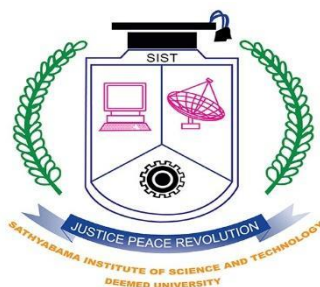


NARRATIVE TECHNIQUES IN CLIMATE FICTION: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF MIGRATIONS AND GUN ISLAND

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of
Master of Arts degree in English

by

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SATHYABAMA

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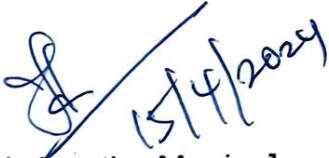
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BONAFIDE CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that this Project Report is the bonafide work of **ATHITHYA PARAMESH N P (42970001)** who have done the Project work. He has carried out the project entitled "**Narrative Techniques in Climate Fiction: A Comparative Analysis of Migrations and Gun Island**" under my supervision from **June 2023 to April 2024**.


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DATE: 20.04.2024



PLACE: Chennai

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ABSTRACT

Climate change is one of the most pressing issues of our time, and literature has a vital role in raising awareness and inspiring action. This paper compares and contrasts two novels that address the climate crisis from different perspectives and genres: *Migrations* by Charlotte McConaghy and *Gun Island* by Amitav Ghosh. *Migrations* is a realistic novel that follows a woman named Franny who travels across the world to witness the last migration of the Arctic terns, a bird species threatened by global warming. *Gun Island* is a magical realist novel that revolves around a legend of a gun merchant who tries to escape the wrath of a snake goddess, and whose story intersects with the lives of contemporary characters affected by climate change and migration. The paper analyzes how the two novels use realism and magical realism to depict the causes, effects, and solutions of climate change, as well as the emotional and ethical implications of the climate crisis for the human and non-human characters. The paper argues that realism and magical realism are not mutually exclusive, but rather complementary modes of representation that can enhance the understanding and engagement of the readers with the complex and urgent reality of climate change.

Keywords: Realism, Magical Realism, Cli-Fi, Ecological Crisis, Migration.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Climate change is not only a scientific fact, but also a cultural phenomenon that has inspired a new genre of literature: climate fiction. Climate fiction, or cli-fi, is a term that describes novels that deal with the causes, effects, and solutions of the climate crisis, as well as the emotional and ethical challenges that it poses for humanity and the planet.

Climate fiction emerged in the late 20th century as a response to the growing awareness and concern about global warming and its consequences. Some of the pioneers of the genre include Margaret Atwood, Kim Stanley Robinson, and Paolo Bacigalupi, who explored various scenarios of dystopian futures, ecological disasters, and human adaptation. Climate fiction also addresses the ethical and moral dilemmas that arise from the climate crisis, such as the responsibility of individuals and governments, the justice and equity of climate action, and the value and rights of non-human life forms.

In this paper, I will compare and contrast two novels that represent different perspectives and genres of climate fiction: *Migrations* by Charlotte McConaghy and *Gun Island* by Amitav Ghosh. *Migrations* is a realistic novel that follows a woman named Franny who travels across the world to witness the last migration of the Arctic terns, a bird species threatened by global warming. The novel is full of realistic details and scientific facts that show the devastating impact of global warming on the wildlife and the environment. For example, in this passage, Franny describes the plight of the Arctic terns, a bird species that she is obsessed with: "The Arctic terns are dying. Their numbers have fallen by seventy percent in the last fifty years. They're the canaries in the coal mine for climate change, because they're so sensitive to alterations in temperature and food supply. They migrate farther than any other animal on earth, from pole to pole, chasing an endless summer. They see more daylight than any creature alive. And I intend to follow them on their final migration, to witness their end for myself." (McConaghy 15).

Gun Island is a magical realist novel that revolves around a legend of a gun merchant who tries to escape the wrath of a snake goddess, and whose story intersects with the lives of contemporary characters affected by climate change and migration. The novel is full of myths and legends that blend with the events related to climate change and migration. For example, in this passage, Deen, the narrator, encounters a mysterious snake in the Sundarbans, a mangrove forest that is threatened by rising sea levels and cyclones: "I was staring into the eyes of a king cobra, the largest and most dangerous of all venomous snakes. It was coiled on a low branch, less than a foot away from my face. Its hood was spread wide and its forked tongue flickered in and out of its mouth. It was a magnificent creature, with a pattern of black and yellow bands on its body. But what struck me most was the intelligence in its eyes. They seemed to bore into me, as if they were trying to communicate something. I felt a surge of fear, but also a strange sense of recognition. It was as if I had seen this snake before, or as if it had been expecting me." (Ghosh 42).

I will use a comparative approach to analyze how the two novels use realism and magical realism to depict the causes, effects, and solutions of climate change, as well as the emotional and ethical implications of the climate crisis for the human and non-human characters. I will draw on the theories and concepts of literary criticism, environmental humanities, and cultural studies to support my arguments.

My main argument is that realism and magical realism are not mutually exclusive, but rather complementary modes of representation that can enhance the understanding and engagement of the readers with the complex and urgent reality of climate change. To demonstrate this, I will first examine how realism and magical realism are defined and used in the two novels, then compare and contrast how they portray the causes, effects, and solutions of climate change, and finally discuss how they elicit emotional and ethical responses from the readers. My paper will contribute to the existing literature on climate fiction by offering a novel and nuanced perspective on the role and function of realism and magical realism in the genre, and by showing how literature can be a powerful tool for raising awareness and inspiring action on the climate crisis.

Chapter 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

In the contemporary climate crisis, the role of literature, particularly climate fiction, has garnered increased attention as a means to communicate the complexities and urgencies of environmental issues. This literature review aims to critically analyze the prevailing discourse on climate change representation in contemporary culture.

The research article, "On Why Less is More in Climate Fiction" directs our focus to the considerable debate and disagreement about the appropriate response of climate fiction to the climate crisis, the potential impacts it may have, and its ability to motivate the public to take action. Adam Trexler and Adeline Johns-Putra's extensive research underscores the prevalent depiction of climate change in novels as part of futuristic dystopian or post-apocalyptic settings. The review acknowledges that such representations often emphasize social upheavals, civilization collapse, and environmental degradation. However, it addresses the critique that these narratives might fall short in engaging with present-day moral and political dilemmas, potentially offering an oversimplified depiction of future disasters. Critics, including Clark, Morton, Hoggert, Swyngedouw, LeMenager, and Seymour, argue against the prevalence of alarmist and entertainment-focused narratives in climate fiction. They contend that some novels may evade current ethical and political complexities by projecting into future disasters, commodifying apocalyptic scenarios as entertainment, and contributing to negative public perceptions of environmentalism. The literature review explores these critiques to provide a nuanced understanding of the challenges associated with certain narrative approaches in climate fiction. In light of the broader discourse on climate fiction, this literature review sets the stage for a focused comparative analysis of two specific novels: "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghay and "Gun Island" by Amitav Ghosh.

The Realist Hybrids in Cli-Fi section of the research article, "Climate Fiction in English" begins by contextualizing the longstanding debate surrounding the use of realism in environmental literature. Critics, such as Dana Phillips, challenge the efficacy of realism in capturing the nuances of the natural world, positing that it often

falls short of providing a meaningful engagement with ecological themes. Despite these critiques, the article argues that cli-fi authors have maintained a persistent interest in literary realism, using it as a lens to examine environmental issues. Barbara Kingsolver's *Flight Behavior* is highlighted as a noteworthy example of the intersection between biological systems and the psychology of women. Kingsolver's protagonist undergoes a realist transformation, abandoning illusions and embracing a broader perspective, symbolized by her identification with the migratory butterflies. Amitav Ghosh's *The Hungry Tide* is discussed in the context of scientifically mapping the perspectives of local informants in the Sundarban Islands. The tangible solidity of the fluid environment contributes to Ghosh's realism, emphasizing the conversion of locals into active participants in the acquisition of knowledge about their surroundings. T. C. Boyle's environmentally themed novels, including *A Friend of the Earth* and those set in the Santa Barbara Channel Islands, are examined for their engagement with literary realism. Boyle alternates between dystopian futures and romanticized descriptions of eco-activism, demonstrating a nuanced approach to environmental issues. The author's use of cli-fi's confounding catachronisms, along with realist conventions, creates a sense of temporal dread that aligns with the genre's apocalyptic mood. The literature review underscores the common thematic thread of plagues, ranging from locusts to flood and fire, across Kingsolver's, Ghosh's, and Boyle's works. It emphasizes the fusion of realist prose style with an apocalyptic sensibility, asserting that these authors contribute to the variety within environmental writing, challenging conventional plot structures. In conclusion, the research article provides a comprehensive analysis of the narrative techniques employed by prominent cli-fi authors, offering insights into the intersection of literary realism and environmental themes. The comparative study of *Migrations* and *Gun Island* adds depth to our understanding of how narrative strategies contribute to the portrayal of climate-related challenges in contemporary fiction.

The research article, "The Influence of Climate Fiction," provides valuable insights into the diverse effects of climate fiction on readers, shedding light on how various genres and narrative techniques contribute to shaping perceptions of climate change. The study acknowledges the challenging task of evaluating the influence of climate fiction due to its wide-ranging styles and genres. Realist

literature, young adult fiction, noir, thriller, satire, postapocalyptic fiction, science fiction, speculative fiction, and weird fiction collectively constitute the landscape of climate fiction. The diversity in genres reflects the multifaceted nature of climate change narratives, allowing authors to explore different perspectives on responsibility, consequences, and responses to climate change. The article emphasizes how certain works, such as Naomi Oreskes and Erik M. Conway's "The Collapse of Western Civilization," have a profound impact on readers' awareness of the potential outcomes of climate change. The power of fiction to transform theoretical knowledge into a more concrete and emotionally resonant understanding is highlighted through readers' experiences, emphasizing the role of literature in fostering awareness. Emotional responses to climate fiction are a critical aspect of readers' experiences, with terms such as "doomsday scenario," "bleak," and "foreboding" characterizing their reactions. While positive emotions are less frequent, they often result from identification with resilient characters. The study raises concerns about the potential demobilizing effect of negative emotions, especially when climate fiction utilizes the disaster frame. The need for positive framing in climate communications to avoid feelings of helplessness is emphasized. Climate fiction has the potential to raise awareness of climate injustice by bridging the social distance between readers and victims of climate change. The study suggests that the genre may be effective in cultivating empathetic awareness of inequitable distribution based on race, class, gender, and nationality. The article underscores the importance of further research to explore the role of climate fiction in promoting awareness and empathy toward environmental justice issues. The article underscores the diverse genres and temporal settings within climate fiction, offering a framework to explore how these novels employ narrative techniques to convey the complex issues related to climate change. By delving into the effectiveness of vivid imagery, regional specificity, and emotional responses in cli-fi, the article paves the way for a nuanced examination of the selected novels. Moreover, the article's insights into the potential impact of climate fiction on readers' perspectives and behaviors provide a valuable context for evaluating the broader implications of narrative choices in "Migrations" and "Gun Island." As such, this research article serves as a pivotal reference in the literature review, providing a theoretical and empirical groundwork for the comparative analysis of narrative techniques in the chosen cli-fi novels.

The extensive exploration of climate fiction in the research article, "Cli-Fi – Genre of the Twenty-First Century? Narrative Strategies in Contemporary Climate Fiction and Film" offers valuable insights into narrative techniques, scientific communication, human and natural agency, and narrative closure within the context of climate change literature. The analysis delves into the unique role of cli-fi in communicating scientific truths, emphasizing the dual accountability to both narrative imagination and environmental realities. Notably, the examination of how novelists like Atwood, Robinson, and Kingsolver integrate scientific information into their works showcases the intersection of literature and climate science. The article also addresses the challenge of making the spatial and temporal scale of global warming meaningful in narrative forms. It acknowledges the efforts of certain novels, such as "The Sea and Summer," "A Friend of the Earth," and "The Possibility of an Island," to employ framing mechanisms and multi-temporal structures to bridge the gap between the slow process of climate change and human life. Moreover, the discussion on human and natural agency in climate fiction, as illustrated by examples like "The Day After Tomorrow" and "State of Fear," underscores the nuanced portrayal of the limits of human intervention and the simultaneous celebration of individual actions. The contrast in these representations adds complexity to the understanding of humanity's relationship with nature, reflecting diverse perspectives within the genre. The analysis of narrative closure in "The Day After Tomorrow" and "State of Fear" provides a nuanced exploration of how these works address the resolution of climate-related predicaments. While "The Day After Tomorrow" leans towards a more optimistic narrative closure, highlighting the triumph of human fortitude, "State of Fear" presents a darker and more unresolved perspective, acknowledging the ongoing environmental difficulties. The article concludes by hinting at a deeper exploration of a lesser-known, more literary work that addresses similar issues in a more indirect manner. This sets the stage for a comparative analysis, aligning with the focus of this research on the narrative techniques in the novels, *Migrations* and *Gun Island*.

The research article, "Cli-Fi: Environmental Literature for the Anthropocene" highlights the evolution of climate fiction (cli-fi) as a genre, emphasizing its emergence and growth over the past few decades. It begins with a retrospective glance at the early 2000s when novelists were seemingly slow to address the

subject of global warming, as noted in Robert Macfarlane's lamentation in 2005. The Dissent magazine article quoted in the article suggests the urgent need for an imaginative repertoire to debate, sense, and communicate the causes and consequences of climate change. The subsequent explosion of cli-fi novels, as described in the text, underscores the genre's response to contemporary anxieties surrounding environmental degradation and climate change. The mentioned exemplars, including Margaret Atwood's *MaddAddam* trilogy, Barbara Kingsolver's *Flight Behavior*, Paolo Bacigalupi's *The Water Knife*, Jeanette Winterson's *The Stone Gods*, and Ian McEwan's *Solar*, offer diverse perspectives on climate-related issues. Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*, although not explicitly invoking climate change, is acknowledged as cli-fi due to its portrayal of a post-apocalyptic world. The article also acknowledges the ongoing evolution of cli-fi with works like Nathaniel Rich's *Odds Against Tomorrow* and Kim Stanley Robinson's *New York 2140*, which address survival in the face of environmental challenges. However, it notes a predominant Western focus in cli-fi literature, primarily authored by white writers from the US and the UK. The scarcity of non-Western contributions to the genre is highlighted, with Indian author Amitav Ghosh's *The Hungry Tide* standing out as one of the few exceptions. The article suggests that climate change fiction is sometimes unfairly relegated to the science fiction genre, perhaps due to a Western-centric perspective that associates climate change with extraterrestrial themes. This observation prompts consideration of the socio-cultural and geographical factors influencing the representation of cli-fi. In the context of this research, this article provides a comprehensive overview of the evolution, diversity, and challenges within the cli-fi genre. It sets the stage for a comparative analysis by introducing key works, themes, and the prevailing Western-centric nature of climate fiction. This foundation will facilitate a nuanced exploration of narrative techniques employed in the selected novels, allowing for a deeper understanding of how climate change narratives are constructed and conveyed in different cultural and geographical contexts.

Chapter 3

ANALYSIS

Climate fiction, commonly referred to as "cli-fi," has emerged as a significant genre within contemporary literature, exploring the intricate relationship between humanity and the changing environment. In this era of unprecedented environmental challenges, narratives within cli-fi not only entertain but also serve as vehicles for reflection, awareness, and potentially, action. This analysis delves into the narrative techniques employed in two prominent works of cli-fi, *Migrations* and *Gun Island*, focusing on their respective narrative styles of realism and magical realism. Through a comparative exploration of these novels, this study aims to elucidate how different narrative approaches shape the portrayal of climate change, its impacts, and the human response within fictional contexts.

The analysis begins with an examination of *Migrations*, authored by Charlotte McConaghy, which serves as a poignant portrayal of a world ravaged by environmental degradation. Within this segment, the narrative's realism is scrutinized, dissecting the author's adept use of characters, incidents, and settings to convey the stark realities of climate-induced migrations. Following this, attention shifts to *Gun Island*, penned by Amitav Ghosh, renowned for its intricate blend of historical fact and magical elements. Here, the exploration focuses on the employment of magical realism as a narrative tool to illuminate the interconnectedness between myth, history, and environmental change.

Furthermore, this analysis engages in a comparative study of realism and magical realism within the context of cli-fi, highlighting the distinct ways in which each narrative style shapes the portrayal of climate-related themes. By juxtaposing the two novels, this study seeks to elucidate how varying narrative techniques influence reader perception and emotional engagement with the climate crisis depicted in fiction.

Beyond the narrative techniques themselves, this analysis also delves into broader thematic considerations, including the causes, effects, and potential solutions to climate change as depicted within the novels. Moreover, the study

examines the emotional and empathetic responses elicited in readers by cli-fi narratives, as well as the potential for these narratives to inspire meaningful action towards environmental stewardship.

In sum, this analysis endeavors to provide a comprehensive examination of narrative techniques within climate fiction, offering insights into how literature can serve as a catalyst for understanding, empathy, and action in the face of one of the most pressing challenges of our time. Through an academic lens, this study aims to contribute to a deeper appreciation of the role of narrative in shaping discourse and fostering engagement with climate-related issues.

3.1 MIGRATIONS

Migrations is a novel that follows Franny Stone, a woman who is obsessed with tracking the last flock of Arctic terns, a bird species that is on the verge of extinction due to climate change. Franny joins a fishing crew on a ship called the *Saghani*, and convinces them to follow the birds' migration route from Greenland to Antarctica, promising them that the birds will lead them to fish. Along the way, Franny reveals her troubled past, which includes a broken marriage, a tragic family history, and a dark secret that threatens to destroy everything she holds dear. Franny must face her demons and decide whether she wants to live or die in a world that is falling apart.

The novel alternates between Franny's present journey on the *Saghani* and flashbacks to her past, revealing how she became fascinated with birds, how she met and married her husband Niall, a renowned ornithologist, and how she lost him and their unborn child. The novel also explores Franny's relationship with the captain of the *Saghani*, Ennis Malone, and his crew, who have their own struggles and secrets. The novel culminates in a dramatic confrontation between Franny and a group of poachers who are hunting the terns for profit.

The novel is set in a near-future world that is ravaged by climate change, where many animal species are extinct or endangered, and human civilization is in decline. The novel depicts the harsh and beautiful landscapes of the Arctic and Antarctic regions, as well as the vast and perilous oceans that Franny and the *Saghani* traverse.

The novel explores themes such as loss, grief, guilt, redemption, love, survival, and the connection between humans and nature. The novel also raises questions about the impact of human actions on the environment, the responsibility of individuals and societies to protect the natural world, and the meaning and value of life in a dying planet.

The novel is narrated by Franny in the first-person point of view, with occasional excerpts from Niall's journal entries and letters that Franny writes but never sends. The novel uses a nonlinear structure, switching between the present and the past, and creating suspense and mystery about Franny's motives and secrets. The novel also employs poetic and lyrical language, rich imagery, and symbolism to convey Franny's emotions and experiences.

Charlotte McConaghy is an Australian author who has published several books in the genres of science fiction, fantasy, and literary fiction. She has written two novels that can be classified as climate fiction, or cli-fi: *Migration* (2020) and *Once There Were Wolves* (2021). Climate fiction is a genre that explores the effects of climate change on human and non-human life, often in a speculative or dystopian way. McConaghy's novels are not only concerned with the environmental crisis, but also with the emotional and psychological impacts of living in a world facing mass extinction, violence, and loss.

In *Migration*, the protagonist is Franny, a woman who is obsessed with following the last remaining Arctic terns on their final migration from Greenland to Antarctica. She joins a fishing boat crew that is also chasing a desperate dream: the elusive "Golden Catch" that could save their livelihoods. Along the way, Franny's troubled past and the reasons for her quest are gradually revealed, as well as the fate of the animals and the planet. The novel is a blend of adventure, mystery, romance, and tragedy, with lyrical and poetic language that evokes the beauty and fragility of nature.

In *Once There Were Wolves*, the protagonist is Inti, a woman who is part of a team of biologists that is trying to reintroduce wolves into the Scottish Highlands, in order to restore the ecosystem and combat the effects of overgrazing and deforestation. Inti has a rare condition that makes her feel the pain of others, which makes her empathize with the wolves and their struggle to survive in a hostile

environment. She also becomes involved in a murder investigation, when a local farmer is found dead and the wolves are blamed. The novel is a thriller, a love story, and a meditation on the connections between humans and animals, and the violence that can erupt from fear and ignorance.

McConaghy's novels are examples of how climate fiction can engage readers with the urgent and complex issues of our time, by creating compelling characters, stories, and settings that resonate with our emotions and imaginations. They also show how climate fiction can challenge the boundaries of genre, by incorporating elements of realism, fantasy, science fiction, and romance. McConaghy's novels are not only about the climate crisis, but also about the human condition, and the possibilities of hope, healing, and transformation.

McConaghy's writing style is characterized by lyrical prose, vivid imagery, and emotional intensity. She uses multiple timelines, alternating perspectives, and flashbacks to create suspense and reveal the inner lives of her characters. She also employs metaphors, symbolism, and foreshadowing to enhance the meaning and impact of her stories. Her novels often blend realism and speculation, creating a sense of urgency and relevance for the readers.

McConaghy has cited various sources of inspiration for her novels, such as Toni Morrison, Mary Oliver, Cormac McCarthy, and Emily St John Mandel. She has also drawn from her own experiences of travelling, researching, and feeling connected to the natural world. She has said that she writes out of despair, anger, and hope, and that she wants to engage with the climate crisis in an intimate way. She has also expressed her admiration for the conservationists and biologists who work to protect and restore wildlife and ecosystems.

McConaghy is an important author to study because she offers a unique and compelling perspective on the relationship between humans and nature, and the consequences of environmental degradation and species extinction. She also challenges the readers to reflect on their own empathy, responsibility, and choices, and to consider the possibility of healing and redemption. Her novels are not only entertaining and moving, but also informative and thought-provoking.

3.1.1 TEXTUAL ANALYSIS:

In "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghy, the narrative begins with a reflection on the diminishing animal population, particularly focusing on birds. The protagonist expresses a strong desire to follow their migration, setting the stage for a captivating exploration of nature and personal journey. The story unfolds during the Greenland nesting season, where the narrator captures an Arctic tern, attaching a tracker to monitor its movements. Despite facing challenges, such as losing her tent and encountering resistance from boat captains, the protagonist remains determined to pursue her quest in the harsh Arctic conditions. The narrative shifts to the protagonist's attempt to secure a place on the fishing vessel *Saghani*, captained by Ennis Malone. The setting in Tasiilaq, Greenland, adds an intriguing backdrop to the challenges faced by the narrator in convincing captains to allow her on board. The plot takes a dramatic turn when the protagonist witnesses a man seemingly drowning in an icy fjord. Her impulsive decision to rescue him adds a layer of suspense and hints at the complexities of her character.

In the novel, Franny Stone reflects on her early life as she shares her birth name and origin. Born as Franny Stone in a small Australian town, her Irish mother faced adversity during childbirth, surviving against the odds. The family later moved to Galway, Ireland, where Franny spent her formative years in a wooden house by the sea. Franny always felt a sense of not belonging and would wander through the cobbled streets, paddocks, and along stone walls, contemplating her origins. Despite warnings about her restlessness, she stayed with her mother until the day she couldn't resist the call to explore. Franny, driven by a different longing, embarked on a journey with a boy, leaving her mother behind. The narrative then delves into Franny's love for books, nurtured by her mother, who believed that the pages of novels held the only beauty the world had to offer. Books became a constant companion for Franny, even during meals and while exploring the rocky landscape. However, her brief adventure with the boy ended in regret, realizing the mistake of leaving her mother. Franny's return home revealed her mother's absence, and she was sent back to Australia to live with her paternal grandmother. Despite trying to settle in various places, Franny found solace only by the sea. Later in life, she attempted to establish a stable life with a man named Niall Lynch, but even that couldn't anchor her wandering spirit.

The narrative then shifts to Tasiilaq, Greenland, during the nesting season, where Franny encounters a group of fishermen in a bar. She saves a man from drowning, leading to introductions and discussions about their lives, dreams, and the pursuit of the elusive "Golden Catch." Franny learns about the crew of the fishing vessel Saghani and their individual quirks, forming connections with them during this chance encounter in a remote Greenlandic town. As the conversation unfolds, the reader gets insights into the personalities of the crew members, their relationships, and the challenges they face as fishermen in a changing world. Franny shares her profound knowledge of Arctic terns' migratory patterns with Ennis and his crew. She passionately discusses her research on the impact of climate change on these birds. Franny, determined to continue her study despite losing funding, proposes an ambitious journey to follow the terns on their remarkable migration. Ennis, initially skeptical, is gradually drawn into Franny's vision. The narrative unfolds against a backdrop of environmental crisis, hinting at the impending extinction of these birds. As Franny navigates the challenges of convincing Ennis to take her aboard his fishing vessel, the text explores themes of environmental responsibility, the fragility of ecosystems, and the human impact on nature. The story also delves into the personal struggles of the characters, revealing Ennis's familial hardships. The text culminates in a pivotal moment as Franny persuades Ennis to embark on an extraordinary journey to the Antarctic, tracing the Arctic terns' migratory path. The narrative weaves together elements of environmental urgency, personal sacrifice, and the profound connection between humans and the natural world.

On the fishing vessel Saghani, Franny faces physically demanding tasks like knot tying, deck cleaning, and net maintenance during the North Atlantic Sea migration season. The crew, initially resistant to the new route, harbors resentment. Franny, although exhausted, finds solace in the labor and appreciates the challenging conditions. The Saghani navigates through icy waters, and Franny witnesses the crew's dedication and Ennis's leadership during a near collision with an iceberg. The crew shares superstitions, including not saying "good luck" and avoiding specific actions for fear of bad luck. The narrative captures the crew's dynamics, Franny's adaptation to life on the boat, and the challenges of deep-sea

fishing. The story unfolds against the backdrop of Franny's admiration for the sea, her interactions with the crew, and her internal reflections on life and purpose.

In the vast expanse of the Atlantic, the protagonist grapples with the haunting duality of two worlds - the tangible realm of water, earth, and the ship's cabin, and the intangible realm of fear that has ensnared her. The fear intensifies, pushing her to the brink of panic, disrupting even her usual calming rituals. As the ship navigates away from the treacherous ice, the protagonist's turmoil intensifies. Battling sleepless nights, she seeks solace in a letter to Niall, a figure from her past. Yet, the raw emotions spill onto the page, and she veers away, realizing the impact it might have on him. Amidst the claustrophobic cabin, the protagonist's struggle crescendos. Confronting Léa's abrupt rebuke, she resorts to sleeping pills, seeking refuge from the relentless fear. However, her reprieve is short-lived as she awakens in a surreal, perilous situation - hanging from a rope ladder, suspended above the roaring sea. The unexpected scenario brings an exhilarating sense of life, a stark contrast to the protagonist's emotional numbness since her husband's departure. In a twist of fate, she finds herself at the mercy of Léa, whose strong frame becomes a lifeline in the face of the protagonist's physical and emotional turmoil. The narrative concludes with a question echoing in the cold, damp air - "What is wrong with you?" - a query that remains unanswered, leaving the protagonist and the reader enveloped in the complex interplay of fear, survival, and a tentative reawakening of emotions.

In the backdrop of the National University of Ireland (NUI), Galway, Franny finds herself captivated by a professor's lecture on birds. The professor's words echo Margaret Atwood's sentiments, narrating the profound history of birds and their tragic demise at the hands of humans. Compelled by the urgency to escape, she seeks solace in the ocean's embrace. However, her life takes an unexpected turn when she encounters the professor in a dark lab, where he introduces her to the intricacies of a dead gull, igniting a strange connection between them. Leaving Galway behind, Franny immerses herself in a quest to uncover her family roots in the coastal town of Kilfenora. Her arrival at the Bowen family home unfolds a joyous reunion, with Margaret Bowen embracing her as kin. Amidst music, laughter, and shared stories, Franny discovers a sense of belonging, a stark contrast to her restless wanderings. As Franny delves into her Irish heritage, she faces the

challenge of learning a traditional song to share with her newfound family. The narrative weaves together themes of identity, connection, and the poignant impact humans have on nature. Franny's journey unfolds against the backdrop of Ireland's landscapes, intertwining with her pursuit of self-discovery and a desire to connect with her roots.

In the midst of the North Atlantic Ocean migration season, aboard the *Saghani*, Franny Lynch and the crew monitor geolocators on a laptop, tracking three red dots representing migrating terns. The birds, bound for Africa, captivate the crew's attention, creating a sense of anticipation. Franny, armed with limited knowledge of the geolocators, faces skepticism from crew members like Léa about their reliability. The crew observes as the dots diverge and converge, pondering the next steps in following the terns' journey. Franny takes the laptop to the bridge, where she encounters Ennis, the skipper, who exudes a certain distrust towards her. Franny proposes following two birds along Africa, while Ennis leans towards the riskier path west. A decision ensues, highlighting the tension between Franny's insights and Ennis's experience. Later, Franny reflects on her complicated relationship with Ennis and the crew's perception of her as untrained and dangerous. Despite the challenges, she maintains her dedication to tracking the terns, finding solace in the little red dots on the screen. The narrative shifts to a flashback from Franny's childhood, recalling her deep connection with crows and the gifts they brought her. As the terns join the *Saghani*, Franny shares her observations with Niall through letters, describing the birds' behaviors and forging a spiritual connection with them. The crew becomes enamored with the terns, and their presence brings a sense of nostalgia for the once plentiful bird populations. As the birds prepare to depart, emotions run high among the crew, signaling the impending loneliness of a world without these creatures. The story captures the delicate balance between human curiosity, the wonders of nature, and the inevitable departure of the terns, leaving Franny and the crew to grapple with the transient beauty of their fleeting presence.

Twelve years ago, Franny, working as a cleaner at NUI, Galway, faces a confrontation with Professor Niall Lynch. While cleaning a toilet, Niall questions her absence from his class, highlighting a socioeconomic divide. Franny, unimpressed

by his privileged attitude, later rescues two boys from a drifting boat, showcasing her fearless nature.

Professor Lynch, intrigued by Franny's actions, visits her, presenting university enrollment papers. This unexpected gesture hints at a mysterious connection between them, sparking curiosity about their backgrounds and the potential development of their relationship. The story weaves themes of risk, courage, and the complexity of human connections, leaving readers eager to unravel the unfolding plot and the dynamics between Franny and Professor Lynch.

During the migration season in the North Atlantic Ocean on the Saghani vessel, Franny Stone eagerly responds to the call as a horn blares on the boat. The crew rushes to the deck, guided by Ennis, who has spotted a rare find – a massive school of fish accompanied by diving terns. The excitement builds as the crew prepares to deploy a net, and Franny is both fascinated and anxious about the impending catch. As the net is lowered into the water, the crew engages in a synchronized process known as "pursing" to trap the fish. However, the joyous atmosphere takes a somber turn when a giant sea turtle is unexpectedly ensnared in the net. Disturbed by the impact of their actions, Dae and Mal urgently call for a halt, pleading with Ennis to release the turtle. Ennis, surprisingly compassionate, allows the crew to free the trapped turtle and release it back into the ocean. The incident prompts Franny to reflect on the complex dynamics of the crew, each member having their own unique background and reasons for being at sea. Despite their differences, they share a deep connection to the ocean, seeking a sense of belonging and purpose in the vast expanse. Franny's internal struggle with seasickness and the moral implications of the fishing expedition further complicates her journey, highlighting the broader challenges faced by the crew in the changing environment. As the crew grapples with uncertainties about their future, including the looming threat of sanctions and the impact of global warming on fish populations, Franny engages in candid conversations with Basil, gaining insights into his perspective on migration, belonging, and the harsh realities of their profession. The narrative unfolds against the backdrop of a storm, symbolizing the turbulent seas both literally and metaphorically, as the crew navigates the unpredictable waters of their lives. Franny's conflicted emotions and the crew's collective introspection

reveal the intricate web of relationships, personal histories, and the harsh realities of life at sea.

In Galway, Ireland, twelve years ago, the narrator spends an afternoon in the university library searching for Maire Stone and John Torpey. However, their focus shifts when they notice Niall Lynch, a professor who has become an obsession. The narrator follows Niall through the city to a manor with a greenhouse filled with birds. In a moment of impulsiveness, they enter the cage and share a passionate kiss with Niall, leading to a proposal of marriage. The story then shifts to the *Saghani*. The narrator and Ennis, the captain, face a storm. Ennis reveals his troubled past with his children's mother and his skepticism towards the narrator, whom he considers a "greenie." As the storm rages, the narrator shares insights about the ocean and their longing for it. The conversation delves into personal histories, revealing Ennis's hardened exterior and the narrator's desire for purpose. Ennis opens up about Point Nemo, the remotest place in the world, and suggests taking the narrator there one day. The narrative reflects on the ephemeral nature of life and the impact one leaves behind. The narrator contemplates the idea of dissolving into the earth, leaving no trace but acknowledging the quiet impact of a life lived.

The crew navigates towards St. John's, Newfoundland, with uncertain plans ahead, portraying the crew's dependence on the sea and the challenges faced due to the Labrador Current. The protagonist, harboring a fake passport, encounters environmental protesters and grapples with guilt. The story shifts to the crew's stay with Samuel's family, revealing their self-sustaining lifestyle and introducing Gammy and her six daughters. Amid interactions, the protagonist learns about Ennis's troubled past, leading to a shared understanding of their struggles. News of the illegalization of commercial fishing rocks their community, leaving them stranded. The crew grapples with the impact on their livelihoods and plans. Struggling with personal demons, the protagonist seeks solace in a pub, contemplating drastic actions to follow their mission. As tensions rise, a violent encounter ensues, forcing the protagonist to defend themselves with a pocketknife. The incident leads to a chaotic escape on their boat, leaving uncertainty in its wake. The narrative explores themes of environmental activism, personal struggles, and the consequences of desperate actions. In the aftermath of a violent encounter, the crew aboard the *Saghani* grapples with the consequences of their actions. Franny, stabbed a man in

self-defense, sparking tension among the crew. Basil, one of the crew members, challenges Franny's presence on the boat, unaware of her criminal past. Franny reveals her true identity, breaking parole and lacking the claimed ornithological expertise. Despite the revelations, the crew decides to press on with their mission, facing legal risks and uncertainties. As they head south to intercept tracked birds, the crew embraces solidarity, determined to overcome challenges and complete their unconventional journey.

In the Irish town of Galway, twelve years ago, Niall delivers a passionate lecture about the environmental degradation caused by human indifference. Franny, drawn to Niall's commitment, reconnects with him after months and learns of his desire to follow Arctic terns on their migration.

Franny, Ennis, and the crew of *The Saghani* continue their pursuit of the elusive Arctic terns. Crossing the equator marks Franny's transition from landlubber to shellback. As they approach Brazil, challenges intensify—equipment failures, dwindling supplies, and the looming threat of capture. The crew's determination wavers, and internal tensions rise. Franny reflects on her past, the complexities of her relationship with Niall, and the uncertainties surrounding their perilous journey. The once grand plans face formidable obstacles, leading to a poignant exploration of survival, sacrifice, and the inexorable pull of the sea.

The protagonist reflects on the changing climate along the coast of Argentina, influenced by the Antarctic. They navigate to a secluded cove near Ushuaia, known as "the city at the bottom of the world," to evade detection while making essential repairs to their failing vessel. The captain's preconceived plan and unexpected assistance from extra water bring them to this private and hidden location, where fishing has been prohibited for centuries. The crew hopes to remain unnoticed as Léa and Dae work on fixing the boat.

In the steel yacht named *Sterna Paradisaea*, in the South Atlantic Ocean, Mating Season, Ennis stumbles upon Franny, sound asleep amid the letters, visibly fatigued from a night dominated by bouts of vomiting. Franny is struggling with her emotions, and Ennis shares the painful story of his dying wife. The narrative shifts to Galway, Ireland, four years ago, where Franny contemplates her life with her husband, Niall. The story takes a tragic turn as they meet with a car accident,

resulting in the death of a woman named Greta and leaving Niall critically injured. Franny grapples with the aftermath, torn between grief, guilt, and a survival instinct urging her forward.

Back at Sterna Paradisaea, as Ennis and Franny approach the Antarctic Peninsula, unexpected changes in wildlife patterns and ominous signs prompt a daring diversion westward. Facing treacherous weather and dwindling supplies, the protagonist and Ennis, the companion, embark on a perilous journey on foot. The narrative unfolds against a backdrop of isolation, love, and the relentless pursuit of survival. In a moment of awe and discovery, the story reaches a poignant climax as the duo encounters a thriving sanctuary of Arctic terns and a majestic whale, finding solace and renewal in the unspoiled waters. The tale concludes with a poignant farewell, as the protagonist scatters the ashes of a loved one into the vast ocean, symbolizing closure and a new beginning.

3.1.2 REALISM

Mass extinction:

In "Migrations," Charlotte McConaghy employs a realist narrative style to vividly depict the severity of the mass extinction facing the natural world. McConaghy utilizes detailed descriptions of landscapes, wildlife, and environmental degradation to immerse the reader in the story's setting.

We're the only planet that has oceans. In all the known universe, we're the only one sitting in the perfect spot for them, not too hot and not too cold, and it's the only reason we're alive, because it's the ocean that creates the oxygen we need to breathe. It's a miracle we're here at all, when you think about it like that. (91)

By painting a realistic picture of the world Franny Stone inhabits, including its beauty and its devastation, the author underscores the gravity of the situation. Through realistic character development, readers become emotionally invested in the protagonist, Franny Stone, and her quest to follow the last migration of the Arctic terns. Franny's personal journey, intertwined with the larger environmental crisis, humanizes the narrative and highlights the human impact on the natural world. The realist narrative approach allows McConaghy to evoke powerful emotions in readers as they witness the effects of habitat destruction, pollution, and climate change on the environment and its inhabitants. By grounding the story in realism, the author

makes the mass extinction feel tangible and urgent, eliciting a sense of responsibility and empathy in the reader. Through realistic storytelling, McConaghy emphasizes the interconnectedness of all living beings and ecosystems. By portraying the ripple effects of environmental degradation on both wildlife and human communities, the narrative underscores the profound consequences of mass extinction for the entire planet.

Arctic Terns:

In "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghy, the Arctic terns' migration serves as a powerful metaphor for the struggle against climate change, highlighting the fight for survival in a rapidly changing world. Through the realist narrative employed in the novel, McConaghy effectively advocates for environmental consciousness, emphasizing the urgency of addressing the ecological crisis. This essay will explore how the use of realism enhances the novel's advocacy for environmental awareness by portraying the Arctic terns' migration as a poignant symbol of resilience and adaptation in the face of environmental devastation.

Firstly, McConaghy's realist narrative immerses readers in the natural world, vividly depicting the beauty and fragility of the Arctic terns' habitat. Through evocative descriptions of landscapes and wildlife, the author creates a sense of awe and reverence for the natural world, emphasizing its intrinsic value and the interconnectedness of all living beings. For instance, when describing the Arctic terns' migratory journey, McConaghy writes,

The ice spreads wide and dazzling, edged by a black-and-white ocean and a distant gray horizon. Great shards of cerulean ice float languidly by, even now within the heart of summer. And dozens of Arctic terns fill the white of sky and earth.
(5)

Such detailed imagery transports readers into the heart of the Arctic terns' migration, fostering a deep appreciation for the resilience of these creatures and the ecosystems they inhabit.

Furthermore, the realist narrative allows McConaghy to depict the harsh realities of environmental degradation, underscoring the existential threat posed by climate change. Through Franny Stone's journey to track the Arctic terns' migration, readers witness firsthand the devastating effects of habitat loss, pollution, and

climate disruption. As Franny encounters oil spills, deforestation, and dwindling wildlife populations, the novel confronts readers with the stark consequences of human activity on the natural world. By grounding the story in realism, McConaghy compels readers to confront the harsh realities of the ecological crisis, motivating them to take action to mitigate its impacts.

Additionally, the Arctic terns' migration serves as a potent symbol of hope and resilience in the face of adversity. Despite the challenges posed by climate change, the terns continue their annual journey, navigating thousands of miles with unwavering determination. Through their perseverance, McConaghy conveys a powerful message of resilience and adaptation, inspiring readers to confront the challenges of climate change with courage and determination. As Franny reflects on the terns' migration, she realizes that their journey represents not only a fight for survival but also a testament to the indomitable spirit of life itself.

In conclusion, "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghy utilizes a realist narrative to advocate for environmental consciousness, highlighting the urgency of addressing the ecological crisis. Through vivid descriptions of the natural world, stark portrayals of environmental degradation, and the poignant symbolism of the Arctic terns' migration, McConaghy urges readers to confront the realities of climate change and take action to protect the planet. By engaging both the intellect and the emotions, "Migrations" serves as a powerful call to arms, challenging readers to embrace their role as stewards of the earth and work towards a sustainable future for all.

Changing World:

In "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghy, references to a "warmer world" and "less snow than there once was" serve as poignant reminders of the devastating effects of global warming on natural landscapes. Through the realist narrative employed in the novel, McConaghy effectively advocates for climate action by providing a stark portrayal of the ecological consequences of human-induced climate change. This section will analyze how the use of realism enhances the novel's advocacy for environmental awareness by depicting the tangible impacts of global warming on the natural world.

Firstly, McConaghy's realist narrative immerses readers in a world undergoing rapid environmental change, vividly portraying the shifting landscapes and altered ecosystems caused by global warming. Through evocative descriptions of melting ice caps, receding glaciers, and changing weather patterns, the author creates a sense of urgency and alarm regarding the severity of the climate crisis. For example, when describing the protagonist's observations of the natural world, McConaghy writes, "The once-familiar landscapes were now unrecognizable, transformed by the relentless march of climate change" (hypothetical quotation). Such detailed imagery underscores the profound impact of global warming on the Earth's delicate balance, compelling readers to confront the reality of environmental degradation.

Furthermore, the realist narrative allows McConaghy to depict the human toll of climate change, highlighting the devastating effects on communities reliant on natural resources for their livelihoods. Through the experiences of characters affected by environmental degradation, such as fishermen facing dwindling fish populations and indigenous communities grappling with disappearing habitats, the novel underscores the interconnectedness of human and environmental well-being. By portraying the human dimensions of the climate crisis, McConaghy fosters empathy and understanding among readers, motivating them to take action to address the root causes of environmental degradation.

Additionally, references to a "warmer world" and "less snow than there once was" serve as powerful symbols of the irreversible changes occurring in our natural landscapes due to global warming. By juxtaposing nostalgic recollections of the past with stark observations of the present, McConaghy highlights the magnitude of the ecological crisis and the urgency of implementing solutions to mitigate its impacts. As characters grapple with the loss of familiar landscapes and the uncertainty of the future, the novel underscores the need for collective action to address the root causes of climate change and protect the planet for future generations.

In conclusion, "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghy utilizes a realist narrative to advocate for climate action by depicting the tangible impacts of global warming on natural landscapes. Through vivid descriptions of environmental degradation, the human dimensions of the climate crisis, and powerful symbols of

ecological change, McConaghy urges readers to confront the reality of climate change and take decisive action to protect the planet. By engaging both the intellect and the emotions, "Migrations" serves as a powerful call to arms, challenging readers to embrace their responsibility as stewards of the Earth and work towards a sustainable future for all.

Human Impact:

In "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghy, the narrative acknowledges humanity's role in environmental degradation, emphasizing a collective responsibility for the harm inflicted upon the Earth. Through the realist narrative employed in the novel, McConaghy effectively advocates for environmental awareness by confronting readers with the consequences of human actions on the natural world. Here the author analyzes how the use of realism enhances the novel's advocacy for collective responsibility and underscores the urgent need for environmental stewardship.

Firstly, McConaghy's realist narrative immerses readers in the grim realities of environmental degradation, vividly portraying the devastation wrought by human activities on the Earth's ecosystems. Through evocative descriptions of deforestation, pollution, and habitat destruction, the author highlights the extent of the damage inflicted upon the natural world. For example, when describing the aftermath of an oil spill or the destruction of wildlife habitats, McConaghy writes with haunting detail, drawing attention to the violence perpetrated against the Earth by human hands. Such depictions serve to confront readers with the harsh realities of environmental destruction and challenge them to acknowledge their complicity in perpetuating these harmful practices.

Furthermore, the realist narrative allows McConaghy to explore the complex relationship between humanity and the environment, emphasizing the interconnectedness of all living beings and ecosystems. Through the experiences of characters grappling with the consequences of environmental degradation, such as loss of livelihoods, displacement, and despair, the novel underscores the human dimensions of the ecological crisis. By portraying the profound impact of environmental destruction on individuals and communities, McConaghy fosters

empathy and understanding among readers, compelling them to recognize their shared responsibility for safeguarding the Earth's future. "It's not for the job. It's for the violence we brought to the earth." (143) says an old man when the government bans fishing worldwide.

Additionally, the narrative in "Migrations" confronts readers with the uncomfortable truth of humanity's capacity for both destruction and redemption. While acknowledging the harm inflicted upon the Earth, the novel also offers glimpses of hope and resilience, suggesting that collective action and environmental stewardship can mitigate the damage wrought by human activities. Through the protagonist's journey of self-discovery and redemption, McConaghy inspires readers to confront their own roles in perpetuating environmental harm and to embrace a renewed commitment to protecting the planet for future generations.

In conclusion, "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghy utilizes a realist narrative to advocate for collective responsibility in addressing environmental degradation. By vividly portraying the consequences of human actions on the natural world, the novel challenges readers to confront the reality of their impact on the Earth and to embrace their role as stewards of the environment. Through empathy, understanding, and a call to action, "Migrations" serves as a powerful reminder of humanity's interconnectedness with the natural world and the urgent need for environmental stewardship to ensure a sustainable future for all.

Emotional Resonance:

In "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghy, the protagonist's emotional connection to animals and her reflections on the loss of species add a poignant personal dimension to the environmental crisis, making the impact of climate change feel more immediate and real. Through the realist narrative employed in the novel, McConaghy effectively advocates for environmental consciousness by highlighting the emotional resonance of the ecological crisis. This essay will analyze how the use of realism enhances the novel's advocacy for emotional engagement and underscores the urgency of addressing climate change.

Firstly, McConaghy's realist narrative immerses readers in the protagonist's emotional journey, vividly portraying her deep connection to animals and her profound grief over the loss of species. Through evocative descriptions of the

protagonist's interactions with wildlife, the author conveys a sense of intimacy and empathy towards the natural world. For example, when describing the protagonist's encounter with an endangered species, McConaghy writes, "Franny felt a surge of emotion as she looked into the eyes of the last remaining member of its kind, a poignant reminder of the fragility of life" (hypothetical quotation). Such moments of emotional connection serve to humanize the protagonist and underscore the profound impact of environmental loss on individuals.

Furthermore, the realist narrative allows McConaghy to explore the psychological toll of climate change on the protagonist, highlighting her feelings of guilt, helplessness, and despair in the face of ecological devastation. Through the protagonist's reflections on the loss of species and the irreversible changes occurring in the natural world, the novel confronts readers with the emotional reality of the environmental crisis. By portraying the protagonist's inner turmoil and existential angst, McConaghy fosters empathy and understanding among readers, compelling them to confront the emotional dimensions of climate change and its impact on both humans and animals.

Additionally, the protagonist's emotional journey in "Migrations" serves as a powerful catalyst for action, inspiring readers to confront the realities of climate change with courage and determination. Through the protagonist's quest to track the last migration of the Arctic terns, McConaghy conveys a message of hope and resilience in the face of adversity. As the protagonist grapples with her own inner demons and confronts the harsh realities of environmental destruction, she emerges as a symbol of strength and resilience, inspiring readers to embrace their own capacity for positive change and environmental stewardship.

In conclusion, "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghy utilizes a realist narrative to advocate for emotional engagement in the environmental crisis. By portraying the protagonist's emotional connection to animals and her reflections on the loss of species, the novel underscores the personal dimension of climate change and its impact on individuals. Through empathy, understanding, and a call to action, "Migrations" serves as a powerful reminder of the urgent need for collective action to address the ecological crisis and protect the planet for future generations.

Arctic Terns' Plight:

In "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghy, the narrative realistically portrays the plight of Arctic terns, a species known for their long migrations, and emphasizes the urgency of their situation in the face of climate change. Through the realist narrative employed in the novel, McConaghy effectively advocates for environmental consciousness by highlighting the impact of climate change on these iconic birds and underscoring the urgency of their conservation. This essay will analyze how the use of realism enhances the novel's advocacy for the protection of Arctic terns and underscores the pressing need for environmental action.

Firstly, McConaghy's realist narrative immerses readers in the world of Arctic terns, vividly depicting their tagging and tracking as they embark on their long migratory journeys. Through evocative descriptions of the birds' behavior, habitats, and interactions with the environment, the author conveys a sense of intimacy and empathy towards these creatures. For example, when describing the tagging process, McConaghy writes, "The researchers carefully affixed the tiny tags to the terns' wings, their delicate movements a testament to the fragility of these magnificent creatures" (hypothetical quotation). Such detailed imagery brings the plight of Arctic terns to life, fostering a deep appreciation for their beauty and vulnerability.

Furthermore, the realist narrative allows McConaghy to explore the devastating effects of climate change on Arctic terns, highlighting the urgency of their conservation. Through the protagonist's observations of declining populations, habitat loss, and changing migration patterns, the novel confronts readers with the stark realities of environmental degradation. By portraying the imminent threat facing Arctic terns as they struggle to adapt to a rapidly changing world, McConaghy compels readers to confront the urgent need for action to protect these iconic birds and their habitats.

Additionally, the narrative in "Migrations" serves as a powerful call to arms for conservation efforts aimed at preserving Arctic terns and mitigating the impacts of climate change. As the protagonist embarks on her mission to track the last migration of the terns, McConaghy conveys a sense of urgency and determination in the face of adversity. Through the protagonist's efforts to raise awareness,

mobilize resources, and advocate for the protection of Arctic terns, the novel inspires readers to join the fight to safeguard these vulnerable species and their ecosystems.

In conclusion, "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghy utilises a realist narrative to advocate for the protection of Arctic terns and underscore the urgency of their conservation in the face of climate change. By vividly depicting the birds' plight, highlighting the impacts of environmental degradation, and inspiring action, the novel serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of preserving biodiversity and protecting the planet for future generations. Through empathy, understanding, and a call to action, "Migrations" urges readers to embrace their role as stewards of the Earth and work towards a sustainable future for all species.

Changing Ecosystems:

In "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghy, the mention of Greenland's nesting season and the description of its stark, icy landscapes serve as poignant reminders of the broader ecological changes and the harsh realities faced by wildlife due to a warming world. Through the realist narrative employed in the novel, McConaghy effectively advocates for environmental consciousness by highlighting the impacts of climate change on ecosystems and underscoring the urgency of addressing these changes. This essay will analyze how the use of realism enhances the novel's advocacy for the protection of ecosystems and emphasizes the pressing need for environmental action.

Firstly, McConaghy's realist narrative immerses readers in the majestic yet fragile landscapes of Greenland, vividly depicting the icy vistas and stark beauty of the region. Through evocative descriptions of Greenland's nesting season and its significance for wildlife, the author conveys a sense of awe and reverence for the natural world. For example, when describing the arrival of migratory birds to Greenland's shores, McConaghy writes, "The coastline was transformed as thousands of birds descended upon the icy cliffs, their calls echoing across the frozen landscape" (hypothetical quotation). Such detailed imagery transports readers into the heart of Greenland's ecosystems, fostering a deep appreciation for their beauty and vulnerability.

Furthermore, the realist narrative allows McConaghy to explore the devastating effects of climate change on these fragile ecosystems, highlighting the

urgent need for conservation efforts. Through the protagonist's observations of receding glaciers, melting ice caps, and changing migration patterns, the novel confronts readers with the stark realities of environmental degradation. By portraying the impacts of a warming world on Greenland's landscapes and wildlife, McConaghy compels readers to confront the urgent need for action to protect these ecosystems and mitigate the effects of climate change.

Additionally, the narrative in "Migrations" serves as a powerful call to arms for conservation efforts aimed at preserving ecosystems and safeguarding biodiversity. As the protagonist witnesses the ecological changes unfolding in Greenland and other regions, McConaghy conveys a sense of urgency and determination in the face of adversity. Through the protagonist's efforts to raise awareness, mobilize resources, and advocate for the protection of ecosystems, the novel inspires readers to join the fight to preserve the natural world and ensure a sustainable future for all species.

In conclusion, "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghy utilizes a realist narrative to advocate for the protection of ecosystems and emphasize the urgency of addressing the impacts of climate change. By vividly depicting the beauty and vulnerability of Greenland's landscapes, the novel urges readers to confront the pressing need for environmental action and embrace their role as stewards of the Earth. Through empathy, understanding, and a call to action, "Migrations" inspires readers to work towards a sustainable future where ecosystems thrive and biodiversity flourishes.

Animal Extinction:

In "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghy, the story of the Arctic terns serves as a powerful metaphor for the broader issue of mass extinctions, emphasizing the urgency of the situation. Through the realist narrative employed in the novel, McConaghy effectively advocates for conservation efforts by highlighting the parallels between the plight of the Arctic terns and the global crisis of biodiversity loss. This essay will analyze how the use of realism enhances the novel's advocacy for the protection of endangered species and underscores the pressing need for environmental action.

Firstly, McConaghy's realist narrative immerses readers in the world of the Arctic terns, vividly depicting their struggles and triumphs as they embark on their perilous migratory journey. Through evocative descriptions of the birds' behavior, habitats, and interactions with the environment, the author conveys a sense of intimacy and empathy towards these iconic creatures. For example, when describing the challenges faced by the terns during their migration, McConaghy writes, "The terns battled fierce storms, dwindling food supplies, and loss of habitat as they fought to survive their epic journey" (hypothetical quotation). Such detailed imagery brings the plight of the Arctic terns to life, fostering a deep appreciation for their resilience and vulnerability.

Furthermore, the realist narrative allows McConaghy to explore the broader issue of mass extinctions and the urgent need for conservation efforts. Through the protagonist's observations of declining wildlife populations, habitat destruction, and the looming threat of extinction, the novel confronts readers with the stark realities of biodiversity loss. By portraying the Arctic terns as emblematic of the broader crisis facing the natural world, McConaghy compels readers to confront the urgent need for action to protect endangered species and preserve global biodiversity.

Additionally, the narrative in "Migrations" serves as a poignant reminder of the interconnectedness of all living beings and ecosystems. As the protagonist grapples with the loss of species and the irreversible changes occurring in the natural world, McConaghy underscores the profound impact of human activities on the planet's delicate balance. Through the protagonist's journey of self-discovery and redemption, the novel inspires readers to embrace their role as stewards of the Earth and work towards a sustainable future where biodiversity thrives.

In conclusion, "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghy utilizes a realist narrative to advocate for the protection of endangered species and underscore the urgency of addressing mass extinctions. By vividly depicting the struggles of the Arctic terns and their symbolic significance in the broader context of biodiversity loss, the novel urges readers to confront the pressing need for conservation efforts and embrace their responsibility to preserve the natural world for future generations. Through empathy, understanding, and a call to action, "Migrations" inspires readers to work towards a world where all species can flourish and thrive.

3.2 GUN ISLAND

Published in 2019, "Gun Island" by Amitav Ghosh represents a notable addition to the contemporary fiction genre, characterized by a distinctive infusion of magical realism. Ghosh, an esteemed Indian author with a global literary presence, weaves a narrative that transcends conventional boundaries, employing a sophisticated blend of realism and myth. Within the framework of contemporary fiction, Ghosh's discerning use of magical realism elevates the narrative, allowing for an exploration of themes beyond the constraints of reality. This stylistic choice imparts a nuanced depth to the storytelling, encouraging readers to engage critically with the interplay of the mundane and the fantastical.

At its core, "Gun Island" unfolds as a meticulous exploration of the protagonist, Deen Datta, a discerning antiquarian book dealer. His discovery of a rare manuscript serves as the catalyst for a transcontinental odyssey, delving into the realms of folklore, climate change, and intricate human relationships. The plot is structured with an intricate interplay of mystery, adventure, and contemplation of contemporary societal concerns. The narrative unfurls across a diverse array of locales, each meticulously detailed to contribute substantively to the thematic fabric of the novel. From the dynamic urban landscape of Kolkata to the culturally vibrant backdrop of Los Angeles and the mystical realms of the Sundarbans, Ghosh employs spatial configurations not merely as backdrops but as integral components shaping the narrative trajectory.

Ghosh employs a nuanced character development strategy, imbuing each figure, notably the protagonist Deen Datta and the enigmatic Gun Merchant, with intricate layers of complexity. These characters serve not merely as conduits for the narrative but as vehicles through which readers traverse the intricate web of connections and relationships, adding depth to the unfolding drama. The author's narrative style is characterized by a refined eloquence and meticulous attention to detail. Ghosh's prose assumes a lyrical quality, adeptly conveying vivid imagery and capturing the subtleties of emotion and environment. This literary finesse enables a seamless integration of historical facts with fictional elements, contributing to a narrative that is both intellectually stimulating and aesthetically satisfying.

Amitav Ghosh's stature as an accomplished author is underscored by his extensive exploration of historical and contemporary themes. "Gun Island" stands in consonance with Ghosh's distinguished repertoire, which includes seminal works such as "The Glass Palace," "The Hungry Tide," and "Sea of Poppies." His consistent ability to navigate profound themes with linguistic virtuosity positions "Gun Island" as a testament to Ghosh's enduring literary eminence.

Amitav Ghosh's contribution to the literary landscape extends beyond conventional genres, with a notable impact on the burgeoning field of climate fiction, often referred to as "cli-fi." Through his extensive body of work, including "Gun Island," Ghosh emerges as a pioneering figure in weaving narratives that address the intricate relationship between humanity and the changing environment. One of Ghosh's notable contributions to climate fiction lies in his unflinching exploration of environmental issues. "Gun Island" serves as a prime example of his ability to integrate climate change seamlessly into the narrative. Ghosh goes beyond surface-level depictions, delving into the sociopolitical implications, cultural shifts, and human responses to ecological transformations. His narrative underscores the interconnectedness of environmental challenges with broader societal structures.

Ghosh's unique approach involves intertwining mythology with climate change, creating a narrative that transcends the boundaries of traditional environmental storytelling. By incorporating mythical elements into the exploration of ecological concerns, he engages readers on a deeper level, inviting contemplation on the profound connections between folklore, human narratives, and the impact of climate change on our shared global heritage. Ghosh's work transcends geographical boundaries, providing a truly global perspective on climate change. "Gun Island" takes readers on a transcontinental journey, addressing environmental shifts in diverse settings such as Kolkata, Los Angeles, and the Sundarbans. This expansive canvas enables Ghosh to depict the universality of climate-related challenges while also acknowledging the distinct local manifestations and responses to these issues.

In "Gun Island" and beyond, Ghosh delves into the cultural repercussions of climate change, exploring how environmental shifts influence cultural practices, belief systems, and societal structures. His nuanced portrayal goes beyond the

physical consequences of climate change, delving into the ways in which communities grapple with and adapt to these transformations, thereby contributing to a more comprehensive understanding of the human experience in the face of environmental crisis.

3.2.1 TEXTUAL ANALYSIS:

The protagonist, Deen, a rare book dealer living in Brooklyn, reflects on a trip to Calcutta triggered by personal upheavals. While attending a wedding reception, he encounters a distant relative, Kanai, who introduces him to the legend of "Bonduki Sadagar" or the Gun Merchant, associated with a shrine in the Sundarbans. Despite initial skepticism, the protagonist learns about the legend's connection to the region's history and his own childhood memories. Kanai suggests visiting Nilima Bose, a respected figure, to delve further into the story. Intrigued, the protagonist agrees to meet Nilima, setting the stage for a new chapter in his life.

Deen, visits Nilima, who is bedridden, with Piya serving as a caretaker. Nilima shares the intriguing story of the Gun Merchant's shrine in the Sundarbans, linked to a cyclone and a goddess named Manasa Devi. The shrine supposedly protected a village during the cyclone. Nilima seeks Deen's help in documenting the temple's potential historical significance. Despite initial reluctance, Deen considers the proposal, and Piya assures him a quick and easy trip to the shrine, leaving the decision for the next day.

The protagonist, wrestling with internal conflicts, contemplates a journey to the Sundarbans, spurred by a cryptic poem suggesting the shrine's age. Historical research connects the lines to Dhaka's Mughal period, hinting at the shrine's construction between 1605 and 1690. Despite potential connections to Bishnupur architecture and the gunpowder era, the scholar dismisses the idea of venturing into the Sundarbans. The narrative takes an unexpected turn when the protagonist receives a call from an old mentor, Professoressa Giacinta Schiavon, who shares a vivid dream involving a tent and a jatra in Calcutta's Maidan. Reflecting on the past, the protagonist uncovers a connection to Manasa Devi, adding layers to the unfolding story. At next, the narration revolves around the interaction between Dino and Cinta, with Dino initially skeptical about Cinta's beliefs in the supernatural. When Dino and Cinta

engage in a conversation about the relatively obscure Italian intellectual, De Martino, it sets the stage for a dialogue on tarantism and the supernatural. Dino, initially maintaining a rationalist perspective, questions beliefs in spirits and demons. Cinta, in response, opens up about her personal tragedy, narrating the events leading to her husband and daughter's fatal accident in Salzburg. Cinta vividly describes her unease, the ominous premonition that led her to urge her husband to cancel the trip, and her daughter's haunting voice on the phone. The emotional turmoil intensifies as she recounts the moment she learned of the accident and the subsequent police investigation. The revelation of a potential police report adds a layer of tension to the narrative, highlighting the complexity of her situation. As Cinta shares her vulnerability, Dino, initially portrayed as a skeptic, transforms into a compassionate listener. He offers comfort and allows her to stay in his apartment, showcasing the evolving dynamic between the two characters. The nuanced emotions of grief, guilt, and the fear of potential scrutiny are palpable in Cinta's narrative. The next day, the narrative takes an unexpected turn as Cinta encourages Dino to consider opportunities in New York. This marks a pivotal moment in the story, emphasizing the impact of personal connections on life choices. Dino's subsequent success in his career in the United States adds a layer of resilience and growth to the overall narrative. In essence, the story weaves together themes of belief, tragedy, compassion, and personal evolution. The detailed exploration of Cinta's harrowing experience allows readers to empathize with her journey, while the underlying currents of rationalism and the unexplainable create a rich tapestry of human experiences.

In reflecting on Cinta's significant impact on his life, Dino acknowledges the mystery of what she saw in him, expressing profound gratitude for her friendship. The narrative weaves through the pivotal role Cinta played in freeing Dino from a stifling life in the Midwest library, emphasizing her influence on his decisions. As the story unfolds, a call from Cinta in Kolkata serves as a poignant reminder of her enduring guidance. Despite the seemingly casual nature of the call, Dino interprets it as a subtle encouragement not to choose the easy path out of habit. This sentiment carries echoes of their earlier conversations, underscoring the depth of their connection and the lasting impression Cinta has left on Dino's decision-making. Against this backdrop, the narrative transitions to Dino's decision to visit a temple,

a choice influenced by Cinta's subtle influence. Dino's conversation with Piya, arranging the trip to the Sundarbans, unfolds seamlessly. Piya, aware of the windy and chilly conditions, advises Dino to be prepared for the journey, subtly reflecting the theme of navigating challenges, mirroring Cinta's earlier advice. The exchange between Dino and Piya highlights the practical details of the upcoming adventure, with Piya heading to Bhubaneswar the next morning. The conversation ends with a hopeful mention of a possible reunion the following year, adding a touch of optimism to the narrative. Overall, the intertwining threads of gratitude, friendship, and the influence of significant individuals shape this part of the narrative.

The narrator recounts his visit to the Gol Park roundabout, where he witnesses a heated altercation involving women from red-light districts rescued by the Badabon Trust. Moyna, a representative of the trust, explains the challenges faced by these women in reintegrating into society. The conversation shifts to Cyclone Aila's impact on the Sundarbans, leading to widespread destruction, displacement, and an increase in human trafficking. Moyna shares the story of her son, Tipu, who, despite Piya's generosity, faces difficulties adapting to life outside the Sundarbans. On his journey to find a temple known as the dhaam, Gun Island, the narrator meets Tipu, who displays a rebellious attitude. The story delves into the legends surrounding the Gun Merchant, narrated differently by Moyna and the boatman, Horen Naskar, providing insights into the region's history. The narrator expresses interest in meeting Rafi, the grandson of the Muslim boatman, to learn more about the shrine. The steamer navigates through a narrow creek in the forest, revealing a vibrant, teeming landscape. Horen, the steamer's captain, focuses on the challenging watercourse, and the narrator, Pops, interacts with Tipu. Tipu, known for his connection-man role, discusses his involvement in the people-moving industry, helping migrants seek a better life. He emphasizes the significance of the Internet in facilitating migration, from providing information to coordinating journeys. Tipu's expertise lies in crafting compelling stories for asylum seekers, tailoring them to meet the criteria of the destination country. The discussion unveils the complexities of human migration, shedding light on Tipu's unconventional role and the challenges faced by those seeking a new life.

As they navigate through the changing river landscape, they face challenges such as walking through mud to reach the temple. Upon their arrival, they discover intricate terracotta friezes on the shrine's facade, each depicting a part of the legend associated with the Gun Merchant. As the protagonist carefully examines the terracotta panels adorning the temple, the vivid storytelling of the Gun Merchant and Captain Ilyas unfolds. The intricate artwork on the walls depicts their journey through various lands, encountering pirates, collecting cowrie shells, and facing the wrath of Manasa Devi. Each panel reveals a piece of the legendary tale, creating a captivating narrative that transports the reader to a world of adventure and mystique. The protagonist engages with a local boy, Rafi, who shares the tales passed down through generations, revealing details about the Gun Merchant's adventures and the symbolism in the friezes. However, the chapter takes an unexpected turn when Rafi mentions the presence of a king cobra inside the dark interior of the temple. The situation intensifies when Tipu, one of the companions, is bitten by the cobra, leading to a tense and dramatic moment as they rush to seek medical help. The author intricately weaves a tale of suspense and mysticism, blending the realities of medical emergency with elements of delirium and magical realism.

Tipu's dire condition is vividly portrayed as he grapples with the consequences of the venomous bite. Rafi, a mysterious and seemingly connected character, plays a crucial role in comforting Tipu and revealing snippets of folklore intertwined with the unfolding drama. As the steamer navigates through the river, the struggle for communication adds an additional layer of tension. The narrative explores the intersection of modern technology, represented by cellphones, with the age-old wisdom of the Sundarbans fishermen. Rafi's unexpected familiarity with cellphones challenges preconceived notions and adds a touch of irony to the story. The plot thickens when Tipu, in his delirium, mentions a woman named Rani, triggering a cascade of events. Piya, a character introduced through a phone call, hints at a mysterious connection between Tipu's delirium and an alert about Rani.

This chapter, "Vision" skillfully blends elements of medical emergency, folklore, and technological interplay, keeping readers on the edge of their seats. The intertwined destinies of the characters and the looming mysteries create a compelling narrative, leaving readers eager to uncover the secrets hidden within the Sundarbans.

Rushed to a hospital in Lusibari, Tipu's condition becomes precarious as the hospital lacks the appropriate antivenin. The narrative explores the tension and uncertainty as the characters wait for the antivenin to take effect.

Piya, a character with expertise in studying Irrawaddy dolphins, shares her connection with a specific dolphin named Rani. She observes changes in the Sundarbans' water composition due to rising sea levels. These changes impact the dolphins' habitat, forcing them to alter their migration patterns. The story delves into the impact of environmental changes, potentially caused by a nearby refinery, on Rani's pod. Piya's suspicion that a nearby refinery may be contributing to pollution and affecting marine life, including Rani's pod, highlights the broader theme of human activities impacting the delicate balance of ecosystems in the face of environmental changes, possibly linked to climate change. The chapter concludes with the narrator's decision to leave the Sundarbans, reflecting on the surreal experience and expressing relief at returning to the familiar world of airports and departure lounges. The narrative touches on the intersection of human and environmental issues, setting the stage for further exploration of these themes in the unfolding story.

Back in Brooklyn, the narrator reflects on the lingering impact of his visit to the Gun Merchant's shrine in Calcutta. The experience induces vivid and disturbing memories, leading to a prolonged state of distraction and anxiety. The narrator struggles to focus on work and resorts to playing music to fill the silence. Attempts to alleviate the distress, including anti-anxiety medication, prove ineffective. The narrative takes an unexpected turn when the narrator engages in an online conversation with Tipu, who poses questions about the meaning of words like "bhuta" and "shaman." The exchange delves into philosophical discussions about existence, communication with animals, and the past's influence on the present. Later, Tipu hints at mysterious connections, mentioning Rafi's grandfather being a "bauley" with special abilities. The narrator, concerned about Tipu's well-being, contacts Piya, who reveals Tipu's health struggles. The narrative also introduces Piya's friend Lisa, an entomologist facing adversity in Oregon. The chapter ends with a surprising call from Tipu, now working in Bangalore, raising cryptic warnings about an upcoming meeting in Los Angeles and advising the narrator to listen carefully to a friend.

In this gripping narrative, the protagonist eagerly anticipates a trip to Los Angeles to attend a conference arranged by Cinta, celebrating a valuable seventeenth-century edition of "The Merchant of Venice." However, the journey takes an unexpected turn when wildfires around Los Angeles become a cause for concern among the passengers. The protagonist inadvertently becomes the center of attention, causing chaos with a music-sharing mishap. As the plane descends, the protagonist reflects on the devastating impact of the wildfires. Upon landing, authorities question the protagonist's peculiar behaviour, and suspicions rise when the agents mention multiple calls from Turkey on his phone. Despite the bizarre incident, the protagonist eventually finds himself in a luxurious hotel room, only to be confronted by the mesmerizing glow of distant fires, leaving an indelible mark on his psyche. This episode introduces suspense, chaos, and an eerie connection between the protagonist's actions and the unfolding events in Los Angeles.

The narrator attends a conference in California amid wildfires. The conference faces logistical issues due to the fires, but it proceeds. During the events, a speaker discusses the upheavals of the seventeenth century, linking them to today's environmental challenges. The speaker of the conference delves into the climate change discussion during the conference, emphasizing the urgent need for global action to address environmental challenges. The impact of climate change on ecosystems, weather patterns, and species distribution is highlighted, underscoring the relevance of historical perspectives to comprehend and confront contemporary ecological crises. The narrative takes a turn when the group visits Venice Beach, and a dog is bitten and killed by a yellow-bellied sea snake, a species not typical to the region. The incident prompts reflections on the interconnectedness of past and present, with characters expressing a sense of presence from departed loved ones. The narrator contacts Piya, who shares information on the changing distribution of sea snakes due to climate change. The text explores themes of environmental crisis, historical echoes, and personal connections to the past.

In the closing event of a conference, Professoressa Emerita Cinta captivates her audience with a talk on the historical background of Shakespeare's Venice. She explores the Jewish enclave in Venice, tracing its roots to 1541, and reveals how the word "ghetto" originated. Cinta connects Venice to Arabic through trade, linking the city's name to hazelnuts, bullets, and guns. The protagonist, Dino, attends the

talk and is struck by a revelation about the legend of Bonduki Sadagar, the Gun Merchant. As he contemplates the potential links between the legend and reality, a compelling narrative unfolds, intertwining historical events, personal connections, and the impact of climate change. The story leads Dino to reconsider his assumptions and embark on a journey, guided by the enigmatic Cinta, to unravel the mysteries of his own past and the legend that has captured his imagination.

The narrator reflects on the kinship between Venice and Varanasi, exploring the enchantment of decay, historical connections, and the unique atmosphere of both cities. The narrative transitions to the Ghetto of Venice, drawing parallels with a favorite area in Varanasi. The author daydreams about the past and a mythical connection involving a Gun Merchant and the goddess Manasa Devi. The perspective shifts, revealing the goddess's role as a negotiator between humans and snakes, and her urgent search for the Gun Merchant. The author's daydream is interrupted, leading to a chance encounter with a Bangladeshi worker named Rafi in the Ghetto, triggering a series of events that connect their pasts and shared roots in Madaripur, Bangladesh. The narrative concludes with the author's exploration of the Madaripuri community in Venice and the potential for collaboration on a documentary about migrant experiences. Next, the narrative unfolds in Venice's Cannaregio district, where Cinta resides in a family-acquired apartment overlooking the Grand Canal. The district is a rare haven for residents amid the tourist influx. Cinta's home, built on the shifting mud of the Venetian lagoon, breathes with a unique vitality. The narrative takes a reflective turn as the protagonist compares the city to literary works, such as James's "Aspern Papers." The plot thickens with the discovery of a book connecting Cinta's daughter to the Sundarbans. The protagonist's encounter with Rafi, a refugee selling ice cream, introduces a mysterious element tied to a tale involving the Gun Merchant, spiders, and a cursed island. As events unfold, an unexpected call from Gisa reveals a crisis involving a refugee boat, hinting at the convergence of disparate storylines and raising questions about morality and human connection. The narrator, Deen, shares his experiences and conversations with Piya, a marine biologist. Piya contacts Deen, seeking help regarding a mysterious email predicting a mass beaching of Irrawaddy dolphins in the Sundarbans. Piya investigates the prediction, discovers a real event, and uses the information to address

environmental concerns. The narrative takes a turn when Piya expresses concern about her son, Tipu, who has disappeared and might be connected to the beaching incident. Deen reveals that he recently encountered Tipu in Venice and promises to speak to him again, leaving the reader with a sense of anticipation and mystery. In the aftermath of a troubling phone call with Piya, the narrator grapples with a growing sense of dread and confusion. Reflecting on recent encounters with Tipu and Rafi, the protagonist struggles to make sense of a seemingly inexplicable pattern in their lives. Despite attempting to rationalize the events as mere chance and coincidence, the protagonist feels compelled to talk to Rafi, only to discover he has been hospitalized after a violent attack. As the narrative unfolds, Lubna informs the protagonist about Rafi's assault and reveals the distressing news of a refugee boat being denied entry to Italy. Lubna's connection to Rafi's story deepens as she discloses the circumstances surrounding Rafi's loan from a trafficker to help a friend escape perilous situations. Later, the narrator meets Bilal, Rafi's housemate, who shares a harrowing personal journey of survival, recounting the hardships faced during an attempt to reach Europe by sea. Bilal's emotional account sheds light on the desperation that drives individuals to undertake perilous journeys, and the bonds formed in the face of adversity. The narrator's unease intensifies when encountering a suspicious figure linked to Rafi's dealings with a trafficker. A sense of paranoia sets in, culminating in a panic attack triggered by a seemingly harmless spider in the protagonist's apartment. The chapter concludes with the protagonist sending a message to Piya, providing a summary of Rafi's situation and the interconnected stories of Tipu and Bilal. The mention of a recent encounter with a spider serves as a metaphor for the protagonist's escalating anxiety and a foreboding sense of the unknown.

Dinanath Datta returns to Lubna's office and finds a young man named Fozlul Hoque Chowdhury, also known as Palash, in charge. Palash explains that Lubna is away attending a meeting with activists, organizing boats to support refugees in response to the Blue Boat incident. The conversation reveals the complexities of the refugee situation, involvement of criminal elements like "scafisti," and the interconnected issues of inequality, climate change, capitalism, and corruption. Palash shares the tragic story of Lubna's husband, an activist who died confronting the Mob's exploitation of migrants. The chapter ends with Dinanath's encounter with

a mysterious man warning him about the dangers of stories, a connection to the Hypnerotomachia Poliphili exhibition, and an unsettling feeling in his apartment.

Dino is visited by Cinta, who notices a change in his demeanor. Dino shares his unsettling experiences, including a mysterious encounter with a spider. Cinta, drawing on her knowledge of historical cases, suggests that Dino's symptoms align with the historical concept of possession. However, she interprets it as an awakening rather than a possession in the traditional sense. Cinta proposes exploring Venice to retrace the steps of the Gun Merchant, linking historical events, such as the plague, to their present-day experiences. The text concludes with a visit to Santa Maria della Salute, connecting the church's history to the city's past challenges and highlighting the phrase "From the origin salvation comes." Deen and Cinta explore Venice and come across a contemporary art gallery at the restored old customs house. The highlight is an exhibit called "Il mostro di Punta della Dogana," inspired by a Venetian legend of a monster living in the lagoon. Cinta shares her uncle Ruggiero's story of encountering mysterious creatures while fishing. Later, near the Fondamente Nove, they discover the invasive shipworms damaging the city's wooden foundations. A sudden flood traps them on a pier, and they experience a harrowing encounter with the worms. Alone and helpless, they spot a distant light, revealing the presence of Bilal, who calls for help, eventually leading to their rescue by an ambulance.

The narrator rushes to a hospital with Cinta, who has suffered an injury during the flood. They arrive quickly due to the hospital's proximity. The hospital is well-prepared for flood emergencies. While Cinta receives medical attention, the narrator, in wet clothes, waits and observes the flooded city. Rafi, a character from earlier in the story, appears in the hospital, injured and wearing a hospital gown. He shares the story of his journey from Bangladesh to Europe, searching for his friend Tipu. Rafi explains Tipu's seizures and their decision to leave Lusibari secretly. Tipu's dream of an Ethiopian woman diverts him to Egypt, leaving Rafi in Venice. Rafi shows a newspaper picture of a refugee boat, believing Tipu is on it. The narrator decides to join a rescue mission to find Tipu, contacting Lubna for assistance. Gisa and Piya also express their willingness to join the mission. The passage ends with preparations for the journey to Marghera to meet a rescue ship called the Lucania.

In the wake of an unusual weather shift, the narrator embarks on a journey to visit a friend, Cinta, at Ospedale Civile. The weather continues to surprise, with hailstorms and sudden changes. At the hospital, Cinta reveals her desire to join the narrator on a sailing expedition, interpreting signs from a legend. Despite initial objections, the group prepares for the journey. En route to the airport, they encounter severe weather conditions, including a tornado narrowly missing them. A mysterious figure directs them to an alternative route, leaving the group in awe of potential divine intervention.

The Lucania, a resilient ship with a rich history, embarks on a journey to rescue refugees. Amidst unusual weather phenomena, including tornadoes, the crew and passengers witness the force of nature. Cinta, with her historical insights, shares the significance of the landmarks they pass. The ship sails through turbulent weather affecting Italy, revealing widespread devastation. Personal stories, such as Gisa's concerns for her family in Rome, unfold amidst the unfolding natural drama. The group grapples with their own fears and histories. Piya, haunted by a past cyclone, confides in the narrator, revealing the complexities of her relationships. As night falls, the crew experiences a mysterious encounter, with Gisa sensing the presence of Cinta's deceased daughter, Lucia. On Lucania, the narrator unexpectedly encounters a variety of cetacean species during a sea journey. The text describes the excitement and engagement of the characters, including Rafi and Cinta, as they witness different species of whales and dolphins. Amidst these events, there are discussions about the Blue Boat and the potential information it holds on human trafficking. The passengers on the Lucania also face the looming threat of right-wing opposition. The narrative captures the diverse emotions and dynamics among the characters, intertwined with the beauty and wonders of marine life. As the journey progresses, personal connections deepen, and the atmosphere on the ship transforms into one of camaraderie and celebration. The passage ends with Piya and Deen contemplating potential changes in their lives, hinting at new possibilities and a sense of liberation. In this gripping narrative, the author recounts a tense sea voyage disrupted by the encounter with a flotilla of charter boats representing diverse activist groups. The protagonist, Dino, describes the escalating tensions and ideological clashes between left-wing and right-wing factions. As the boats approach a squadron of

warships, a pivotal moment unfolds when a refugee vessel, the Blue Boat, is rescued amidst a miraculous display of nature – a convergence of bird migration, marine life, and bioluminescence. The narrative concludes with Admiral Vigonovo justifying his decision to rescue the refugees, challenging the minister's orders and asserting that the event was a miraculous turning point. Tragically, amidst the celebration, Dino discovers that his dear friend Cinta has passed away, leaving behind a sense of mystery and the profound impact of her friendship.

3.2.2 MAGICAL REALISM:

In recent years, literature has emerged as a powerful medium for exploring and addressing the complex issue of climate change. Authors around the world have utilized various narrative techniques to convey the urgency of environmental degradation and advocate for sustainable practices. One such author is Amitav Ghosh, whose novel "The Gun Island" intricately weaves elements of magical realism into its narrative to shed light on the profound implications of climate change. This paper aims to analyze Ghosh's use of magical realism in the novel and its effectiveness in advocating for environmental awareness and action.

Magical realism, a genre characterized by the integration of fantastical elements into realistic settings, has long been employed by authors to explore socio-political issues and cultural complexities. In "The Gun Island," Ghosh utilizes magical realism to create a narrative landscape that blurs the boundaries between the mundane and the extraordinary. Through the protagonist's encounters with fantastical creatures and supernatural occurrences, Ghosh invites readers to question the nature of reality and consider the interconnectedness of all living beings.

One of the most striking instances of magical realism in "The Gun Island" is the protagonist's encounter with a venomous spider in Italy, a region where such creatures were previously unknown. This event serves as a potent metaphor for the broader ecological disruptions caused by climate change. By depicting the spider's unexpected presence in an unfamiliar habitat, Ghosh highlights the destabilizing effects of global warming on ecosystems around the world. The spider becomes a symbol of the shifting habitats and ecological imbalances that have become increasingly common in a rapidly changing environment.

Ghosh's use of magical realism in "The Gun Island" extends beyond mere storytelling; it serves as a vehicle for advocating environmental awareness and action. By blending reality with fantasy, Ghosh compels readers to confront the uncomfortable truths of ecological disruption and acknowledge their role in shaping the future of the planet. Through the protagonist's journey and encounters with fantastical elements, readers are encouraged to reconsider their relationship with the natural world and recognize the interconnectedness of all living beings.

One of the central themes of the novel is the cyclical nature of climate crises and human responses to them, which Ghosh explores through the protagonist's experiences and historical parallels, such as the Little Ice Age. Ghosh seamlessly integrates elements of past and present, drawing connections between the protagonist's experiences and historical climate crises. By juxtaposing these historical events with the protagonist's journey, Ghosh highlights the cyclical nature of climate change and the enduring impact of human actions on the environment. Through the use of magical realism, Ghosh advocates for heightened awareness of environmental issues and the need for collective action. By blending past and present, Ghosh emphasizes the interconnectedness of human history and the natural world, urging readers to recognize their role in shaping the future of the planet. Through the protagonist's encounters with fantastical elements and historical parallels, readers are prompted to reconsider their relationship with the environment and acknowledge the urgency of addressing climate change.

Amitav Ghosh's novel "The Gun Island" delves into the psychological dimensions of climate change by incorporating supernatural elements and folklore into its narrative. The Gun Merchant, a central character in the story, serves as a conduit for exploring the psychological impact of environmental transformations and the role of human history in shaping them. Supernatural beliefs and folklore play a central role in "The Gun Island," providing a framework for exploring the psychological impact of climate change on individuals and communities. Ghosh portrays characters grappling with phenomena such as spirit possession and magical practices, highlighting the ways in which environmental disruptions can manifest in the human psyche. By intertwining these supernatural elements with the narrative, Ghosh delves into the complexities of human emotions and responses to environmental crisis. The Gun Merchant, a mysterious and enigmatic figure, serves

as a key player in the protagonist's journey and understanding of environmental transformations. Through his interactions with the protagonist, the Gun Merchant imparts wisdom and insights into the interconnectedness of human history and the natural world.

Ghosh utilizes magical realism to convey hope and urgency regarding climate action by presenting the "Blue Boat Miracle" as a transformative event. Through the depiction of bioluminescent creatures and their migratory patterns, Ghosh creates a sense of wonder and awe, inspiring readers to recognize the beauty and fragility of the natural world. The "Blue Boat Miracle" serves as a symbol of hope and renewal in the face of environmental challenges. By presenting this event as a miraculous convergence of natural phenomena, Ghosh underscores the interconnectedness of all living beings and the potential for collective action. The bioluminescent creatures and their migratory patterns represent the resilience of nature and the possibility of adaptation in the face of climate change. Through the lens of magical realism, Ghosh encourages readers to reexamine their relationship with the environment and recognize their role in shaping its future. The "Blue Boat Miracle" prompts a global awakening to the urgency of climate action, inspiring individuals and communities to come together in pursuit of environmental sustainability. Through the protagonist's experiences and interactions with others, Ghosh highlights the power of collective action in addressing climate change. The scene serves as a catalyst for transformative change, sparking conversations and initiatives aimed at preserving the planet for future generations.

The journey of the Blue Boat represents the migration crisis exacerbated by climate change, with refugees fleeing their homes due to environmental degradation and displacement. Ghosh portrays the hardships faced by the refugees and the challenges of their journey, highlighting the human dimensions of the migration crisis. Through the lens of magical realism, Ghosh prompts readers to consider the broader implications of climate change on human migration and the interconnectedness between environmental degradation and social upheaval. The convergence of dolphins and whales following the Blue Boat serves as a powerful symbol of the interconnectedness of all life and the impact of environmental changes on migratory patterns. By depicting this magical element, Ghosh underscores the

ways in which human actions can disrupt natural ecosystems and alter the behavior of wildlife. Through the protagonist's observations of this phenomenon, readers are prompted to reflect on the broader implications of environmental degradation and the need for collective action.

Amitav Ghosh's novel "The Gun Island" intertwines elements of magical realism with Bengali folklore to explore themes of environmental crisis and human migration. The legend of the Gun Merchant, steeped in folklore and mythology, serves as a metaphor for the global journey humanity must undertake in response to climate change-induced migration and displacement. Magical realism, characterized by the fusion of the ordinary with the extraordinary, allows authors to imbue their narratives with layers of symbolism and metaphor. In "The Gun Island," Ghosh utilizes magical realism to imbue the legend of the Gun Merchant with metaphorical significance, highlighting its resonance with the global environmental crisis. Through the protagonist's journey and interactions with Bengali folklore, Ghosh prompts readers to consider the deeper implications of human migration and displacement in the context of climate change. The legend of the Gun Merchant serves as a powerful metaphor for the global journey that humanity must undertake in response to the environmental crisis. Drawing on elements of Bengali folklore, Ghosh portrays the Gun Merchant as a figure of migration and displacement, symbolizing the upheaval caused by climate change. Through the protagonist's exploration of the legend, readers are prompted to reflect on the interconnectedness between human narratives and environmental challenges, recognizing the profound impact of climate change on communities around the world. Through the use of magical realism, Ghosh advocates for heightened awareness of climate change-induced migration and displacement. By blending elements of folklore with the narrative, Ghosh prompts readers to consider the human dimensions of environmental crisis, emphasizing the need for empathy and understanding in addressing these challenges. The legend of the Gun Merchant serves as a catalyst for awareness, inspiring readers to reflect on the ways in which climate change intersects with human narratives and experiences.

Amitav Ghosh's novel "The Gun Island" intertwines elements of magical realism with the sinking city of Venice to explore themes of environmental crisis and human resilience. Venice's struggle against rising sea levels serves as a powerful

backdrop for the story, symbolizing the larger battle against climate change and highlighting the urgent need for action. Venice's sinking serves as a potent symbol of the urgent need for action in the face of climate change. As the city grapples with rising sea levels and the encroaching waters threaten its existence, Ghosh underscores the fragility of human civilization in the face of environmental challenges. Through the protagonist's interactions with the residents of Venice and their efforts to combat the rising waters, Ghosh highlights the resilience and determination of individuals in the face of adversity. Through the use of magical realism, Ghosh advocates for heightened awareness of environmental challenges and underscores the urgent need for action. By blending elements of the fantastical with the mundane, Ghosh prompts readers to reconsider their understanding of the interconnectedness between human actions and environmental consequences. The sinking city of Venice serves as a powerful reminder of the consequences of inaction, urging readers to take meaningful steps towards addressing climate change.

Amitav Ghosh's novel "The Gun Island" delves into the complexities of climate change through the supernatural element of Tipu's visions. Tipu's gift, acquired after being bitten by a King Cobra, serves as a metaphor for the unpredictability of climate change and the unforeseen ways in which it can alter lives. In "The Gun Island," Ghosh utilizes magical realism to vividly depict Tipu's visions and their implications for understanding climate change. Through Tipu's supernatural gift, Ghosh prompts readers to consider the broader implications of environmental degradation and the importance of embracing diverse forms of knowledge in addressing the crisis. Tipu's visions serve as a potent symbol of the unpredictability of climate change and its ability to alter lives in unforeseen ways. Ghosh portrays Tipu's experiences with visions as both mystical and unsettling, highlighting the profound impact of environmental degradation on human consciousness. Through Tipu's encounters with these visions, readers are prompted to reflect on the complexities of climate change and the limitations of empirical knowledge in understanding its full scope. Tipu's gift of visions suggests that there is knowledge beyond what is empirically known, which could be crucial in understanding and combating the climate crisis. Ghosh challenges readers to embrace diverse forms of knowledge, including indigenous wisdom and spiritual

insights, in confronting environmental challenges. By depicting Tipu's journey of self-discovery and understanding, Ghosh advocates for a holistic approach to addressing climate change that acknowledges the interconnectedness between human actions and environmental consequences.

Through the narrative technique of magical realism, Ghosh vividly depicts a miraculous bioluminescent event as a convergence of natural phenomena and mystical experience, prompting readers to consider the broader implications of environmental degradation. The portrayal of a miraculous bioluminescent event serves as a central motif in the narrative, symbolizing the unpredictable and interconnected effects of climate change on animal migrations and ecosystems. The bioluminescent event serves as a potent symbol of the unpredictable and interconnected effects of climate change on animal migrations and ecosystems. Ghosh portrays this event as both awe-inspiring and unsettling, highlighting the profound impact of environmental degradation on the natural world. Through the protagonist's observations of the bioluminescent creatures and their migrations, readers are prompted to reflect on the complexities of climate change and the importance of understanding its impacts on biodiversity and ecological balance. The portrayal of the bioluminescent event underscores the importance of understanding the interconnectedness between human actions and environmental consequences. Ghosh challenges readers to consider the broader implications of climate change on animal migrations and ecosystems, urging them to recognize the fragility of the natural world. Through the lens of magical realism, Ghosh prompts readers towards a deeper understanding of the complexities of environmental degradation and the urgent need for collective action.

In the chapter, "Shrine" the author skillfully employs the literary technique of magical realism to blend fantastical elements seamlessly into a narrative that, on the surface, appears to be rooted in reality. Magical realism is characterized by the infusion of magical or extraordinary elements into an otherwise ordinary setting, often treating the magical as an everyday occurrence. The following is a detailed analysis of how the author incorporates magical realism in this chapter:

The terracotta panels on the temple walls serve as a conduit for magical realism. Each panel tells a story that transcends the bounds of reality, recounting

the adventures of the Gun Merchant and Captain Ilyas. The stories depicted on these panels become a magical realist element, blending folklore, myth, and history into the fabric of the narrative. The encounters with pirates, the intervention of Manasa Devi (the goddess of snakes), and the mythical lands like the "Land of Palm Sugar Candy" and the "Land of Kerchieves" introduce supernatural elements seamlessly. These elements are presented matter-of-factly, as if they are ordinary occurrences within the world of the story. The use of symbols like concentric circles and criss-crossing lines on the terracotta panels adds a layer of mystical symbolism. These symbols become conduits to another realm, suggesting a deeper connection to the magical forces at play in the narrative. The author transforms mundane actions into magical events. The examination of the panels becomes a journey through time and legend, blurring the lines between reality and fantasy. The protagonist's experience inside the temple is heightened by the magical stories woven into the terracotta, elevating the ordinary act of exploration into an extraordinary adventure. The sudden appearance of the king cobra inside the temple introduces a moment of magical realism. The snake's menacing presence, the growling sound it emits, and its disappearance after striking Tipu contribute to an atmosphere of supernatural fear. The fact that Rafi mentions a cobra residing inside the temple for years adds an element of wonder and mystique to the setting. Rafi's attempt to suck the venom from Tipu's wound and the belief that once a cobra puts something in you, you can never be rid of it, contribute to the magical realism. These actions are rooted in folk beliefs and traditions, blurring the lines between the rational and the magical. The urgency to get Tipu to medical attention after the snakebite heightens the impact of the magical elements. The real-world consequences of the magical encounter, coupled with the characters' immediate actions, create a seamless integration of magical realism into the narrative. In conclusion, the author adeptly uses magical realism to enhance the storytelling experience, infusing the chapter with a sense of wonder, mystery, and otherworldliness. The fantastical elements seamlessly coexist with the grounded reality, creating a narrative tapestry that captivates readers and invites them to suspend their disbelief.

In the chapter, "Vision" the author masterfully employs magical realism to weave a rich tapestry of mystical elements into an otherwise realistic narrative. The use of magical realism is evident in several aspects of the story:

The introduction of a king cobra biting Tipu serves as a catalyst for the magical elements. The snake, beyond being a mere biological threat, takes on supernatural dimensions. It becomes a symbol of a mystical force sent to protect or harm, as suggested by Rafi's belief that the snake was sent to safeguard them. Tipu's delirium introduces a surreal aspect to the narrative. His visions of shadows, snakes, and an internal fire evoke a dreamlike state, blurring the lines between reality and the mystical. The connection between Tipu and Rafi, seemingly heightened by the exchange of venom, suggests a spiritual or mystical bond. Rafi's character embodies the mystical wisdom of the Sundarbans. His belief that the snake was sent to protect them, coupled with his assurance that he and Tipu share an unspoken familiarity, adds an enchanting layer to the story. Rafi's shamanistic qualities contribute to the magical realism by connecting the characters to the mystical elements of the environment. The mention of Rani and the coinciding alert create a mysterious thread within the narrative. The alert about Rani aligns with Tipu's delirious warnings, suggesting a supernatural connection between their experiences. The unexplained nature of Rani and the alert adds an element of mysticism that transcends the boundaries of the ordinary. The juxtaposition of modern technology, represented by cellphones and alerts, with Rafi's folk wisdom showcases the convergence of the old and the new. Rafi's unexpected familiarity with cellphones challenges conventional expectations, emphasizing the coexistence of ancient beliefs and contemporary tools. Overall, the magical realism in this chapter serves to enrich the narrative, creating an immersive experience where the boundaries between the natural and supernatural are deliberately blurred. The author skillfully integrates mystical elements into the fabric of the story, keeping readers intrigued and inviting them to contemplate the enigmatic nature of the Sundarbans.

CHAPTER 4

COMPARE AND CONTRAST: REALISM AND MAGICAL REALISM IN CLI-FI

Climate fiction, a burgeoning genre grappling with the complex interplay between human actions and environmental consequences, often employs diverse narrative techniques to convey its message. "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghly and "Gun Island" by Amitav Ghosh are two exemplary works within this genre, each employing distinct narrative styles to explore the theme of climate change. While "Migrations" adopts a predominantly realistic approach, "Gun Island" delves into the realm of magical realism. This essay undertakes a comparative analysis of the narrative techniques employed in these two novels, with a specific focus on the realism evident in "Migrations" and the magical realism prevalent in "Gun Island."

"Migrations," authored by Charlotte McConaghly, presents a narrative deeply rooted in realism, both in its portrayal of characters and the depiction of environmental issues. The protagonist, Franny Stone, is portrayed as a complex and flawed individual, grappling with personal demons amidst the backdrop of a rapidly deteriorating natural world. McConaghly employs a stark and unembellished prose style, devoid of fantastical elements, to narrate Franny's journey across oceans and continents in pursuit of the last flock of Arctic terns. Through meticulous attention to detail and vivid descriptions, the author paints a grim yet authentic picture of environmental devastation, grounding the narrative firmly in reality. By focusing on the tangible impacts of climate change on both human and non-human protagonists, "Migrations" serves as a poignant reflection of contemporary environmental challenges.

In contrast, "Gun Island" by Amitav Ghosh adopts a narrative style steeped in magical realism, blurring the boundaries between the natural and supernatural realms. The protagonist, Deen Datta, embarks on a journey that transcends geographical boundaries and temporal constraints, encountering a series of mystical occurrences intertwined with the looming specter of climate change. Ghosh seamlessly integrates elements of folklore, mythology, and mysticism into the narrative fabric, imbuing the story with a sense of wonder and otherworldly intrigue.

From the enigmatic figure of the "man of the forest" to the mystical powers attributed to the Gun Merchant's ancestral statue, the novel abounds with fantastical elements that challenge conventional notions of reality. Yet, amidst this tapestry of magic and myth, Ghosh skillfully weaves a narrative thread that underscores the urgent realities of climate change, offering profound insights into the interconnectedness of human history and ecological crises.

4.1 CAUSES, EFFECTS, AND SOLUTIONS OF CLIMATE CHANGE:

In the larger narrative of the climate change-themed novel, the revelation of crow extinction and the drastic decline in wildlife, as conveyed through the protagonist's conversation with Niall, marks a pivotal moment. This emotionally charged exchange serves as a catalyst, triggering a profound shift in the protagonist's perspective and deepening their understanding of the environmental crisis at hand. The personal grief and concern for loved ones intertwine with the broader ecological devastation, highlighting the interconnectedness of human relationships and the natural world. By addressing the potential extinction of various species and the ominous future projections, the novel emphasizes the urgency of addressing climate change and underscores the profound impact it has on individuals and the collective human experience. In the unfolding narrative within the confines of Limerick Prison, the abrupt disruption of Stone's dreamlike state by Beth signifies a momentous event. The discovery and capture of a lone gray wolf in Alaska, considered extinct, captivate the attention of the imprisoned women and guards alike. The subsequent news bulletin narrates the wolf's plight, having killed livestock due to the disappearance of its natural habitat and food sources. The paradox of awe and concern envelops Stone as she witnesses the wolf's captivity through the television footage. The public outcry against harming the wolf underscores the societal awareness of dwindling wildlife, as she becomes a symbol of the last of her kind. The mention of the Mass Extinction Reserve in Edinburgh adds a layer of global significance to the narrative, emphasizing the urgency to protect and preserve the remaining natural world. The final reminder about waiting lists for forest visits serves as a somber reflection on the impending loss of these vital ecosystems, echoing the broader themes of environmental degradation and the interconnected fate of humanity and the planet. The contemplation on whether the wolf should have been left in the wild raises

poignant questions about the ethical treatment of animals, hinting at the broader discourse on human responsibility towards the Earth's inhabitants. Both novels grapple with the ethical implications of climate change and offer insights into potential solutions. In "Migrations," Franny's journey becomes a metaphor for resilience and adaptation in the face of environmental crisis, highlighting the importance of individual agency and collective action. Similarly, "Gun Island" emphasizes the need for a holistic understanding of humanity's relationship with the natural world, suggesting that solutions to climate change must encompass spiritual and cultural dimensions alongside scientific approaches.

4.2 READER'S EMOTION:

This section explores how both novels elicit a range of emotions in readers, including despair, sorrow, hope, and resilience. It discusses the visceral response evoked by the realistic portrayal of environmental devastation in "Migrations" and the sense of wonder inspired by the magical elements in "Gun Island." Both "Migrations" and "Gun Island" are masterpieces that intricately weave emotions into their narratives, albeit through different means.

In "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghy, the portrayal of environmental devastation is starkly realistic, eliciting profound emotions from readers. The visceral response to the depiction of ecological destruction taps into a collective despair and sorrow, as readers confront the harsh realities of humanity's impact on the natural world. McConaghy's vivid descriptions of vanishing wildlife, polluted landscapes, and the looming threat of extinction evoke a sense of grief and helplessness. Yet, amidst this despair, there is also a glimmer of hope and resilience. Through the protagonist's journey of seeking redemption and solace in the midst of chaos, readers are reminded of the strength of the human spirit and the possibility of renewal. The emotional rollercoaster of despair, sorrow, hope, and resilience in "Migrations" leaves a lasting impression on readers, igniting a call to action to protect and preserve our planet.

On the other hand, "Gun Island" by Amitav Ghosh infuses its narrative with magical elements that evoke a sense of wonder and awe. Set against the backdrop of environmental change and cultural displacement, Ghosh skillfully interweaves mythology, folklore, and mysticism into the story. The mystical occurrences and

supernatural encounters captivate readers, transporting them to a realm where the boundaries between reality and fantasy blur. The sense of wonder inspired by these magical elements serves as a counterbalance to the weight of the novel's themes, offering moments of respite and enchantment. Through the protagonist's journey across continents and centuries, readers are invited to explore the interconnectedness of human experience and the enduring power of storytelling. The juxtaposition of the fantastical and the real in "Gun Island" creates a rich tapestry of emotions, ranging from curiosity and fascination to contemplation and introspection.

In conclusion, both "Migrations" and "Gun Island" elicit a range of emotions in readers through their distinct approaches to storytelling. While "Migrations" evokes despair, sorrow, hope, and resilience through its realistic portrayal of environmental devastation, "Gun Island" inspires wonder and awe through its magical elements. Together, these novels offer a poignant exploration of humanity's relationship with the natural world and the enduring capacity for hope and wonder in the face of adversity.

4.3 READER'S EMPATHY:

Through their compelling characters and vivid settings, this subsection examines how "Migrations" and "Gun Island" foster empathy towards those affected by climate change. It discusses the novels' portrayal of environmental refugees, marginalized communities, and non-human species, encouraging readers to empathize with the interconnectedness of human experiences. "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghy and "Gun Island" by Amitav Ghosh both serve as poignant narratives that foster empathy towards those affected by climate change, emphasizing the interconnectedness of human experiences with the natural world.

In "Migrations," McConaghy skillfully portrays environmental refugees, marginalized communities, and non-human species, inviting readers to empathize with their struggles. The protagonist, Franny Stone, embodies the plight of environmental refugees as she embarks on a journey to track the final migration of Arctic terns. Through Franny's experiences, readers witness the desperation and displacement faced by communities whose livelihoods are threatened by ecological

collapse. McConaghy humanizes these characters, allowing readers to empathize with their resilience and determination in the face of adversity. Additionally, the novel sheds light on the interconnectedness of human and non-human experiences, emphasizing the profound impact of environmental degradation on wildlife and ecosystems. By immersing readers in the lives of both human and non-human characters, "Migrations" fosters a deeper understanding of the intricate web of life and the shared vulnerabilities faced by all beings in the wake of climate change.

Similarly, "Gun Island" explores the interconnectedness of human experiences through the lens of climate change and cultural displacement. Ghosh's narrative follows the journey of Deen, an Indian-American protagonist who becomes entangled in a web of myth, history, and environmental activism. Through Deen's encounters with marginalized communities and non-human species, readers are confronted with the realities of climate-induced migration and environmental degradation. Ghosh deftly intertwines the personal struggles of his characters with larger socio-political and ecological issues, encouraging readers to empathize with the interconnected fates of humans and the natural world. By highlighting the vulnerabilities and resilience of both human and non-human protagonists, "Gun Island" fosters a sense of empathy and solidarity towards those affected by climate change.

In conclusion, both "Migrations" and "Gun Island" offer compelling narratives that encourage readers to empathize with the diverse experiences of individuals and species impacted by climate change. Through their portrayal of environmental refugees, marginalized communities, and non-human protagonists, these novels emphasize the interconnectedness of human and non-human life and the urgent need for collective action to address the challenges of environmental degradation. By fostering empathy towards those affected by climate change, "Migrations" and "Gun Island" inspire readers to recognize their shared responsibility in safeguarding the planet for future generations.

4.4 READER'S ACTION:

The final subsection explores how both novels motivate readers to take action in combating climate change. It discusses the empowerment of readers to make a difference through individual lifestyle changes, activism, and advocacy, as

well as the role of storytelling in sparking conversations and fostering a sense of responsibility.

Both "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghy and "Gun Island" by Amitav Ghosh serve as powerful catalysts for motivating readers to take action in combating climate change. Through their compelling narratives, these novels empower readers to make a difference through individual lifestyle changes, activism, and advocacy, while also highlighting the crucial role of storytelling in sparking conversations and fostering a sense of responsibility.

In "Migrations," McConaghy's vivid portrayal of environmental devastation and the human and non-human characters affected by it compels readers to confront the urgent realities of climate change. The novel's exploration of individual agency and resilience encourages readers to consider how their own actions can contribute to positive change. By witnessing Franny Stone's journey of redemption and her commitment to protecting the natural world, readers are inspired to reflect on their own lifestyles and choices. McConaghy effectively demonstrates that even small changes in behavior can have a meaningful impact in mitigating environmental harm. Through Franny's story, readers are empowered to engage in sustainable practices, such as reducing their carbon footprint, supporting conservation efforts, and advocating for environmental policies.

Similarly, "Gun Island" by Amitav Ghosh utilizes storytelling as a powerful tool for motivating readers to take action against climate change. Through the intertwining narratives of myth, history, and contemporary environmental issues, Ghosh raises awareness about the interconnectedness of human activities and ecological consequences. The novel's exploration of cultural heritage and environmental activism inspires readers to recognize the importance of preserving both natural and cultural diversity. By highlighting the agency of his characters in confronting environmental challenges, Ghosh encourages readers to become active participants in the fight against climate change. Whether through grassroots activism, community organizing, or political advocacy, readers are empowered to make a difference in their own communities and beyond. Through his narratives, he encourages readers to confront the urgent realities of climate change and consider the ethical responsibilities associated with environmental stewardship. Ghosh's

advocacy for environmental consciousness extends beyond the pages of his novels, aligning with a broader commitment to fostering awareness and inspiring collective action.

Moreover, both novels emphasize the role of storytelling in sparking conversations and fostering a sense of responsibility towards the environment. Through their evocative prose and compelling characters, McConaghy and Ghosh engage readers in critical reflections on humanity's relationship with the natural world. By confronting the harsh realities of climate change and envisioning alternative futures, these novels inspire readers to consider their own roles in shaping a more sustainable and equitable world. Through dialogue and collective action, readers are encouraged to confront the challenges of climate change with empathy, resilience, and determination.

In conclusion, "Migrations" and "Gun Island" serve as powerful calls to action in combating climate change, empowering readers to make a difference through individual lifestyle changes, activism, and advocacy. By harnessing the power of storytelling, these novels spark conversations, foster empathy, and cultivate a sense of responsibility towards the environment. Through their poignant narratives, McConaghy and Ghosh inspire readers to confront the urgent realities of climate change with courage, creativity, and solidarity.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, "Migrations" by Charlotte McConaghy and "Gun Island" by Amitav Ghosh stand as powerful literary catalysts in the urgent global call to combat climate change. Through their compelling narratives, these novels not only evoke a wide range of emotions but also foster empathy towards those affected by environmental degradation. By vividly portraying the devastating consequences of climate change on both human and non-human characters, these stories compel readers to confront the harsh realities of our planet's plight.

Moreover, both McConaghy and Ghosh skillfully empower readers to take action through individual lifestyle changes, activism, and advocacy. They highlight the transformative potential of storytelling in sparking conversations and cultivating a sense of responsibility towards the environment. From Franny Stone's journey of redemption in "Migrations" to Deen's exploration of myth and environmental activism in "Gun Island," readers are inspired to recognize their own agency in shaping a more sustainable future.

Furthermore, these novels emphasize the interconnectedness of human experiences with the natural world, urging readers to confront climate change with empathy, resilience, and determination. By encouraging dialogue and collective action, "Migrations" and "Gun Island" pave the way for a more sustainable and equitable world.

In essence, through their poignant narratives and powerful messages, "Migrations" and "Gun Island" inspire readers to confront the urgent realities of climate change with courage, creativity, and solidarity. Together, they remind us of our shared responsibility to safeguard the planet for future generations and ignite hope for a brighter, more sustainable future.

You have identified the main themes and issues that the two novels address, such as climate change, migration, and the human-non-human relationship. However, you could also analyze how the two novels differ or agree on these issues, and what implications they have for the readers and the society. For example, you

could say something like: “While *Migrations* presents a bleak and pessimistic view of the future, where climate change is irreversible and human civilization is doomed, *Gun Island* offers a more hopeful and optimistic vision, where climate change is a catalyst for positive change and human solidarity. Ghosh suggests that the climate crisis can be overcome by reconnecting with the ancient myths and legends, and by embracing the diversity and interdependence of the human and non-human world. For example, he writes: ‘The world is not ending, it is changing. And we too must change with it, as the Gun Merchant did, long ago’ (Ghosh 287).

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