening atmosphere for the passengers.



## Data 8



*Fig.2. The Puka Michuna tribe (00:58:50)*

## Data 9



*Fig.3. The settlement of the Puka Michuna (00:59:18)*

In the data above, in the Amazon jungle, there is a group of tribe Puka Michuna who suddenly appeared and attacked Frank, Lily, and McGregor by shoot them with wooden arrows, dressed traditionally by use animal skulls as their mask, directly through their visuals, then, they brought them to theirs settlement which is on top of the tree to questioned about their purpose to go there. In their settlement, they live without electricity but use a kind of torch for lighting. It indirectly shows that it is a representation of wilderness because there are still indigenous tribes who inhabit the jungle, they use traditional weapons, such as wooden arrows, and traditional dress made from animal skulls. The life of the Puka Michuna indigenous people, who still maintain a traditional hunter-gatherer form of life. The location of the tribe's settlements above the trees indicates the community's adaptation to the wild environment, utilizing natural resources. It also reflects a traditional way of life that is in harmony with the wilderness by still using torches as lighting, and it shows that the life of this tribe is still very traditional, far from technology and modern contamination. *Mise en scene* helps shape the atmosphere and characterization of the Puka Michuna tribe through the costumes they wear and their movements, as well as the setting that creates a tense and frightening atmosphere for Lily and McGregor.

### Data 7



*Fig. 4. Frank and McGregor collect the woods (00:54:06)*

### Data 11



*Fig. 5. Frank cut down the trees (01:23:50)*

In the data above, indirectly through the characters' actions, the jungle is portrayed as a place that provides natural resources, such as trees that can be utilized for their wood. In data 7, Frank and McGregor collect the wood to be used as fuel for their ship, so the ship's engine can continue to operate in the river current. In data 11, Frank cut the trees and collected the wood to be used as building materials to make a house and a ship. Because the wilderness is mostly natural lands and refers to the area that provides natural resources, from the data above, the tree can represent the wilderness because it is a natural resource provided by the jungle. The trees, as the flora from the jungle, are used by humans as tools and building materials. *Mise en scene* helps shape the characterization of Frank and McGregor through the setting, acting, and characters' movements.

### Data 13



*Fig.6. Lily uses the petals from "The Tears of the Moon" (01:52:00)*

In the data above, when Lily thinks to use the last petals of “The Tears of the Moon,” she puts it in Frank’s mouth, which had become stone. At first, she did not think it would still work, but it turned out to remove Frank’s curse. Indirectly, through Lily’s action, which uses the petals to portray the jungle as a place that provides the sacred tree “The Tears of the Moon” as a natural resource, the petals can be used to heal all diseases and curses. It can represent wilderness, where the jungle is a place of natural land that provides natural resources that can benefit and be utilized by humans. *Mise en scene* helps shape the characterization of Lily through the setting, acting, and her movements.

### b. Dwelling

Dwelling is a situation of land as a place to live that has social, spiritual, and moral ecological meaning. In the *Jungle Cruise* film, the representation of nature is shown from the sacred tree “The Tears of the Moon,” which is guarded by “The Guardian of the Tree”.

#### Data 12



Fig. 7. “The Tears of the Moon.” (01:42:05)

#### Data 10



Fig. 8. The chief curse of some people (01:22:19)

From the scenes above, “The Tears of the Moon” is the legendary tree that can cure all kinds of diseases and curses. Therefore, it is guarded by the jungle itself and “The Guardian of the Tree” by the Puka Michuna tribe from the touch of irresponsible humans. The Puka Michuna considers the jungle and what is in nature, such as “The Tears of the Moon”, not only the land where they live, but also has spiritual and ecological meaning that must be respected. They have responsibility to protect the jungle and the tree “The Tears of the Moon” to maintain the spiritual value that they have believed in for generations, at the end of his life the chief of Puka Michuna take an action to did not hesitate curse some people to keep “The Tears of the Moon” from the wrong human who did not respect them and the jungle by spelling the curse to them. *Mise en*

*scene* helps shape the characterization of the chief through the setting, acting, and his movements to protect the jungle and “The Tears of the Moon”.

### c. Animals

Animals are part of nature. Animals can be represented as friends to humans, objects of exploitation, utilized as food sources, in agriculture, entertainment, or research.

#### Data 2



Fig. 9. *The monkey in the cage* (00:16:27-00:16:33)

Lily: Oh, that is awful. Excuse me, I just think that you... McGregor:

Let's not start a fight with **the monkey vendor**.

Lily: I'm not going to start a fight. **They clearly shouldn't be in cages.**

In the data above, indirectly through the dialogue between Lily and McGregor, several monkeys are seen confined in a cage and being carried by several monkey vendors. Lily knows that this is not how animals should be treated. The monkeys in the data above are a representation of nature, animals that are exploited by humans, where they are used for human gain. These wild animals tend to be neglected, hunted for personal use, even though they play an important role in maintaining the balance of the natural ecosystem. *Mise en scene* helps to reinforce the message about the treatment of animals, especially monkeys that are caged and carried by traders through property, acting, and character movements that are shown.

#### Data 3



Fig.10. *Betting uses a spider and a scorpion* (00:18:35)

In the data above, when Lily and McGregor entered a bar, they saw several people betting on fights between spiders and scorpions. This data represents a representation of nature, animals, which are also representative of being used as objects of exploitation for human entertainment and amusement. This wild animal is treated as neglected, hunted by humans, and it can lead to extinction. *Mise en scene* helps to highlight the tension in the fight between the animals through lighting.



### Data 4



*Fig. 11. Frank praised Proxima (00:26:51)*

Frank: **You did good, Proxima. You're a good girl.**

The data above shows from the action and dialogue, how Frank praises Proxima (the jaguar) as an expression of gratitude for helping him pretend to defeat Proxima in the bar so that he could be praised by others there, while Proxima gets food from Frank in return for his help. The relationship between the two is a good interaction. From this data, Proxima represents an animal, as well as a friend to Frank. Frank's personality can be understood through the dialogue and his actions toward the Proxima. It showed the indirect characterization, because the character's personality was inferred from the appearance, manner of speaking, descriptions, actions, and dialogue. *Mise en scene* helps shape the characterization of Frank through the setting, acting, and his movements to Proxima.

### Data 12



*Fig. 12 Lily saw the bird in the cage (00:28:00)*

Lily: **What are you gonna do with those birds?**

The vendor: **We're gonna stuff them and send them to Paris.**

Lily: No, you're not. How much?

In the data above, through the scene and dialogue between Lily and the vendor, Lily saw some birds in a cage. She asked the vendor what the birds were for. They replied that they were going to be taken to Paris. Lily immediately asked how much they cost, intending to buy them and set them free. The birds represent a representation of nature, animals, which are also objects of irresponsible human exploitation. These animals should play an important role in maintaining the balance of nature and the ecosystem. *Mise en scene* helps shape the characterization of Lily and the vendor through the setting, acting, and their movements.

### Data 6



*Fig.13. Frank grilled the fish from the river (00:43:20)*

In the data above, when Lily and McGregor began to starve due to a lack of food supplies, Frank quickly shot a rat to use as bait to catch piranhas in the river, then grilled the fish as their dinner. Through Frank's actions, the fish represents animals, which are also used as food sources. *Mise en scene* helps shape the characterization of Frank, Lily, and McGregor through the setting, acting, and their movements.

### b. Relationship of Human and Nature

#### 1. Co-Existence

Through the interaction between Frank and the plants in data 1, it portrayed the human-nature relationship in the form of coexistence. Frank indirectly utilizes plants or flora in the Amazon jungle as natural beauty that can be enjoyed by the passengers, and he can carry out his tour well, which shows how Frank utilizes nature for his benefit. When Frank prohibited the passengers from touching the plants there, it indirectly shows appreciation or something positive from Frank to the plants because it helped him in the continuity of his tour, in the form of appreciation for protecting these plants from human touch that might damage the wild plants. From the data, Frank and the plants coexist and benefit each other.

In data 8 and 9, the researchers can understand the representation of wilderness from the condition of the tribe Puka Michuna's life. The tribe of Puka Michuna's life portrayed how the relationship of humans and nature is one of coexistence, which is that humans and nature can benefit each other. The tribe Puka Michuna uses natural resources as all their material in their life, they use wood to make their arrow weapons to shoot, animal skulls as their mask, and the tree as their settlement. The use of natural materials indirectly helps preserve nature from the pollution of modern objects that are made from unnatural materials, which will damage the environment. The tribe Puka Michuna gets their sources from nature, and nature also avoids pollution from unnatural materials that can damage nature from what humans do. Each organism, human and nature, can provide an advantage to the other to survive.

In data 12 and 10, "The Tears of the Moon" not only represents the representation of nature's 'dwelling', but also the relationship of human and nature 'coexistence' from their interaction. The Puka Michuna not only lives in the jungle but also respects, cares for, and builds a reciprocal relationship with the surrounding nature. The Puka Michuna live side by side with trees and jungle in harmony, taking sufficient benefits, providing protection, and respect in return. Coexistence occurs when both humans and nature can live together and benefit each other. Humans take something from nature for various goals, and then give something positive back to nature as an appreciation. From this data, the tree provides great benefits; it can heal all

kinds of diseases and remove curses. It is a source of health, hope, and survival for the tribe. In return, the Puka Michuna protect, preserve, and ensure that trees and jungle ecosystems are preserved, not over-exploited, and guarded against external threats. This relationship forms a coexistence supportive social-ecological system, where the sustainability of humans and the tree is interrelated.

From their interaction, Frank and Proxima in data 4, it represents the relationship between humans and nature's 'coexistence'. Frank is a human, and Proxima is an animal; they can live together and live side by side. Their relationship is peaceful and benefits both of them. Frank successfully carried out his plan to pretend to defeat the jaguar, which was actually his friend, named Proxima, with Proxima's help in pretending to lose. From their plan, Frank received praise and trust from people for successfully defeating the jaguar, while Proxima received meat to eat from Frank as a reward and appreciation for his successful assistance.

## **2. Provision**

In data 7 and 11, the interaction formed between Frank and McGregor with the jungle that provides trees for them to collect wood is a 'provision'. The jungle is part of nature, and it provides natural resources. In data 7, the trees as natural resources from the jungle are used by Frank and McGregor for their ship's fuel. In data 11, Frank uses the wood from the tree as building materials to make a house and as material to make a ship. Frank and McGregor, as humans, benefit from nature, but they do not give anything back bad or good impact on nature because their actions are not excessive, and they only use the resources as needed. Following the concept of provision, when humans get their benefit in the form of natural resources. From this interaction, nature did not get anything bad or good from human actions.

In data 13, from the interaction formed between Lily and "The Tears of the Moon" is a human-nature relationship 'provision' when Lily gets benefit from the natural resources provided by the jungle. Because Lily, as a human, utilizes nature, "The Tears of the Moon" to remove Frank's curse. Lily gets the benefit from nature, but nature does not get anything bad or good because Lily uses it only as needed and does not take it excessively. It is only beneficial to one organism (human).

In data 6, when Lily and McGregor are starving, Frank quickly shot the rat in the tree and used it as bait to catch piranhas in the river, then grilled it to eat as their dinner. The interaction between Frank and the others as humans and the fish as animals is one of "provision"; the fish serve as a food source for Frank and the others, but they do not have a positive or negative impact on the environment because they only take what they need and do not take excessively.

## **3. Nature Exploitation**

Nature exploitation in the relationship of humans and nature happens when one organism takes advantage of the other. Nature exploitation is a form of capitalism that causes a crisis in the natural conditions. One organism takes excessive advantage of another organism for its benefit. Humans do this exploitation of nature without considering the impact that it will have.

In data 2 and 5, several animals, such as monkeys and birds from the Amazon jungle, are seen in cages and will be taken by several people to a place to be sold. Humans just think about the profit from the sale of these animals without considering the impact that will occur afterwards

on nature. This interaction shows an imbalance in the relationship between humans and nature, which is a form of nature exploitation. Where one human organism takes excessive advantage without considering the sustainability and well-being of nature. The potential consequences of this human behaviour could disrupt the natural balance and threaten the population of these animals in the wild.

In data 3, there are spiders and scorpions that are deliberately pitted against each other by humans for betting purposes, solely for the sake of entertainment and amusement. The interaction formed between humans and animals in this data is nature exploitation, where humans take advantage of nature from the animals, spider and scorpions solely for their entertainment without considering the survival of these animals. If this form of interaction continues, the population of these animals could be threatened.

### Discussions

The researchers analyze the portrayal of the representation of nature and human and nature relationships in the film *Jungle Cruise* (2021), directed by Jaume Collet-Serra, using ecocriticism theory by Cheryl Glotfelty and Greg Garrard. From the data analyzed and collected by the researchers, the representations of nature are portrayed from wilderness, dwelling, and animals. The wilderness concepts portrayed by the wild plants that appear beautiful but can be dangerous to humans, the presence of the indigenous Puka Michuna tribe and how they live, and the Amazon jungle as a place that provides the source of resources to Frank, McGregor, and Lily can utilize. In the concept of dwelling, the researchers found data through several scenes showing that the jungle is not just a place to live for the Puka Michuna tribe, but a place that has spiritual and ecological meaning. The concepts of animals can be seen through several animals that appear in the film, such as the appearance of monkeys and birds in cages, a bet involving a fight between a spider and a scorpion, the appearance of Proxima the Jaguar, and piranha fish.

After analyzing the data on the representation of nature, such as wilderness, dwelling, and animals, the author analyzed the relationship between humans and nature through the interactions observed in the data, which took the form of coexistence, provision, and nature exploitation. Coexistence interaction is shown by the interaction between Frank and the wild plants during the Amazon River tour, and the interaction between the Puka Michuna tribe with their settlement (wilderness), the interaction between Frank and Proxima (animals), and through the interaction between the Puka Michuna tribe and “The tears of the Moon” (dwelling). Provision interaction shown from the interaction between Frank and McGregor to the tree and Lily to “The Tears of the Moon” (wilderness), and interaction between Frank to piranha fish (animals). And last, the natural exploitation shown by the interaction between the vendor and the monkey, the vendor and the birds, the human to spider and scorpion (animals).

The most common type of interaction that the researchers found is coexistence, which is depicted through representations of wilderness, dwellings, and animals. This shows in the film how humans and nature coexist and benefit each other. How nature provides natural resources such as plants, animals, and habitats for humans, and conversely, how humans interact with nature by preserving it for future use as a form of appreciation and gratitude toward nature. This film shows that there are still people who do not consider themselves as human-centrism, dominating all systems on Earth, but rather humans who place nature and the entire ecosystem at the center of attention, acknowledging that humans are merely part of an interconnected web of life or eco-centrism (Gray, Whyte, & Curry, 2018).



### D. CONCLUSION

This research concludes that the film *Jungle Cruise* through the ecocriticism analysis shows the representation of nature portrayed by three representations: wilderness (the wild plants, the appearance and how the Puka Michuna tribe life, Frank and McGregor collects the woods, the uses of the petals), dwelling (Puka Michuna believe the jungle has spiritual meaning), and animals (the appearance through several animals such as monkeys, birds, spider, scorpion, jaguar, and piranha). The human-nature relationship from three interactions: coexistence (Frank and wild plants, Puka Michuna tribe and their settlement, Frank and Proxima, Puka Michuna and “The Tears of the Moon”), provision (Frank and McGregor to the tree, Lily to “The Tears of the Moon”, Frank to Piranha), and nature exploitation (the vendor to the monkey, the vendor to the birds, the human to spider and scorpion). The data presented form different interactions depending on how humans represent nature. The relationship that should be fostered between humans and nature is one of preservation, appreciation, and positive attitudes toward our surroundings. In return, nature will reward humanity's kindness by providing abundant natural resources for utilization. Human actions toward nature will ultimately impact humanity itself.

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