

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION

#### 5.1 Conclusion

From the discussion in the previous chapter, it is revealed that climate change significantly impacts the environment and human existence. In Nick Fuller Googins's novel titled *The Great Transition* (2023), the impact of climate change is depicted through six aspects of ecocriticism: pollution, wilderness, apocalypse, dwelling, animals, and earth. In pollution, environmental degradation, air and water contamination, and health risks emerge from wildfires and plastic waste. The wilderness section shows how invasive species like the hemlock woolly adelgid, ghost forests, and declining marine productivity damage ecosystems and threaten biodiversity. In the apocalypse, climate change causes forced migration, economic collapse, and mental distress across regions like the U.S., Puerto Rico, and Latin America. The dwelling section highlights the destruction of homes, wildfire disasters, health threats from smoke, and social inequality in marginalized communities. In animals, the novel portrays habitat loss, disrupted food chains, disease, and extinction, calling for ethical recognition of animal suffering. Finally, the earth section emphasizes the disruption of planetary systems through Antarctic ice melt, sea level rise, and the spread of diseases like Lyme, which together threaten both ecological balance and human health.

Beyond environmental degradation, the novel also explores the psychological impacts of climate change through Albrecht's psychoterratic

framework. These impacts are embodied in the characters, as eco-anxiety leads to a range of emotional and psychological responses such as fear, anger, despair, frustration, and moral tension that not only affect individual mental health but also motivate environmental action, resistance, and the pursuit of safer, more sustainable living conditions. Larch, in particular, experiences solastalgia, loss of identity, emotional distress, and a diminished sense of safety due to the destruction of his environment, separation from his family, and the collapse of his sense of home.

*The Great Transition* demonstrates how climate change is a multidimensional crisis that influences ecosystems, species survival, and human psychological conditions. It reveals that emotional responses such as ecoanxiety and solastalgia are valid manifestations of living in a world marked by ecological instability. This study concludes that climate change must be recognized not only as an environmental and political issue but also as a profound psychological challenge. Literature like *The Great Transition* offers critical insight into this connection, showing how stories can help us understand and humanize the lived experiences of climate trauma.

Therefore, through the analysis conducted on this novel, the researcher found that the vast majority of humans still remain indifferent to environmental damage until its consequences become personal and unavoidable. This apathy emphasizes the necessity of real behavioral and systemic changes to prevent future harm. In this context, Climate Fiction (Cli-Fi) emerges as a vital literary genre that frames climate change as an urgent human issue. Through compelling

stories such as *The Great Transition*, the novel encourages readers to cultivate empathy, responsibility, and care by portraying characters who suffer from environmental collapse, experience eco-anxiety, and take action both personal and collective against climate injustice. By humanizing the climate crisis through lived experiences, family struggles, and moral dilemmas, the novel helps readers emotionally connect with the issue.

In conclusion, climate change affects both the environment and individuals' mental well-being. Literature, especially climate fiction, plays a significant role in raising awareness, fostering empathy, and prompting reflection, making it a powerful tool in the fight for a more sustainable future.

## 5.2 Suggestion

There are several suggestions for future research. First, this research uses Nick Fuller Googins's novel titled *The Great Transition* (2023), employing Garrard's ecocriticism and psychoterratic theory to examine the psychological impacts of climate change experienced by the characters. This novel has not been extensively studied since it was newly published. Hence, it is hoped that future researchers could use this novel for analysis with other relevant theories.

Climate change is still a major issue as of now, and it is expected that the readers of this novel will have awareness of the environment. Readers are also expected to make environmental renewals for the sustainability of life now and in the future, and to be more aware of the impacts of climate change that are currently felt through the existing depiction.

*The Great Transition* shows potential as a medium for environmental

education. This novel effectively illustrates the emotional and individual effects of climate change through an engaging story that revolves around people. The characters' narratives not only impart knowledge about ecological damage but also encourage readers to experience its effects. The novel is suitable for use as educational material or for discussion regarding environmental literacy within the field of literature.

