

ECOSOPHICAL ENTANGLEMENTS: READING ZIA GURCHANI'S 'OF LOVERS AND LIARS' THROUGH ARNE NAESS AND FELIX GUATTARI

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Introduction

Ecolinguistics is an interdisciplinary field that studies ecology and language together (Chen, 2016). According to Stibbe (2014) ecolinguistics analyses stories by judging them through philosophical perspective (p.101). According to Naess & Drengson (2008) ecosophy rejects the separation between man and nature as proposed cartesian dualism and focuses on technical solutions oriented with ethical reflections on anthropocentrism (p.66). The present study examines ecolinguistics, a relatively new field of CDA. Although ecolinguistics frequently employs the normative framework of CDA which deals with broader ecological systems. CDA promotes change by igniting what Stewart (1999) refers to as social reforms." According to Fairclough (2001) CDA focuses on revealing stereotypes of the dominant discourses of unequal power relations and inequalities (p. 71). Eco-linguistics deals with the same tenet and encourages the sustainability of natural world. The broader vision of eco-linguistics takes into account the impact on non-human and human entities.

The present study focuses on the short story 'Of lovers and liars' by Zia Gorchani in terms of the ecosophical analysis. The ecosophical analysis is more than just an ecology philosophy, it is a way of thinking about the destruction of nature and human relationships in modern society. Philosophy recognizes the individuality of reality and suggests the holistic environmental perspective. It deals with the solution of environmental issues. The study deals with the ecophilosophy of Naess (1996) and Guattari (2009). This study focuses on the analysis of the linguistic mechanism to explore the ecosophical notions of Naess & Guattari in the short story 'Lovers and Liars' by Zia Gorchani. In this regard, according to the 2003 paper by Mühlhauusler, grammatical constructions have evolved in the recent past which may have encouraged linguistic habits which contribute to the current environmental crisis (p.91). Goatly (2001) goes further, arguing that ordinary language and in particular the transitive clause is not adequate for the representation of the world required by environmental theory, and disagrees with Halliday that the problem is nominalization, and instead criticizes the way in which the clauses are structured (p.203). Generally speaking, the CDA of ecolinguistics promises a sophisticated analysis of the language mechanisms that construct, reproduce, disseminate, and resist worldviews, while the Eco-framework promises a sophisticated ecological framework to consider the role of these worldviews in maintaining or degrading the conditions that sustain life.

Review of Literature

The relationship between language and the ecological system is clear, because language is linked to the world as it is created and shaped by the world (Muhlhausler, 2003). Fill and Muhlhausler (2001) stress that linguistics and ecology are two interdependent phenomena. Language systems influence user behavior when managing the environment. Changes in the natural environment, social environment and cultural context influence language use from lexicon to grammar. According to Stibbe (2014), ecolinguistics consists of three strands: structural linguistics, sociolinguistics and critical linguistics. Sapir (1912) explores the relationship between language and environment. Einar

Haugen, defines ecolinguistics as a study of inter-relationship between language and the environment. Haugen supports the intrinsic value of nature. Nash (2013) explores the relationship among human actors and their natural surroundings.

Pupavac (2012) explores the connection between identity and linguistic diversity and loss of biodiversity. The eco philosophy of Habermas (2012) considers universe as a unit in terms of diversity. For Hessen (1987) eco-Philosophy is related to the totality of objects. According to Boff (2004) environmental crisis consists of is the determining factor of our connection with nature. Dodsworth (2012) takes ecosophy as a combining factor of biological, mental, social and spiritual aspects. Guatteri(2009) proceeds with the Naess concept of ecosophy. He favors the social, cognitive and ecological aspects of environmental phenomenon. Maffesoli (2010) considers the eco-philosophy of human beings as the root cause of the environmental issues.

Research design

This study employs qualitative approach to conduct the research. The present study focused on the linguistic and ecosophical patterns of the short story 'Of lovers and liars' by Zia Gorchani. The study selected the ecosophical framework of Naess(1996) and Guattari (2009) for analyzing the linguistic and ideological patterns in the short story.

Research Question

- How does the ecosophical approach proposed by Naess (1996) and Guattari (2009) help to analyze the linguistic patterns of the short story 'Of lovers and liars' by Zia Gorchani?
- How does the underlying ecosophical patterns in the short story 'Of lovers and liars' construe a specific ideology of valued living?

Theoretical Framework

This study uses Naess(1996) and Guattari's (2009) framework of Ecosophy. This framework provides an understanding of the deep ecology as a statement of values and assumptions. Theoretical framework of ecosophy, therefore, provides an analytical lens for the study.

Analysis

The short story of lovers and liars revolves around the main character of 'Raisa' who is self-admirer, narcissist and self-centered character. As shown in the opening paragraph of short story.

Raisa a smoker,(openly), guzzled alcohol,(secretly), and was rumoured,(wickedly) to be a nymphomaniac. Amusing herself with lovers, emotionally secure and affluent. To be forced into hard labour to satiate her sexual appetites (para,1)

Marriages ended when Raisa crowded them. Bored with the repetitive predictability of marriage, she flaunted her affairs (para,1)

Raisa's such attitude later proved by the tragic incidents in the short story as a spoiled future of generations.

Raisa's shriek rose from her guts and followed the infant's scream into the night. The



bullet pierced Alman's skull, drilled a straight hole through it. Blood spurted all around. A head with a gaping hole lolled in her lap(para 2)

The short story promotes alternative structure of the world, based on diversity and decentralization. It refers to our unsustainable civilization due to the fake notion of modernization i.e broken families, hypocrisy in form of extra-marital affairs, corruption in the police department which became a root cause of ecological destruction and social injustice.

Plying them with gifts and gold trinkets, was not her style. She amassed. Louis Vuitton luggage, Jewellery. Round trip tickets to Europe (para.1)

The grapevine buzzed with stories, of her discovery of sex. And Men (para,1).

"Mummy please.. Faiz misses you so much. you so much. He cried every night while you were abroad."(para,14)

I miss you all. I really do. But going with your father is out of question."(para,14)

Society was dangerous, she knew. Hazardous territory. Murderers, paroled or released on innocent victims sent to the gallows(para,61)

It provokes a reader to think upon these highlighted issues stated in the short story and find new stories that work better in the conditions of the world. The given story is not a traditional narrative rather it conveys a particular worldview from the perspective of Raeesa and internal focalizer Zara.

Look at her. Such a... tramp! Zara's hiss was poison coated.

Zara criticized Raisa's attractiveness.

"She goes to magicians with like-minded friends."

Zara thrived on revealing the vicious side of her sister to those who didn't know(para 2).

Feature of nominalization has been employed skillfully to uncover the underlying themes of the story in which all the characters seek to sought fake means of pursuing pleasure for themselves but in the end their escapism made them more tragic.

She's a witch, a voodoo woman." People said there was an element of truth in Zara's claims, dubious activities did go on in Raisa Begum's boudoir(para, 2)

Agents and affected participants are also holding the opposite notion of ecosophical concerns as evident in the short story.

Agent	Affected Participants
<p>She told him to leave her alone. To rest and think.</p> <p>Her husband wasted no time and sank into depression</p>	<p>The children moved from one aunt's house to another's. Raisa hibernated.</p> <p>Restless and frustrated, they fought amongst themselves, dropped out of school one by one.</p>

This study stresses the significance of linguistic techniques to construct a worldview are constructed.

Raza, her oldest son was seventeen. Drugs and drinking was his rebellion. It only sent him flying into unwarranted rages, got him into fights, frequently. Isolation crept up on him like a stealthy thief. he Slept at friends' houses, stopped visiting his grand-parents, closed himself to his father (para, 13)

The element of biodiversity can also be analyzed in terms of the violation of cultural values and referring to the animals as having inferior or abusive status.

She whinnied like a horse at her husband's slightest provocation, nicknamed him "tat-assed bulldog", reduced him to a mere baby-sitter(para, 4)

Even her boyfriends are gaga, follow her like a puppy. She's a witch, a voodoo woman."(para 4)

The short story reveals such conversational patterns which show characters behave in ways that are ecologically destructive.

Raza, do you think I went to Europe, qualified as a designer, just to move out of a big city to a small town and ruin my career?(para,17)

This is where the money is. I need to establish myself here. If your father thinks he can bully me, he's mistaken. Tm not throwing you out, he's taking you. What can I do? I have a life to live. You are grown up enough to understand that." She sipped from the cup(para 18).

The story also reveals how various characters in the story embodies a particular eco-philosophy.

Raisa Begum's business picked up. Rapidly. Faking the warmth, advertising it with her effervescent personality. Businessmen fell at her feet like dead flies. Others heard about her through others. Her phone rang incessantly. She rented an office, hired a secretary(para 20)

The study focuses on linguistic patterns which contributes to the eco-philosophy of the story.

Mummy you are going with us. "Raza tried looking indifferent but his voice cracked with pain.

"Tt's the same thing." Raisa pulled out another cigarette and waved it in the air(para 13)

The desire of the unlimited economic growth even on the expense of relations is evident in the story it seems as the only desirable goal for human society is to earn money.

Armed with swatches of carpets and curtains, catalogs, colour combinations and measuring tape she was either on the phone with Bulent Ecivek or met him personally or joined him for a working lunch (para 30)

The deterioration of the ethical framework is foregrounded in the story as a major cause for the characters to live in their present and to ignore the future of their generations.

Bulent soon became her lover.(para 11)

*Who crossed the line of professional dealing and when? No one knew.
Bulent, it turned out was not single after all.
Married with two children. Enjoying adultery just as much as Raisa."*

The short story contains destructive discourse as evident in the given lines.

Raisa spent less and less time in office and more and more time with her client. She showed up at her parents' home and introduced Bulent with frightening simplicity. Her family had a knack for not reacting to her bizarre activities. They pretended not to know. Bulent, like his predecessors became a frequent visitor(para 18)

The analysis is aimed to raise the awareness of the role of language in portraying hypocrisy so that it can pave a way towards social change by raising equality, justice and rights.

The men, oh the boring men, on her native country, so mediocre, so mundane in thought and speech, so myopic in vision. Such sadists. Such retards. In cozy moments with Bulent, she poked fun at them(para 19)

The story depicts the unequal relations of power' ultimately leading towards an ecological destruction and requires a change in ecosohical perspective.

*Raza, calling from a friend's house, sounded in pain.
Mummy, why don't you come home?" he couldn't hide the despair in his voice(para 20)*

The end of the story shows the dilemma of 'Struggling for freedom' through the character of Raesa and her son Raza. The analysis of the story highlights the aspects of dominance and inequality.

She didn't like to be reminded of responsibilities at such a moment. It was annoying, disturbed her conscience. She argued with him, said things she regretted later. For Raza's every plea she had a ready retort. "Daddy isn't well," she dismissed by suggesting a doctor.

"Sometimes I wonder why do women with values and scruples suffer the most, but tramps get nothing but the best in life?"

Raisa got bored with routines or found a potential lover or simply went back to live with her parents, without explanations (para 22).

These sufferings are not confined to the present but inflict their future as well.

She, the witch ... the vampire ... abused me, violated me."

A dark secret lay dead and the coffin of her adolescence. Her husband hid a molestation in his youth. God knows what dirty secrets others hide in their souls. She smiled to herself.

The analysis depicts the core idea of where societies should be heading for the wellbeing of upcoming generations, because the way of life which has been shown in the story is unacceptable and must be resisted. The ecosophy of now and the future can also bring a 'culture of peace and tolerance' which is absent in the given short story due to the violation of ecosophical norms but existence of it can lead towards an ideal society.

Raisa asked for a divorce. It brought her frantic parents and in-laws rushing to counsel her. Privately, her husband begged her to save the marriage from a shameful end.

The short story revealed the disastrous impact of ever advancing technology on the social lives of human beings. There should be a balance between economic growth and environmental protection,

Letting out heart wrenching cries she arrived in the jail, wailing, trembling, begging to see her son. This was a Raisa no one had seen

Social hierarchies are also working as central theme resulting into ecological destruction.

Raisa, chameleon-like, changed colours fast, according to circumstances. Renting a flat, resuming her interior designing, she protected and provided for Alman, turning him into a devoted slave. (para 72)

Intrinsic value is the core-idea of story as given in the following lines.

As Raisa settled into marriage, Raza sank deeper into depression, sucked into an abyss. His fits of rage returned with greater force. He went back to the dens of fiends who provided alcohol and drugs, but didn't ask questions.

The given short story construct a discourse which is in active opposition to the ecosophy and can be judged as, ecologically destructive discourse. The story highlights certain psychological issues which leads towards ecological disaster.

An anger persisted within him, even in a drunken state. He hated Everyone and Everything. Most times he hated himself, loathed his family, abhorred his father, puked at the mention of his mother. He wanted to bomb the world. one easy smooth drop. Whoosh. A thick gray-black cloud of smoke, rising from the earth, wiping off all ugliness, monstrosity, perversity we call humanity. He promised someday he would do it, if he could find the bomb that would ensure the Ultimate Erasure (para 51).

The analysis suggests equitable distribution of resources which is essential for ecological harmony.

Findings and Conclusion

Language is not static as it evolves over time in response to specific circumstances and situations, allowing for linguistic diversity. The first research question was about the narrative of the short story 'Of lovers and liars' by Zia gorchani regarding the patterns suggested by Naess(1996) and Guattari (2009). It has been proven that the above discourse shows the disastrous impacts on the lives of the characters due to the violation of the ecosophical patterns. Raesa, one of the main characters in the story violated social, ethical and ecological norms which led to a disaster not only in her own life but as the circumstances of the murder of the Almas(her second husband) by his son(Raza) for the future generation as well.

The second question is about the ideology to reinforce the ecosophical notions through

the short story 'Of lovers and liars'.

An analysis of the data in this story has revealed new insights into how language shapes society. For instance, through the sentiments of love, hate and murder it formulates the patterns of erasure which employed as a tool to explore the complex psychology of the human beings. The analysis also revealed how ecological identities are forged in language. In sum, ecosophical analysis offers an expanded range of important questions for a more comprehensive and explicit philosophical framework for judging discourses.

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