

Margaret Atwood's *Oryx and Crake*: An Ecocritical Approach

¹Vignesh G.P, ²Dr. G. Vasuki

¹Part-Time Research Scholar PG & Research Department of English A.V.V.M. Sri Pushpam College (Autonomous) (Affiliated to Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli), Poondi, Thanjavur – 613 503.

²Assistant Professor & Research Advisor PG & Research Department of English A.V.V.M. Sri Pushpam College (Autonomous) (Affiliated to Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli), Poondi, Thanjavur – 613 503.

Abstract

Ecocriticism explores how culture is related to nature in the spirit of taking responsibility for the environment. This paper tries to use an approach to look at Margaret Atwood's novel, *Oryx and Crake* published in 2003. It analyzes the disaster caused by human selfishness and explains Atwood's concern for the natural world. The novel deals with issues like global warming, genetic engineering, declining resources, scarce species, exploitation of sex and a decline in kindness. It also shows how human beings are not getting along which is a result of technology and ambition. The novel appeals to people to change and improve their way of living. Atwood wants to maintain not the balance between humans and nature but also the balance of human relationships and the balance of humans with themselves. She hopes that people will be aware of the importance of balancing these three aspects. When the entire ecosystem is in a state humans can exist safely and happily with complete freedom.

Keywords: Culture, Disaster, Ecocriticism, Ecology, Nature

Margaret talked about how uncomfortable she felt when her imagination and real people met. She said that real life was getting too close to the things she made up. In her book *Oryx and Crake* she shows a world that is like our world but with some big problems made worse. This is similar to her book, *The Handmaid's Tale*, which was written in 1985. Atwood was paying attention to what was happening in the world when she wrote *Oryx and Crake*. She was looking at news stories about things like disasters, genetic engineering and bioterrorism. One of the things that makes *Oryx and Crake* so interesting is its scary picture of a fictional world. In this world some cities on the east coast have been destroyed by the sea and New New York has replaced New York City. The story takes place in the twenty-first century and deals with big environmental issues like global warming, pollution, overpopulation and the effects of capitalism on the environment.

Atwood is warning us about the dangers of the path we're on and the choices we are making about the environment. She is using her writing to caution us about the dangers of our actions. Atwood has always been concerned about the environment in her writing. She has written about how people relate to the world and how that affects our survival. In *Oryx and Crake* she is very clear about the dangers of recklessness and the need for moral principles in our society.

The book is set in a world where everything has been changed by warming and genetic engineering. The main character, Jimmy is one of the people left alive and he is living in a world that is very different from the one we know. He has to deal with animals and a changed environment. Atwood is showing us a world where nature is taking back over. Buildings that were once used for business are now home to birds and plants. Jimmy notices how the birds are coming back to the city and how the plants are growing in the ruins of the world. In the book Atwood is saying that in a world that has been destroyed there is still hope for renewal.

The natural world has the power to heal itself. We can see that in the way the plants and animals are adapting to their new environment. Jimmy's story is one of survival in a world that has been changed forever. He is living in a time when the environment has been severely damaged and people are struggling to survive. The book is a warning about the dangers of our actions and the importance of taking care of the environment. Atwood is telling us that we need to think about our place in the world and how our actions affect the environment. We need to consider the consequences of our actions and try to find a way to live in harmony with nature. The book *Oryx*

and Crake is a warning about the dangers of environmental recklessness and the importance of taking care of our planet.

In the end Jimmy is left alone. He is not without hope. He sees the natural world taking back over. He knows that there is still a chance for renewal and recovery. The book ends on a note of hope. Also a warning that we need to take care of our planet before it's too late. *Oryx and Crake* is a book that makes us think about our place in the world and our responsibility to the environment. It's a warning about the dangers of our actions. Also a message of hope for the future. We can learn from Atwood's writing. Try to make a difference in the way we live our lives and interact with the natural world. The book shows us a world that's very different from our own but it also shows us the beauty and power of nature.

Atwood is reminding us that we are not the ones who live in this world and that we need to consider the impact of our actions on the environment and the other creatures that live here. In *Oryx and Crake* Atwood is using her writing to caution us about the dangers of our actions and to encourage us to think about our place in the world. She is showing us a world that has been destroyed but a world that has the power to heal itself. The book is a warning but also a message of hope for the future. Atwood's writing is a reminder that we need to take care of our planet and consider the consequences of our actions. We need to think about our place in the world and how we can live in harmony with the environment. *Oryx and Crake* is a book that makes us think about the future and our responsibility to the planet.

The story of *Oryx and Crake* is one of survival and hope in a world that has been changed forever. It's a reminder that we need to take care of our planet and consider the impact of our actions on the environment. Atwood's writing is a warning, but also a message of hope for the future. In the book Atwood is showing us a world that's very different from our own but also a world that has the power to heal itself. The natural world is taking back over. We can see that in the way the plants and animals are adapting to their new environment.

Atwood's writing is a reminder that we need to think about our place in the world and how our actions affect the environment. We need to consider the consequences of our actions and try to find a way to live in harmony with nature. *Oryx and Crake* is a book that makes us think about the future and our responsibility to the planet. The book is a warning about the dangers of recklessness and the importance of taking care of our planet. Atwood is using her writing to caution us about the dangers of our actions and to encourage us to think about our place in the world. In the end *Oryx and Crake* is a book that makes us think about our responsibility to the planet and the importance of taking care of the environment. It's a warning but also a message of hope for the future. We can learn from Atwood's writing. Try to make a difference in the way we live our lives and interact with the natural world.

The caterpillar says "We have work to do and loads to lift." This is what the caterpillar tells us. The caterpillar is talking to Jimmy. Jimmy is a person who is trying to figure some things out. He is feeling a little confused. The caterpillar is like a symbol. It is a symbol of change. The caterpillar is changing from a caterpillar into a moth or a butterfly. This is like what Jimmy's going through. Jimmy is changing too. He is trying to find out who he is and what he wants to do. Crake is a person. He is a scientist. He is very smart. He has a way of thinking. He does not think about things in the way that other people do. He thinks that the world is a way. He thinks that the world is a place where people can do whatever they want. He also thinks that this is a problem. He thinks that people are hurting the earth. He thinks that people are making the earth sick. Crake has created some people. These people are called the Crakers. They are special. They are designed to live in a world that's very different from the world we live in today. They are designed to be friendly to the earth. They do not hurt the earth. They live in a way that's good for the earth. They eat plants. They do not eat animals. They are very gentle. They are like a kind of person.

The Crakers are very interesting. They are like a species. They are designed to live in a world that's very different from our world. They are designed to be happy and healthy. They are designed to live in a way that's good for the earth. They are like a dream. They are like a vision of what the future could be. There is also a problem. The problem is that the Crakers are not like us. They are different. They do not think like us. They do not feel like us. They are like a kind of person. This is a little scary. It is scary because we do not know what it

means. We do not know what it means to be a kind of person. Jimmy is a person who is trying to figure some things out. He is trying to figure out what it means to be human. He is trying to figure out what it means to live in a world that's very different from the world we live in today. He is trying to figure out what it means to be a person in a world that is changing fast. The earth is a special place. It is a place where we live. It is a place where we grow food. It is a place where we find water. It is a place where we breathe air.

The earth is an important place. We need to take care of it. We need to make sure that it is healthy. We need to make sure that it is happy. The book *Oryx and Crake* is an interesting book. It is a book that makes us think. It is a book that makes us wonder. It is a book that makes us feel. It is a book that makes us think about what it means to be human. It is a book that makes us think about what it means to live in a world that's very different from the world we live in today. It is a book that makes us think about the future. It is a book that makes us think about what we want the future to be.

The author of the book, Margaret Atwood is a smart person. She is a person who thinks deeply. She is a person who feels deeply. She is a person who writes beautifully. She is a person who makes us think. She is a person who makes us wonder. She is a person who makes us feel. The book *Oryx and Crake* is a book that's full of hope. It is a book that's full of possibilities. It is a book that makes us think about what we can do. It is a book that makes us think about what we want to do. It is a book that makes us think about the future. It is a book that makes us think about what we want the future to be. We need to take care of the earth. We need to make sure that it is healthy. We need to make sure that it is happy. We need to make sure that it is a place where we can live. We need to make sure that it is a place where we can grow food. We need to make sure that it is a place where we can find water. We need to make sure that it is a place where we can breathe air. The caterpillar is a symbol of change. It is a symbol of hope. It is a symbol of possibilities. It is a symbol of what we can do. It is a symbol of what we want to do. It is a symbol of the future. It is a symbol of what we want the future to be.

The caterpillar is a special creature. It is a creature that makes us think. It is a creature that makes us wonder. It is a creature that makes us feel. The Crakers are a kind of person. They are a person who is designed to live in a world that's very different from our world. They are designed to be friendly to the earth. They are designed to live in a way that's good for the earth. They are like a dream. They are like a vision of what the future could be. We can learn a lot from the Crakers. We can learn a lot from their way of life. We can learn a lot from their values. We can learn a lot from their beliefs. We can learn a lot from their relationship with the earth. We can learn a lot from their relationship with each other. The book *Oryx and Crake* is a book that makes us think. It is a book that makes us wonder. It is a book that makes us feel. It is a book that makes us think about what it means to be human. It is a book that makes us think about what it means to live in a world that's very different, from the world we live in today. It is a book that makes us think about the future. It is a book that makes us think about what we want the future to be.

We need to think about the future. We need to think about what we want the future to be. We need to think about what we can do to make the future a better place. We need to think about what we can do to make the earth a healthier place. We need to think about what we can do to make the earth a happier place. The caterpillar, the Crakers and the book *Oryx and Crake* are all very special. They are all very important. They are all very interesting. They are all thought-provoking. They are all feeling-provoking. They are all very special because they make us think. They are all very special because they make us wonder. They are all very special because they make us feel. The world is quickly falling apart. Crakes Paradise Project is about making babies that have all the good things people want like a healthy body, a smart mind and a good heart. The customer can choose what they want. Crakes plan is to use bioterrorism and genetic experimentation to replace humans with his own custom-made humans called the Crakers. This shows that human life and values are not important to him. With concern Atwood shows how people are trapped and destroyed by their own greed. She clearly shows that the great power scientists get from technology is only leading to more chaos. The warning in this story is that the hopes and dreams of a world will soon collapse. Atwood points out the mistake in our society, where people think ease and comfort are the same as culture. She also believes that "everything is connected to everything and that stories do not exist in a world of their own but are part of a big system where energy, matter

and ideas interact. The modern culture of science has not taken the world's resources but also taken away people's emotions. People have no morals or values. They are attracted to power, sex and cruelty.

Crake calls the relationship between a man and a young woman "pair-bonding". Atwood's sarcastic tone can be seen in the conversation between Crake and Jimmy: "Pair-bonding at this stage's not encouraged" said Crake. "We're supposed to be focusing on our work." It is Crake, the workaholic who created the Blysspluss Pill killed people without feeling guilty murdered Oryx and brought disaster to all of humanity. When Crake's Paradise plan ended in disaster Snowman was left alone to face a world with extremely high temperatures, little food and strange animals like pigoons and wolvogs. Along with Snowman the readers start a journey into the world Atwood creates with her sarcastic descriptions. For example Snowman's world is described as: Noon's the worst, with its glare and humidity. At eleven o'clock Snowman goes back into the forest out of sight of the sea because the bad rays bounce off the water and get to him even if he's protected from the sky and then he gets red and blistered.

The effects of warming will soon bring similar horrors of heat to people, which some parts of the world are already experiencing. The scary story of Oryx and Crake and the disturbing science fiction world it creates are not new to the generation. Technology has also created a gap between the rich and the poor as can be seen in this book. The rich live in clean compounds while the poor live in dirty and polluted areas. The sad picture Atwood paints in Oryx and Crake warns people about the end of the human race in the near future if they do not change their ways. She makes an appeal to humanity to get strength from the warning the book gives to have a strong code of conduct and to reject fake happiness and unethical pleasures that science offers. She wants to prevent technology from taking away the world and civilization. Atwood combines comments with her technical observations and sets them against the big changes she describes. She also uses her story to express her concerns about a trend in culture that she finds disturbing: the acceptance of violence and pornography into mainstream culture. The idea that "everything is connected to everything" is the basis of Atwood's work. Through her descriptions of humanity there is a hopeful spark, a clear sign of her strong optimism. Her powerful expectation and authoritative words show her passion for this world. Speak well of her work for clever ecocritical research. In conclusion this paper analyzes the disaster caused by human actions and Atwood's concern for the natural world. It also shows the relationships between people, the result of unchecked technology and ambition. It appeals to humanity to change and improve their way of life. Atwood wants to maintain not the balance between humans and the natural world but also the balance of human relationships and the balance within humans themselves. She hopes that people will have an awareness of the importance of these three aspects. When the whole ecosystem is, in a good state, can humans live safely and happily with complete individuality?

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