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Depiction of nature in the novels of James Fenimore Cooper

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Abstract

It was the true essence to adhere to the rights over all living arrangements in the literature that was discovered in the 1970s in William Rueckert's writings that were considered to be the advent of the novel criticism in publications between, which brought about the endeavours to trace the fighting spirit even in works of literature. This was discovered in the writings of William Rueckert, which was considered to be the advent of novel criticism in publications of between. The emergence of this new school of literary criticism led to an increase in research aimed at identifying the ethos of individual works of literature. According to the claims made by Peter Barry, the idea of showing reverence for one's natural surroundings may be traced back to works that were written after the 1840s and that were authored by American existentialists such as Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, and Margareth Fuller.

Keywords: Eco-criticism, James Fenimore Cooper, the Leatherstocking tales, living environment, sustainable life

Introduction

The reader's understanding of a literary work is influenced not only by the author's words but also by the text itself and the time and place in which they were written (Glotfelty and Fromm, 1996, p. xix). The idea of the globe, which was the incentive for Cooper should begin attending to environmental concerns, contains indications of ecological themes mentioned in James Fenimore Cooper's *The Leatherstocking Tales*. These environmental topics are intrinsically related to the notion of the globe. The practice of conducting an in-depth analysis of a written work concerning its handling of the environment is called eco-criticism, and the name eco-criticism refers to a way. The concept of the globe, where most people understand to relate to the personal circle, is interpreted differently from the point of view of environmental radicals, who see the world as an all-encompassing ecosphere that embraces a far larger spectrum of phenomena than the social sphere does (Glotfelty and Fromm, 1996, p. xix). It is possible to interpret *The Leatherstocking Tales* as the product of the ecosphere, acting as a source of collective inspiration. When Cooper was concluding his work, the mindset around him was one of exploitation, and their objective was to dominate the American lowlands so that they could manage all that took place. These activities were publicised in the early twentieth century from a specific viewpoint concerning the ongoing climatic calamity that affects the whole planet. This underlines Cooper's position and qualities in attempting to elevate the reputation of American literature, as this is the major subject of discussion throughout this book. The environmental protection principles included in these works were created from a perspective that was related to the present ecological problem that is occurring all over the globe.

These works are generally considered to be the ones that presented the notion for the first time. James Fenimore Cooper came to have a considerable reputation in the annals of American literary history due to his vital role in defining American literature's importance. *The Leatherstocking Tales* was one of his writings that most successfully adapted American themes, and it probably attracted the attention of readers in Europe. Among his other works. The core struggle of the piece is represented by the immigrants' ambition to assert their domination over the native species of flora, fauna, and people.

In contrast, the local people have had a very different experience. He shows that courtesy, respect, discernment, and fairness are essential components in preserving natural resources, which is the primary concern of eco-criticism. Because of this, the texts that sparked the activities of the ancient thinkers situate oneself as the genesis of eco-criticism in the United States.

Issues on Environmental Conservation In *The Pathfinder* (1840)

The book *The Pathfinder* is the third volume in a series that chronicles Natty Bumppo's adventures as he advances. The fight centres on France and the indigenous peoples of North America, and Ontario Lake serves as the scene for the action. This story is further coloured mostly because these Indians with an impressionable nature or acted up paid money to conceal themselves from the character of just being decent people. This adds another layer of complexity to the story. There is no visible change in the protagonist's viewpoint or attitude concerning nature and the world as a consequence of the revelation of Natty's actual identity in *The Deerslayer*. [T]he story's climactic event. In a similar spirit, the framework of the tale is not significantly unlike the structure of *The Deerslayer*, which comprises assault, persecution, terrible violence, civility, and romance. In other words, the narrative follows a similar pattern.

The idea of protecting the environment is explored in this piece of work through the character of Natty, who has a deep affection for the breathtaking aspects of God's creation and a strong desire for a society that is well-mannered, considerate, and appreciative of the many gifts that God has bestowed upon humanity. Natty's passion for an organisation is mostly motivated by this love. The key subject addressed in the novel is the sense of mutual respect and being careful. This concept is mostly conveyed via the primary mode of transportation, the interaction that develops with Mabel Dunham, Jasper Western, Pathfinder, and David Muir.

At some time in the future, it is quite likely that a man will have exclusive ownership of a woman all to himself. The opinions of these three guys towards Mabel Dunham are positive. There are three alternative ways in which each of the three males looking for Mabel Dunham might react to the current predicament. When Jasper Western tells *The Pathfinder* he possesses the ability, honesty, and fortitude to have Mabel Dunham, he emphasises that he has recently demonstrated these virtues to others, including *The Pathfinder*. Jasper Western states that he has previously proven these virtues to everybody else, including *The Pathfinder*.

On the other hand, David Muir is attempting to exercise his authority over the current predicament. As Pathfinder is presented with this problem, he consciously decides to refrain from imposing his will on the situation when he listens to Jasper's confessions. Jasper Western is not just an exceptional runner but also over hills in love with Mabel Dunham. The use of coercion, on the other hand, should be avoided at all costs since it contributes to environmental damage. A person is exhibiting a coercive posture when they make it their goal to fulfil the desire to have everything they want, even fauna and flora, sans paying any regard to the situation as it exists and without having empathy that they are willing to provide. Consequently, there is the risk of collisions, which may end in complete destruction.

In *The Last of the Mohicans* (1826)

The border region of the state of New York in 1757 is the foundation for this poem. The war between France and Britain is the backdrop for the primary action in the story. The Native Americans are ultimately divided into two factions due to this struggle. This chapter refers to the fact that members of the Huron tribe, including one of its

warriors named Magua or Le Renard Subtil, are easily accessible. Natty Bumppo is represented as an ally of the American clan in this book of literature. He is given the name Hawkeye or La Longue Carabine and called to either of these. Since Hawkeye has lived pretty much the entire life as a member of this tribe, it is safe to say that the tribe has gained the distinction of being a reputable tribe.

The "environmental devastation in this work, which sets it apart from the other works in *The Leatherstocking Tales*, is the decimation by one of the Indian tribes, the Mohicans, as a result of the deaths of basic needs such as food or Le Cerf Agile, the child of Chingachgook, who is also identified as Le Gros Serpent. This environmental devastation sets this work apart from the other works in *The Leatherstocking Tales*. This aspect distinguishes this particular piece of literature from the other works that are included in *The Leatherstocking Tales*. This tribe is considered to be one of the most respectable ones among the Delaware. One of the aspects that was created in this work is related to the disputes that occurred between the Indians, the French, and the British, as well as the conflicts that occurred between blacks and Indians. The perspectives of Chingachgook, who is the only member of the Mohican ethnic group to survive because when incomers arrive, that how new immigrants treat the others as the very first dwellers in the different era, and Chingachgook's subsequent depression as a consequence of the eradication of his people are also a component of the story.

The tension in this work of literature is provided by the struggle for domination that takes place between France and England. Because of the disagreements with the Native Americans, there has been bloodshed all over the place because of the large killings that have taken place on several occasions. In this work of writing, the eradication of the Mohican people serves as an example of how the greed of human beings can lead to the destruction and extinction of other human beings. This idea is presented in the context of the Mohican people's experience. In this book, there is no presumption made in favour of any one of the races, with the exception of those races that either fight against the widespread evil or ignore the requirements of the natural universe. When Chingachgook, *The Last of the Mohicans*, is faced with the piercing screams that are heard after his son is slaughtered on the battlefield, the only place where the success in a power struggle is reflected in this work is in the heart of Chingachgook. Chingachgook is confident in his ability to maintain his dignity and respect since he thinks that he has accomplished a lot of valuable work in the right way.

There are three different sorts of elements that may be discovered among the warring factions. These include the invader, the intruder, and the two battling groups that trespass each other. The fact that Chingachgook is content on the inside despite the precarious circumstances he and his comrades find themselves in is a warning flag. It sends a message that the United States does not care about noble people such as the Mohicans are going extinct when the United States does nothing to stop the Mohicans from being extinct from becoming extinct. Therefore, the environment that has been destroyed in this poem is the one that consists of the social and religious community. Therefore, the notion of environmental stewardship as taught in this book is to put an end to the degradation of the environment with the intention of doing good without seizing the things of others

in the same way that the Mohicans went about their daily lives".

In The Pioneers (1823)

This specific article, which is the first of five works produced by Cooper and comprised of *The Leatherstocking Tales*, was authored by Cooper. *The Leatherstocking Tales* The events of the novel took place in Cooperstown and the area around Otsego Lake between the years 1793 and 1794. This is in the frontier region that is located by the River. One word to characterise the setting would be frontier. In this particular series, the character of Natty Bumppo is known as Leather sock, and he is seventy-one years old. This piece of literature explores not only the history of the United States but also the morality that prevailed throughout that historical period. The primary disagreements that have been built into this task are differences in worldview and outlook on the world that occur between Natty Bumppo or Leather stocking and the vibrant rural communities of Templeton, which thus live from the reduction of trees, cultivation, and livestock farming. These differences in worldview and outlook on the world have been built into this task. Arnold Bumppo and Leather stocking are two very different things.

The cutting down of trees, which is one of the factors that leads to the destruction of the environment caused by this labour, is done not only out of a feeling of pride and power but also with the purpose of collecting as much wealth as is humanly feasible. Two of the other natural characteristics that have been impacted are the many fish that can be found throughout the lake and the innumerable birds that fly through the skies above Templeton, both of which serve as a resource for the inhabitants of Templeton to get pleasure from.

Because they are able to get their sustenance from the atmosphere, such as fish, birds, and deer meat, the inhabitants of Templeton experience the positive effects of the ecosystem that surrounds them throughout this activity. Leather stocking makes their life off of the land and the community around them. The manner of life, or lifestyle, that people in Leather stocking and Templeton lead is one of the most obvious ways to tell the two groups apart. In terms of living arrangements, Judge Temple has a large structure in the middle of the forest that is stocked with very high-end furniture and equipment for the home, while Leather stocking lives in a very modest shack in the same area. This disparity may be understood by referring to the words that was said to Judge Temple: *Put an in, Judge, to your clearings... Use, but do not squander. Use, but do not waste* (*The Pioneers*, 1823, p. 250).

This expression in no way implies that people are prevented from cutting down trees. This suggests that Leatherstocking is living a modest lifestyle and is not indulging in behaviours that are harmful to the environment. He desires a life in which he is free to get what he needs whenever he wants to, and he wants to live that way. As a result of this comment, we are able to draw the conclusion that the fact that he lives in a hut is adequate to shield him from the storm and the heat. Construction calls for a substantial financial outlay in addition to the use of a considerable quantity of available natural resources. The behaviour of Billy Kirby, who wants to show that he is the greatest and cannot be defeated, is the cause of Natty Bumppo's irritation, and it is simple to understand why. Billy Kirby

wants to demonstrate that he is the best and cannot be beaten by chopping down every tree on the hill. Leather stocking only needs a little bird for exquisite meals during the celebrations of holy days like Thanksgiving, but Judge Temple and his employees are required to slaughter five deer in order to meet the requirements. Leather stocking only needs a little bird for exquisite meals during the celebrations of holy days like Thanksgiving. In addition to demonstrating acceptable behaviour, this effort also demonstrates the moral need to help individuals who are in a precarious situation. Because of a leather stocking, Elizabeth, the Judge Temple's daughter, was saved from both the tigers who attacked her and the fire that ensued. It is not acceptable for him to cite his disdain of Judge Temple as a justification for avoiding aiding Elizabeth.

The key thesis that underpins Leather Stocking's outlook on the natural world is that it is the natural world that creates the circumstances that are necessary for the continuation of life. In the midst of an argument with Judge Temple on the felling of trees and the destruction of the forests, he posed the following question: Weren't the woods supposed to be homes for the beasts and the birds? Were not the wild animals and birds supposed to find refuge in the woods? And when mankind desired for their flesh, their skin, or their feathers, there was a location for them to seek them out. *The Pioneers*, published in 1823, page 250.

Love is the only thing that will save a little bird that doesn't assume anything to the possible relation farming villages, like what Lace stocking is doing when experiencing intimate towards such a bird that had been lying in agony, so loving the environment is a nice way that has to be adhered to in order to maintain the validity of the environment. It is a beneficial location that calls for effort to be put in so as to preserve the viability of anything like the environment (*The Pioneers*, 1823, page 250).

Leather stocking is unable to bear the idea of letting the bird to die as a direct result of the shooting operations that are being carried out by the communities of Templeton. This happens when Leather Stocking has compassion in his heart, such as when he links the little birds to people or to himself if he says that all they need are languages to convey their thoughts and feelings. One example of this is when Leather Stocking says that the little birds need only languages to do so. Another illustration of this is when he said that the giant birds could fly with nothing but their wings. In light of all of these circumstances, Leather Stocking was under the impression that he was in a same state of wounded, very near to dying death, and utter desperation as the bird. The power of people cannot be equaled by the might of birds; as a result, it is vital to safeguard both the flora and fauna of the earth, as evidenced by the perspective expressed in *The Leather Stocking*.

Conclusion

In American literature, Cooper's character has been judged according to how well he upholds his commitments to the natural surroundings, the state and the country, mankind, and life itself. The work has been elevated to the status of a monumental work for example as a result of the ideologies of environmental protection contained within Cooper's work *The Leather Stocking Tales*, which are relevant to contemporary environmental concerns. This has resulted from the attributes or the global environment generated by Cooper, which are universal and cannot be altered by the

passage of time. Consequently, eco-criticism that develops during the time of postmodernism may still make reference to the work that Cooper did.

Although they are sometimes referred to as *The Pioneers* of eco-criticism in the United States, Thoreau, Emerson, and Margaret Fuller arrived to the United States after Cooper. Cooper also arrived before other American writers who wrote about nature, such as Hawthorne, Melville, and Whitman. Cooper is credited as being the first author to write on the natural world. Cooper would therefore be considered an American environmentalist among the likes of Thoreau, Muir, Roosevelt, and Pinchot if this were the case.

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