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RECOMMENDATIONS

The thesis endeavours to discover the different perceptions of ecocriticism, such as ecofeminism, ecospirituality, climate change, global destructions, and ecological crises and efforts to associate it with the theory of Gaia. Yet, many substantial areas of concern under ecocriticism remain unexplored. Further research can be conducted based on the untouched areas of this realm, such as Ecotoxicology, Biosemiotic Criticism, Migration and Human Ecology, Geocriticism, and Geopolitics.

Ecotoxicology is the study of the consequences of poisonous chemicals on living organisms. It investigates the pollution that a toxic substance generates, its effect on the ecosystem, biodiversity and various ecosystem services. The novels offer an experimental platform to investigate the impact of toxic chemicals on its atmosphere. There are instances in *The Skinny Dip* that illustrate the pollution generated in the Florida Everglades due to the expulsion of toxic chemicals that contain high phosphorous level. *The Year of the Flood* depicts the reaction of poisonous chemical substances containing in the vitamin supplements marketed by the "HelthWyzer" lab. *Flight Behaviour* discusses various instances that illustrate the aftereffects of chemical pesticides on the life of the monarch butterflies. It also describes the emergence of certain fatal diseases like cancer and crop failure occurs in the agricultural region in response to excessive pesticide usage.

Biosemiotics is a branch of science that inspects sign processes, implications and message transmissions that occur among various organisms in the ecosystem.

Biosemiotic criticism examines the sign processes that is portrayed in various literary and cultural aspects of human existence. Different organisms depicted in the novels including

the human and the non-humans employ different signals to communicate with their fellow organisms. For instance, the honey bees, the poppy plants and the mushrooms in *The Year of the Flood* employs different signals to communicate with their surroundings. The Doberman in *The Skinny Dip* uses diverse symbols to express its concern towards Joey. In *Flight Behaviour*, The sheep, the monarch butterflies and the trees in the Appalachian Mountains also use signals as a way of communication.

Select novels offer an opportunity to examine the relationship between migration and human ecology. The novel *Flight Behaviour* depicts the large scale migration of the monarch butterflies towards the Appalachian region due to the intolerable ecosystem of their usual habitat. Another migration event that happens in the novel is that of the large scale population of Mexico because of the adverse changes in the ecosystem due to landslide, flood and heavy rain. In *The Year of the Flood*, Margaret Atwood also discusses the exile of a vast population from a particular region due to a waterless flood and an unnamed disease.

The novels also extend a scope to analyse them from the dimensions of Geocriticism. Geocriticism establishes space as a valid topic for literary analysis. The novels depict the development and devastation of various characters depending on the space. Space in many forms appear in the novels such as sea, island, wetlands, mountains, garden and farm. All these spatial elements play a crucial role in the progress of the plot.