

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Research

Environment, technology and human have never been separated. They were growing together. Great achievements in the history of humanity would have never existed without them. In literature, this interrelationship can be depicted in the science fiction genre which displays technology in a new imaginary future or a new technology that may influence new inventions, nowadays. In *A Glossary of Literary Term*, M.H Abrams stated,

“These terms encompass novels and short stories that represent an imagined reality that is radically different in its nature and functioning from the world of our ordinary experience. Often the setting is another planet, or this earth projected into the 112, or an imagined parallel universe” (Abrams 278)

Many authors inserted technology and environment of their work to their writings.

One of them is an American famous author, Michael Crichton, a writing name of John Michael Crichton. He was born on October 23rd, 1942, in Chicago, Illinois. Some of his novels were adapted to motion pictures such as *Rising Sun* in 1993 after it was published in 1992, *The Lost World* in 1995, filmed in 1997, and *Disclosure* in 1994. He died in the age of 66 on November 4th, 2008, in Los Angeles, California. He was a student of Harvard Medical School when he wrote a best-seller novel, *The Andromeda Strain* in 1969. Crichton won Emmy Award, Writer's Guild of America Award and Peabody Award as validation of his achievement. During his life, he wrote 27 fiction novels, 10 short stories, and 4 non-fiction works as social criticism. His background in medical influenced his work on his TV

drama, *E.R.* It was shown from 1994 to 2009 on NBC for 15 seasons. In 1993, his novel, *Jurassic Park*, was adapted into motion picture with the same title and being one of the most popular *movies* of all time.

Jurassic Park novel is classified as science fiction for its contents about technology which was not yet existed. This novel reflects the human arrogance in controlling nature arrogantly. *Jurassic Park*, which was published in 1990, talks about a theme park, that offers the show of genetic modification dinosaur to their visitors in an island near Costa Rica, named Isla Nublar. The dinosaurs DNA was extracted from prehistoric blood of trapped insect in amber. Caused by human error, the park fell into chaos and the carnivores rampaged, they destroyed the park before it officially opened for public. *Jurassic Park* shows the way human manipulate and control nature arrogantly which harmed environment, and shows the nature's retaliation for its existence.

The writer intends to analyze *Jurassic Park* because it reflects environmental issue that related to human interrelationships with nature. It shows human arrogance toward nature and causing consequence. The man made disaster. The disaster is not only affected human, but also harm the environment. This research is also to raise the environmental awareness among people to keep the nature sustainable on future.

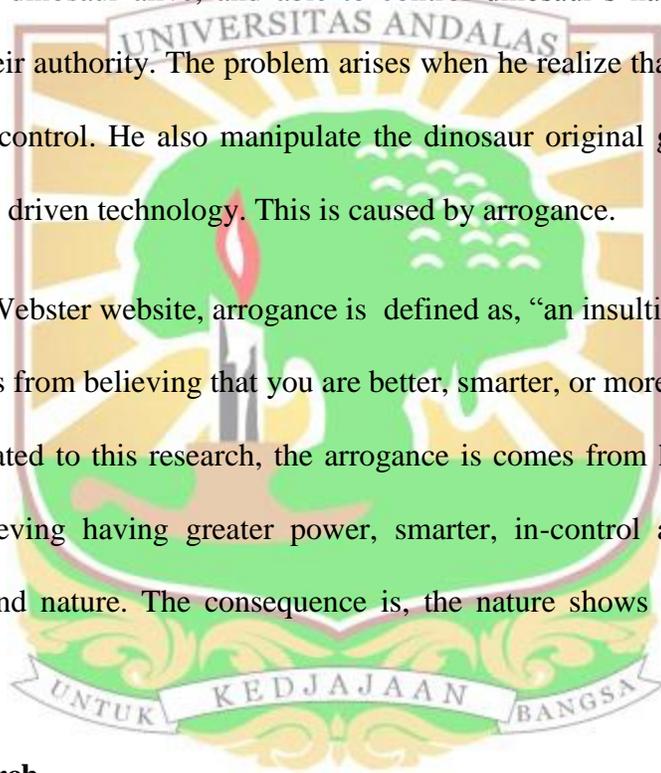
The writer have not found thesis about Michael Crichton's work in Andalas University. The writer chooses *Jurassic Park* as his object of research because it is a famous work, and it has messages about present issues of human interaction with the environment. With its sequel novel *The Lost World*, both have been adapted to the motion picture and franchised into 4 *blockbuster* series until the latest movie *Jurassic World* in 2015. This novel brings issues of reality which happened on nature and the consequences of human's arrogance to over

dominate it. The writer uses ecocriticism theory in conducting this research, and with this theory the writer intent to make *Jurassic Park* as an example of a disharmony relationship between human and nature.

1.2 Identification of Problems

In *Jurassic Park*, human recreate the million years extinguished-prehistoric animal and turns into disaster. Jurassic Park geneticist, Dr. Henry Wu, confidently believe that he have the power to make dinosaur alive, and able to control dinosaur's natural instinct and the ecosystem under their authority. The problem arises when he realize that these new creations are too difficult to control. He also manipulate the dinosaur original genetics and the park control by one-hand driven technology. This is caused by arrogance.

From Mirriam-Webster website, arrogance is defined as, “an insulting way of thinking or behaving that comes from believing that you are better, smarter, or more important than other people”. Which related to this research, the arrogance is comes from human who thinking, behaving, and believing having greater power, smarter, in-control and overly confident toward dinosaurs and nature. The consequence is, the nature shows disaster to human as painful retaliation.



1.3 Scope of Research

The writer focuses on relationship between human and nature in *Jurassic Park*, the way human treats the life form of nature and our society. To help the research, the writer intends to put some problems to analyze:

1. Geneticist Manipulation in Recreating New Ecosystem in Isla Nublar
2. Dr. Henry Wu's Point of View Toward the Recreated Dinosaur in *Jurassic Park*

3. The Similarity of Nature Exploitation in *Jurassic Park* and Worldwide

1.4 Objective of Research

The objective of this research is to explain the arrogance in interrelationship between human and nature. The concentration – related in this novel – is about Dr. Henry Wu with the re-engineered dinosaurs and the new ecosystem in Isla Nublar. Also, to show the consequences of human arrogance over nature. In other way, the writer intends to prove that *Jurassic Park* is the representative of human arrogance over nature that happens today.

1.5 Review Of Previous Studies

The study of *Jurassic Park* was presented by Wahyuni Ilham, a student of Bung Hatta University on her thesis titled *The Practice of Capitalism as Seen in Jurassic Park by Michael Crichton* (2011). She was focused on John Hammond character as the capitalist. She saw John Hammond as a selfish, greedy, ambitious, passionate, eccentric manipulator who sacrificed everything included people around him, for his selfishness pursuing wealth. He also blaming the others for his fault. Wahyuni observed that John used high technology, dominate market, exploit nature, manipulated the situation and avoid the government control to ran his park. She found that John Hammond was truly the reason of chaos in the park. According to Wahyuni, *Jurassic Park* shows human greediness which based on capitalism. John Hammond greeds of wealthiness made John manipulate Jurassic Park into money machine and exploit dinosaurs to fulfill his greed, and ended to disaster for himself and the park

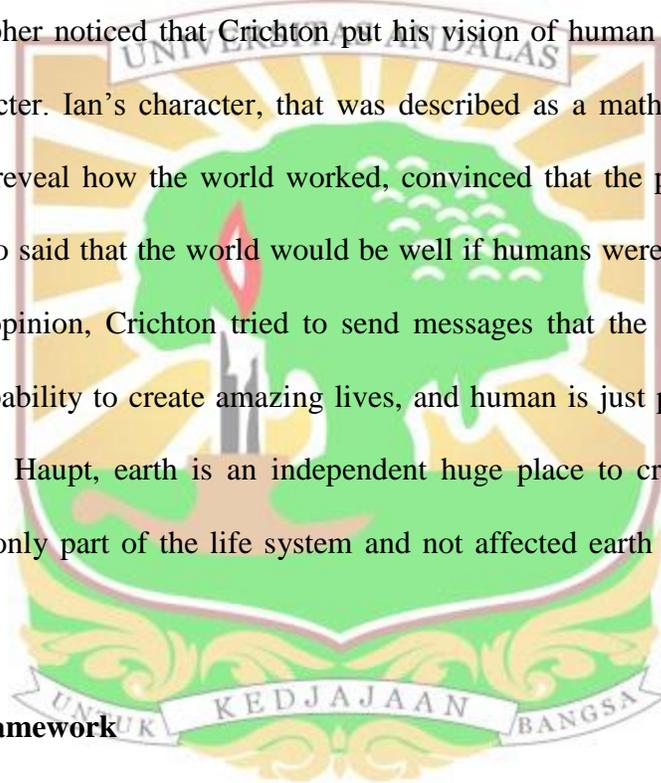
The writer found an essay from A Canadian Naturalist website, written by Neill Griffin titled Virgin Births – What To Do When A Good Man Really Is Hard To Find. He took the

quotation from one of *Jurassic Park* character, Ian Malcolm, “Life finds a way”. In his essay, self breeding animal was an issue in nature. While in *Jurassic Park* novel, had the same issue of self breeding dinosaur. He took examples of several lizard species where its females have the ability of self breeding, while they had not found any potential male for mating. He took the scientific proof to support his opinion and focus on the animal in nature, today. This proves that nature has an enormous power in creating and managing lives (2013). From Neill can be concluded, life has its own way to defend its consistency from human interference. Wilderness has its own system to build and maintain its existence.

Another essay was written by Najma Eva, titled *Ideologi Edward Abbey Dalam Novel Fire On The Mountain: Suatu Studi Awal Ekologi Sastra* (2014). She took the ecological issue represented on Edward Abbey’s main character, John Vogelin in New Mexico desert. In her article, she concluded that Abbey owned four points which related to ecocritical issues. Her points were *Wilderness in Human Spirit*, *Wilderness Needs Defenders*, *Wilderness is not a Business*, and *Power is Dangerous*. In her analysis in *Wilderness in Human Spirit*, the wilderness is the human spirit itself. *The wilderness* should not be disgraced because the beauty of nature is the inspiration for mankind who live on it. In *Wilderness Needs Defenders*, human must give contributions in order to protect and defend the nature. Because, even the smallest living organism on earth has important role to keep the nature balanced. The *Wilderness is not a Business* showed Abbey’s resistance for deforestation, environmental destruction, and New Mexico for the business orientation. Therefore, Edward Abbey had a notion for the government to use their authority to savethe nature. According to Najma, the nature must be protected and not being used to fulfill greediness. Najma’s essay of *Fire On The Mountain* shows human have destructive habit to reach goals. Reflected by U.S

government which intent to make New Mexico as bombing site. But human also caring, which reflected on John Vogelin character, who protect and defend New Mexicoo environment's viability.

From New York Times article in its website titled *Books of The Times; Of Dinosaurs Returned And Fractals Fractured* written by Christopher Lehmann-Haupt (1990), described *Jurassic Park* novel as Michael Crichton's point of view of human existence in the future. In his article, Christopher noticed that Crichton put his vision of human existence on earth in Ian Malcolm character. Ian's character, that was described as a mathematician who had a great obsession to reveal how the world worked, convinced that the park will be ended in catastrophe. Ian also said that the world would be well if humans were extinct from earth in the future. In his opinion, Crichton tried to send messages that the mother earth is huge enough with its capability to create amazing lives, and human is just part of those amazing lives. According to Haupt, earth is an independent huge place to create and support life system. Human is only part of the life system and not affected earth ability to defend and create lives.



1.6 Theoretical Framework

In conducting this research, the writer applies ecocriticism to answer the problem. In analyzing the literary works by using the ecocriticism, the writer chooses the mimetic theory. M.H. Abrams stated in his book *The Mirror and The Lamp*, “The mimetic orientation - explanation of art as essentially an imitation of aspects of universe.” (Abrams 8).

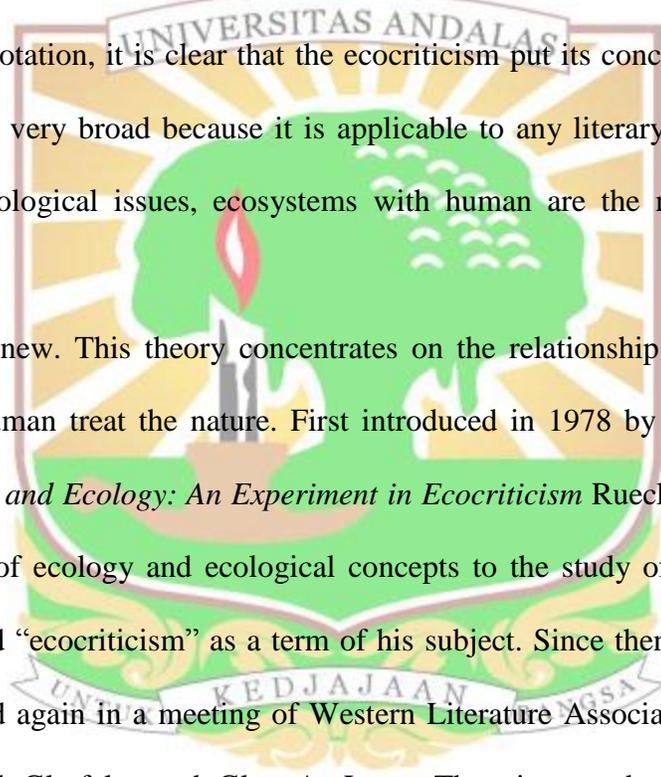
So, by choosing this mimetic theory, the writer analysis of human arrogance toward nature in the novel and in the reality of our society is done.

Ecocriticism is a response of the environmental phenomenon which is affected by human activity and focused on studying the relationship between human and physical nature which is shown in literature. As Cheryll Glotfelty defined in her writing in Western Literature Association Meeting titled *What is Ecocriticism?*, she narrates,

“Most ecocritical work shares a common motivation: the troubling awareness that we have reached the age of environmental limits, a time when the consequences of human actions are damaging the planet's basic life support systems” (Glotfelty 6).

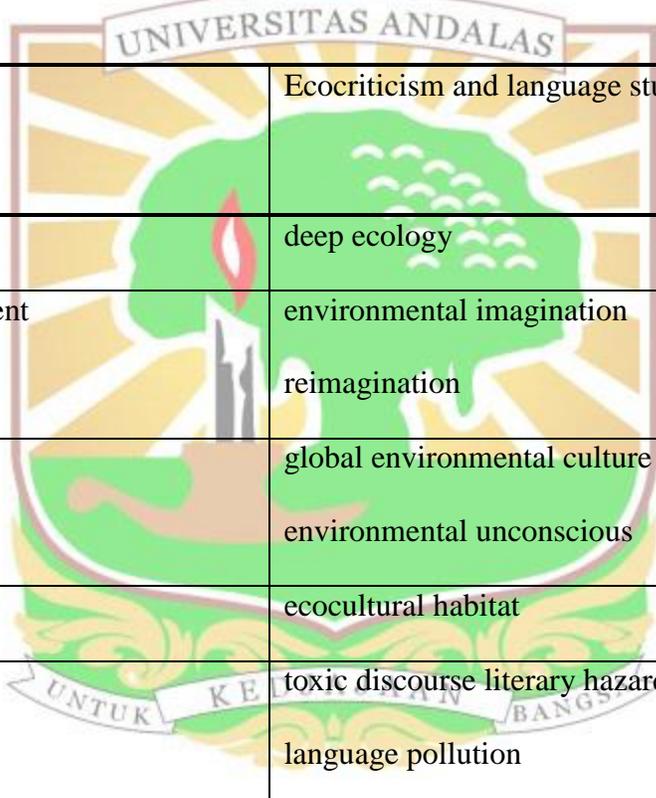
Through this quotation, it is clear that the ecocriticism put its concern on environmental issue. Its domain is very broad because it is applicable to any literary genres. The relation between nature, ecological issues, ecosystems with human are the main concern of this theory.

Ecocriticism is new. This theory concentrates on the relationship between human and nature, and how human treat the nature. First introduced in 1978 by William Rueckert in his essay, *Literature and Ecology: An Experiment in Ecocriticism* Rueckert intended to focus on the application of ecology and ecological concepts to the study of literature, which he introduced the word “ecocriticism” as a term of his subject. Since then, ecocriticism was in hiatus until it raised again in a meeting of Western Literature Association (WLA) in 1989, brought by Cheryll Glotfelty and Glen A. Love. Then it was developed rapidly since 1990's by ecocritics such as Harold Fromm, William Howarth, Suellen Campbell, Simon C. Estok, Lawrence Buell and Michael P. Branch. Lawrence Buell in his writing, *Environmental Imagination* defined ecocriticism as “...a study of the relationship between literature and the environment conducted in a spirit of commitment to environmentalist praxis.” (430). Cheryll Glotfelty in *The Ecocriticism Reader* defines ecocriticism as “...the study of the relationship



between literature and the physical environment” (xviii). Jelica Tošić in her journal, *Ecocriticism–Interdisciplinary Study of Literature and Environment* described the ecological terms as a source of ecocriticism and language study. The writer will take several points from Tošić’s table to support this research, and will put the ecology and deep ecology, physical environment and environmental imagination reimagination, endangered species and ecocultural habitat as the main concern for this research.

Table 1. Ecological Terms as a Source of Ecocriticism and Language Study



Ecology	Ecocriticism and language study
Ecology	deep ecology
physical environment	environmental imagination reimagination
Biodiversity	global environmental culture environmental unconscious
endangered species	ecocultural habitat
Pollution	toxic discourse literary hazards language pollution

(Tosic 45)

Jelica Tošić explains the ecology as,

“...the science that studies the relationships between living organisms (biotic component) and their physical environment (abiotic component). In other words, ecology is concerned with the living organisms in their natural environment.”(Tosic, 45)

And explains deep ecology as,

“Deep ecology emphasizes the role of the individual who is invited to behave as a citizen of the World and Earth and to take responsibility for it.”(45)

From these quotations, it can be concluded that ecology and deep ecology are related. Both emphasize the environment and human as organism in biotic component, and as individual in society which are connected to each other. Secondly, Then the physical environment and environmental imagination-reimaginational has a strong relation. Both are equipping the environment in different perspectives. Tošić defines the physical environment as – taking Lawrence Buell quotation – “a precondition of any existence” (Tosic, 46), which environmental imagination reimagination as “the *urban imagination* or *island imagination*.” (Tosic, 47).

The endangered species & ecological habitat also has strong relation with human activities in treating nature. It can caused the endangered habitat and almost extinct species.

Nowadays, ecocriticism has increased the awareness of scholars and academicists around the globe. By the rapid growth of research journals and academical conferences, ecocriticism is no longer a discourse, but accounted for the realm of literature. In 2004, an African environmentalist, Wangari Maathai was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her contribution in sustainable democracy, peace and development in Kenya. Her great attentions were in ecologically social, economic and cultural development. She showed that the great interest on environmental issues was growing along with the movement. The urgency of ecological and cultural existence which threatened by globalization made the scholars and researchers from any interdisciplinary put their concern on this issue. Lawrence Buell in his essay, *The Future of English Literature Studies in an Age of Globalization* (2005) signaled a

warning about Anglo-Globalism. Buell had a notion for various reasons, English had become the superior language to other languages and he considers this as literary hazard.

1.7 Methods of the Research

This textual research is conducted in steps by collecting and analyzing the data, and presenting the results of the analysis.

The steps that is used in this research are:

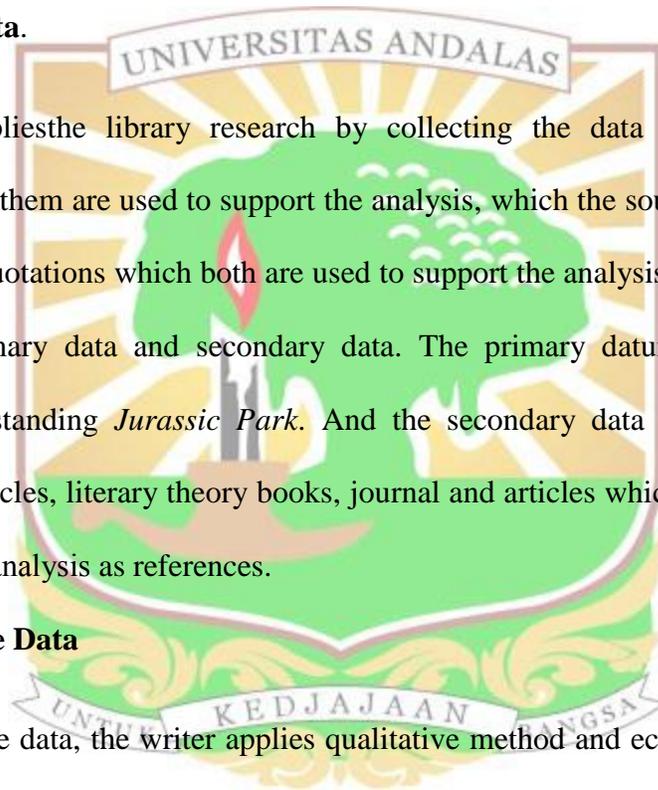
17.1 Collecting Data.

The writer appliesthe library research by collecting the data from the novel and quotations. Both of them are used to support the analysis, which the sources were taken from the novel and the quotations which both are used to support the analysis. The datum has been separated into primary data and secondary data. The primary datum were collected by reading and understanding *Jurassic Park*. And the secondary data were taken from the internet, essays, articles, literary theory books, journal and articles which are related with the content of writer's analysis as references.

1.7.2 Analyzing the Data

In analyzing the data, the writer applies qualitative method and ecocriticism. The writer uses quotations that taken from the novel as the primary source, in connection with reference sources of ecocriticism. The writer intends to focus in understanding the novel and ecocriticism intensively and also use other journals, critics and references to support this research.

1.7.3 Presenting Results of Analysis



In presenting result of analysis, the writer uses descriptive method. The writer excerpts the quotation from the novel with brief description as explanation of datum in this research.

