

HUMAN GREED AND IT'S IMPACT ON NATURE IN MALEFICENT 2 (MISTRESS OF EVIL) MOVIE: AN ECOFEMINISM APPROACH

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Abstrak

Keserakahan manusia menjadi penyebab utama dari rusaknya alam karena ambisi manusia untuk mendapatkan keuntungan yang berlebih. Dalam film Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil, sang pengarang, Linda Woolverton, memberikan tema tentang perusakan alam. Penelitian ini bertujuan 1) untuk menemukan indikator keserakahan manusia dalam film Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil, 2) untuk menemukan keserakahan manusia dan dampaknya terhadap alam yang digambarkan dalam film Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil, 3) untuk menjelaskan alasan Linda Woolverton menggambarkan keserakahan manusia dan dampaknya terhadap alam dalam film Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah deskriptif kualitatif dengan pendekatan teori ekofeminisme, metode analisis yang digunakan untuk penelitian ini adalah reduksi data, display data, dan kesimpulan. Hasil penelitian menemukan bahwa terdapat 3 indikator keserakahan manusia yaitu, 1) mengambil sesuatu secara berlebihan, 2) tidak puas dengan apa yang telah dimiliki, 3) berusaha mengambil milik orang lain. Kedua, peneliti juga menemukan bahwa ada 3 akibat dari keserakahan manusia terhadap alam, yaitu kepunahan, kematian, dan hilangnya kebebasan. Ketiga, Linda Woolverton sebagai penulis mengangkat keserakahan manusia dan dampaknya terhadap alam karena dia adalah seorang feminis dan memberikan tema perusakan alam dalam film Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil.

Kata Kunci: ekofeminisme, keserakahan manusia, Maleficent 2 (2019), perusakan alam.

Abstract

Human greed is the main course of the destruction of nature because of the ambition of humans to get excess profits. In the film Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil, the author, Linda Woolverton, gave the theme of destroying nature. This study aims 1) To find the indicators of human greed in Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil movie, 2) To find the human greed and it's impact on nature depicted in Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil movie, 3) To explain why Linda Woolverton depicted human greed and it's impact on nature in Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil movie. The method used in this study is descriptive qualitative with an ecofeminism theory approach, the analysis method used for this research is data reduction, data display, and conclusions. Results of the study found that there are 3 indicators of human greed namely, 1) Taking things excessively, 2) not being satisfied with what they already have, 3) and trying to take someone else's. Second, researcher also found that there are 3 consequences of human greed for nature, namely extinction, death, and loss of freedom. Third, Linda Woolverton as a writer addressed human greed and it's impact on nature is because she is a feminist and gave the theme of destroying nature in the film Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil.

Keywords: destroying nature, ecofeminism, human greed, Maleficent 2 (2019).

1. INTRODUCTION

Human greed is still a serious problem in society and nature. In society, human greed for more money and wealth is a good way to succeed in a market economy. Especially the impact on nature that causes damage to nature for the sake of personal and organizational interests to get excessive profits. Many human activities are greedily destroying nature, for example burning and logging forests illegally, hunting rare animals, and so on. This of course increasingly makes nature damaged and certainly has a negative impact on humans such as the occurrence of many natural disasters such as landslides, floods, and other natural disasters.

The destruction of nature caused by human greed is also a concern for many parties, especially in the film industry, namely movie writers as a reference for the course of the movie story. Writers from the biggest movie industry, Disney, have taken human greed as a bad example in some of their movies. One of them is a writer who has written several Disney-made movies, namely Linda Woolverton. Linda Woolverton has declared herself a feminist with her works that are known to contain stories of strong and independent female protagonists. In one of her movies, *Maleficent*, she depicts the theme of nature destruction based on the greed of human beings which results in a bad impact on humans themselves. The main character in the movie is depicted as a woman but in the form of a horned and winged creature, which can be interpreted as the relationship between women and nature from the character.

Maleficent is a fantasy-action film produced by Walt Disney Pictures and the screenwriter is Linda Woolverton. The 97-minute movie was released in Indonesia on June 4, 2014. The main character of the movie is *Maleficent* played by Angelina Jolie who also played the same character in the sequel of *Maleficent*, *Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil*. Linda Woolverton also returns as the story writer in *Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil* and still applies the pressure of destroying nature based on human greed. The release date of *Maleficent 2* is on October 18, 2019 and has a duration of 118 minutes. The movie *Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil* is the specific work in this proposal because it contains the topic of human greed and its impact on nature that is needed by the author of this proposal.

Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil tells the story of Aurora's life who has become queen of the Moors after five years of her father King Stevan's death, with *Maleficent* still being the guardian and protector of the Moors. However, the neighboring kingdom of Ulstead considers *Maleficent* a villain because of the rumors that *Maleficent* has cursed an innocent baby without knowing that she also broke the curse with her love for Aurora. While the king of the Ulstead Kingdom, King John, wants peace by marrying his son, Prince Philip, who loves Aurora, Philip's mother, Queen Ingrith, has secretly prepared weapons of war in a hidden room to kill the fairies in the Moors with the aim of controlling the Moors. One day Philip proposed to Aurora and she accepted the proposal, *Maleficent*

who heard the news from Diaval then suggested that Aurora reject the proposal because Maleficent believed that love was just the beginning of destruction, but Aurora convinced Maleficent that their love was a good thing and would prove that she was not wrong. Maleficent, Aurora, and Diaval then attended a dinner invitation that Philip's parents held at the palace. Throughout the dinner, Maleficent continued to harbor her anger because Queen Ingrith kept repeating untrue stories and Maleficent's crimes that were only half of the truth. Finally, Maleficent could no longer contain her anger when Queen Ingrith told Maleficent to release her maternal bond to Aurora and become her biological mother. The magical power that was released from Maleficent's body made everyone scared and suddenly King John fainted, Queen Ingrith accused Maleficent of cursing the king but Aurora preferred to believe Queen Ingrith. Maleficent left disappointed but on the way she was shot by Gerda, Ingrith's right hand, which made Maleficent fall into the sea and was saved by a horned and winged creature who turned out to be the same people as Maleficent, the Dark Fey.

The creature is named Conall and brings Maleficent to the place where the Dark Fey hide from humans. In that place, Maleficent saw a lot of Dark Fey living in hiding because humans have been fighting them for a long time. Maleficent is determined to bring them all back to the Moors and protect them because she realizes she is the last descendant of a very powerful Dark Fey ancestor and intends to avenge humans along with Borra, a Dark Fey who supports conflict with humans. Meanwhile, the Moors are invited to Aurora and Philip's wedding. At the same time, Maleficent senses something strange from the Moors which turns out to be caused by humans who cut down the tomb bloom which is the graveyard of the Dark Fey ancestors. Maleficent quickly tried to protect the flower with Conall and Borra, but Conall was killed and encouraged Borra to declare war on humans. The next day, the inhabitants of the Moors were locked in a church which turned out to be a trap to kill the fairies, many fairies were killed including the fairy Flittle who sacrificed covering the powder center that made the fairies die, when Gerda wanted to fix the powder center she fell and died. That same day Aurora and Philip learned that Ingrith was the one who cursed King John using Maleficent's old curse because Ingrith hated all the fairies and hated the prosperity of the Moors. Ingrith plans to kill all fairies and Moord creatures with iron powder developed by Lickspittle, a powerless fairy by making stolen fairies as guinea pigs.

Long story short a war ensues between humans and the Dark Fey, Maleficent with her powers joins the war and almost kills Ingrith. However, Aurora asked for Maleficent's humanity and stated that Maleficent was her only mother. With Maleficent unaware, Ingrith shoots an arrow at Aurora and Maleficent saves Aurora which causes Maleficent to die and become ashes. Ingrith announces Maleficent is dead and Aurora cries, but from Aurora's teardrops, Maleficent rises from the dead because her phoenix resistance has risen. Panicked, Ingrith pushes Aurora and runs away, Maleficent also saves Aurora. On the other hand, Philip convinced the soldiers to retreat and declared peace

between fairies and humans. Maleficent returns in fairy form and blesses Aurora and Philip, Lickspittle then gives the spindle that Ingrith used to curse King John and Maleficent eliminates the spindle, finally King John wakes up. For his crimes Ingrith was surrounded by the Dark Fey and turned into a goat by Maleficent until he could accept peace between fairies and humans. Aurora and Philip's wedding was held with all fairies, humans, and Dark Fey attending, Maleficent returned to the Moors with the fairies and Dark Fey and promised to return for Aurora's baptism and Philip's future child. That was the happy ending of Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil.

From the movie Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil, there is human greed and its impact on nature that eventually forms human ethics towards nature and its management, which ends up creating gender equality in relation to the universe. The helplessness of nature against human greed and the injustice of this treatment eventually formed a relationship between women and nature based on the theory of ecofeminism. In the relevance found by the author on the topic of Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil based on the theory of ecofeminism, the author found similarities in some of the relevance that considers Maleficent as a woman who protects nature. This is used as the main point of the previous researchers to answer the research problem. Unlike the previous studies, this research wants to find elements of human greed and its impact on nature in Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil by believing that Maleficent's character is a representation of ecofeminism itself with the depiction of nature embodied in the form of a woman. The researcher believes that the sense of powerlessness and unfair treatment of Maleficent and the Moors is a form of ecofeminism.

Based on the context of the research described above, it can be formulated that the researcher has 3 questions that will be the focus of this research, namely as follows:

- 1) What is the indicators of human greed in Maleficent 2 movie?
- 2) How was human greed and it's impact on nature depicted in Maleficent 2 movie?
- 3) Why did Linda Woolverton addressed human greed and it's impact on nature in Maleficent 2 movie?

2. METHOD

This research is a literary research and literature is an academic study, using descriptive qualitative, which means that this research does not use qualitative terms so that numbers are never used, but this research emphasizes descriptive means. The findings of ecofeminism in the film will be described and then analyzed. In this study, the target of the study or the object of research was the film Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil. The form of literary work is the movie Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil. Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil is a fantasy-themed film released in 2019 by Walt Disney Pictures, directed by Joachim Ronning and Linda Woolverton as the writer. The movie is a continuation of

Maleficent (2014), with the main character Maleficent played by Angelina Jolie. The topic being studied in this research is to focus on the indicators of human greed, the depiction of human greed and its impact on nature, and the reason why the author depicts human greed and its impact on nature in Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil using ecofeminism theory.

The types of data taken in this research are images in the form of scene captures and text in the form of dialogues. Researchers use 2 types of data sources, namely, primary data sources and secondary data sources. The primary data used by researchers is the movie Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil. Secondary data sources used by researchers are several reference journals, theoretical books and other references to support primary data related to the study. Researchers used qualitative methods to find information in this study. To obtain data, researchers used a number of documents related to the research problem. There are several steps that researchers use in finding data, namely, the researcher watched the movie Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil, the researcher then read the subtitles, next, the researcher identified the subtitles, the researcher then classifies the data based on the theory used. After finding data in Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil, the researcher then explained and analyzed the data in order to find answers to the research problems. There are several steps of data analysis used by researchers, namely, data reduction, data display, and conclusions.

- 1) Data reduction, namely by condensing data based on the conceptual framework, cases and research question instruments in terms of summarizing, coding, finding themes, clarifying, and narrating.
- 2) Data display is by compiling dense and organized information.
- 3) Conclusion by inferring the meaning of the data displayed.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

After watching Maleficent: Mistress of Evil repeatedly, the researcher decided to analyze the dialogues and scenes of the characters to find answers to the research problem. Based on this, the researcher can find the existence of human greed and its impacts for nature contained in the film. The researcher will also explain how the depiction of ecofeminism in films is examined, namely how the unfair treatment and powerlessness of nature and women face society.

3.1 Indicator human greed in Maleficent: Mistress of Evil

There is one character in Maleficent: Mistress of Evil that shows greed, and that is the character of Queen Ingrith. Queen Ingrith is the queen of the kingdom of Ulstead, but she attempted to rule the Moors (nature) for her own satisfaction by trying to kill the creatures that lived in it. With her power, the Queen easily orders her army to wage war on the creatures living in the Moors. However, to carry out her wishes, the Queen had to overthrow her own husband, King John, so that no one would be more powerful than the Queen. This shows that domineering men are seen in this movie, so women have to try harder to realize their desires. In this study, there are three characteristics of human greed

in the film Maleficent: Mistress of Evil, namely, taking something excessively, not being satisfied with what is already owned, and trying to control other people's property.

There is one character in Maleficent: Mistress of Evil that shows greed, and that is the character of Queen Ingrith. Queen Ingrith is the queen of the kingdom of Ulstead, but she attempted to rule the Moors (nature) for her own satisfaction by trying to kill the creatures that lived in it. there are three characteristics of human greed in the film Maleficent: Mistress of Evil, namely, taking something excessively, not being satisfied with what is already owned, and trying to control other people's property.

Maleficent: There are fairies missing from the Moors.

Stolen by human poachers.

The dialogue is found showing that many Moors have disappeared because they were kidnapped by humans on orders from someone. It is evident that an indication of human greed that is taking something excessively for its own sake is found in the film Maleficent: Mistress of Evil.

Queen Ingrith: Forced by fate into marriage with King John of Ulstead.

Another weak king speaking of tolerance and civility.

The dialog between Queen Ingrith and Aurora in the laboratory which shows that Queen Ingrith regrets marrying a king who she thinks is weak because it talks about tolerance and politeness. In this scene, there is a discussion that the nature of tolerance and politeness for the Moors and its inhabitants is a weak act, it shows that nature is discriminated against. Queen Ingrith's dissatisfaction with what she already has shows the greed of humans in this movie.

3.2 Human greed and it's impact on nature in Maleficent: Mistress of Evil.

After watching Maleficent: Mistress of Evil and collecting data, the researcher found several scenes that depict human greed and its impact on nature in this film. The consequences of human greed can cause extinction, death, and loss of freedom felt by the creatures that live in it.

a. Extinction

After watching Maleficent: Mistress of Evil and collecting data, the researcher found several scenes that depict human greed and its impact on nature in this film. The consequences of human greed can cause extinction, death, and loss of freedom felt by the creatures that live in it.

Conall : Humans have used iron against us for centuries.

Borra : And we are almost extinct because of it.

In the scene above, there is a dialogue between Dark Fey who says that humans have long used iron to harm Dark Fey and the fairies. This has also made the Dark Fey almost extinct until finally, they have to live far from their original residence.

b. Death

The effect of human greed on the rest of nature is death. In order to get rid of and control nature for its own sake, humans can have the heart to kill the creatures that live in it. So many scenes in the movie show that human greed eventually causes war with nature and can end with the death of creatures living in the Moors, namely, Conal (Dark Fey), other Dark Fey troops, Lief the tree, and Maleficent. Although Maleficent finally came back to life, from the data above, it is proven that human greed can cause death to the inhabitants of the realm they want to rule just to fulfill the desires of their greed for nature.

c. Lose Freedom

The loss of freedom is also a result of human greed for creatures living in nature. They must find a new, hidden dwelling place and become alienated from the world in order to stay away from humans.

Conal : Those children should be soaring over the trees and rivers.

: Instead, they are raised in exile.

In the dialogue above, Conall (Dark Fey) has a conversation saying that Dark Fey's children should fly freely over rivers and trees, but they must live in seclusion because their habitat has been taken over by humans. What they could previously freely explore the world had to lose their freedom and live in hiding. It is evident that due to human greed, the creatures living in nature have to lose their freedom.

3.3 The reason Linda Woolverton addresses Human Greed and Its Impact on Nature in Maleficent: Mistress of Evil.

Linda Woolverton is a writer of several films produced by Disney, one of which is Maleficent (2014) and Maleficent: Mistress of Evil (2019). Linda Woolverton is known for her "Strong Female Characters" in her works, Linda declares herself as a feminist with her works that are known for strong and independent female protagonists so it is not surprising if one of her works contains elements of ecofeminism.

Linda Woolverton : It was also about the discovery of others like her (Maleficent), and that theme of the destruction of nature.

The data above was taken from one of the interviews conducted by Linda Woolverton which was uploaded on Collider.com with the title 'Maleficent 2' Writer Linda Woolverton on How Angelina Jolie Helped Shape the Character's Journey, Linda said that in the movie the most significant thing is Maleficent and Aurora's relationship, which is about motherhood and the tilt of adopted children. As a feminist, Linda does not only show a woman who looks like Maleficent but also the theme of the

destruction of nature which shows the existence of ecofeminism. From this data, the reason Linda Woolverton addresses human greed and its impact on nature is that she is a feminist and gave the theme of the destruction of nature in the film *Maleficent: Mistress of Evil* which automatically has an indication of human greed and its consequences for nature.

From the findings above, researchers can find how human greed and its consequences for nature are depicted in *Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil*. Maleficent, the main character, is the guardian of the Moors and a symbol of ecofeminism as she is part of nature but portrayed as a woman. There are three characteristics of human greed, namely, taking something excessively, not being satisfied with what is already owned, and trying to take other people's property. Researchers also found that there are three consequences of human greed for nature, namely extinction, death, and loss of freedom. In the movie, Maleficent as the main character becomes the depiction of ecofeminism by being part of nature and shown in the form of a woman. Maleficent's helplessness when experiencing discrimination by humans becomes an affirmation of the relationship between women and nature that experiences helplessness and unfair treatment of both in a patriarchal society. The domination of men who suppress the movements of women and the domination of humans who continue to harm nature make the relationship between women and nature even closer when they are helpless in the face of such mistreatment.

Linda Woolverton as the writer of the movie "*Maleficent: Mistress of Evil*" depicts the destruction of nature in *Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil* because she wants to show that humans are cruel although not all, compared to the peaceful inhabitants of the Moors, humans are shown to always start wars, greedy, cruel and indifferent to nature. Linda Woolverton is known for her "Strong Female Characters" in her works and declares herself as a feminist with her works known for strong and independent female protagonists. *Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil* contains elements of the destruction of nature by depicting human greed and its consequences for nature. In one of the interviews conducted by Linda Woolverton, Linda said that in the movie the most significant thing is the relationship between Maleficent and Aurora, which is about motherhood and the tilt of adopted children. Linda also explained that in the movie Maleficent discovers her true self and where she comes from because Maleficent is always different from other people. Also about the discovery of other people who are like Maleficent and the theme of nature's destruction. From the explanation, the reason why Linda Woolverton addressed human greed and its impact on nature is because that she is a feminist and wanted to give the theme of nature destruction in *Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil* because she wanted to show that humans can protect nature with feminine traits such as compassion, patience, forgiveness, and so on.

Maleficent as the main character is a symbol of nature depicted in the form of a woman, it shows that there is a connection between women and nature in *Maleficent: Mistress of Evil*, thus it

can be proven that in the movie "Maleficent: Mistress of Evil" contains elements of ecofeminism and also human greed that brings bad consequences to nature. From the perspective of ecofeminism, women and nature are related, especially in the powerlessness and unfair treatment of both in society. The destruction of nature in Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil by humans due to greed, by showing how the Moors helplessly receive bad treatment from humans, as well as Maleficent's character who is always discriminated against, shows the depiction of ecofeminism in Maleficent 2: Mistress of Evil.

4. CONCLUSION

The researcher draws some conclusions from this study after analyzing the data, namely about human greed and its consequences for nature in Maleficent: Mistress of Evil in 2019 written by Linda Woolverton. This research is analyzed using the theory of ecofeminism and described using the analytical descriptive method. In this movie, there are three indications of human greed carried out by one of the antagonists, Queen Ingrith, with 3 characteristics that indicate human greed, namely taking something excessively, not being satisfied with what is already owned, and trying to control other people's property. Moors and the creatures that inhabit it as a depiction of nature in this film get 3 consequences of Queen Ingrith's greed, namely extinction, death, and loss of freedom. Moors creatures who get discriminated against can only rely on their Queen, Aurora, and Maleficent, the main character who guards the Moors. However, the helplessness of Maleficent and Aurora in the movie is an indication of ecofeminism in Maleficent: Mistress of Evil, because helplessness and unfair treatment experienced by nature and women are the meaning of ecofeminism. The writer of the movie, Linda Woolverton addressed the destruction of nature in Maleficent: Mistress of Evil because she is a feminist and gave the theme of nature destruction to this movie so that finally there is also human greed and its consequences for nature.

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