

## The Emprises of Gaia Hypothesis as Shown on the Film Maleficent

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### ABSTRAK

Maleficent (2014) adalah film Disney yang bercerita tentang peri baik hati bernama Maleficent. Suatu hari, beberapa pasukan tentara dari kerajaan manusia menyerang hutan dan mengancam keharmonisan tanah. Karena pengkhianatan dan kehilangan sayap, Maleficent mulai membangun kerajaan kegelapan untuk melindungi kerajaan peri yaitu bangsa Moors. Film ini menunjukkan gagasan lebih lanjut tentang hubungan antara manusia dan alam yang juga didukung oleh Hipotesis Gaia. Lalu, bagaimana Gaia Hypothesis direpresentasikan dalam Film Maleficent? Dengan menggunakan metode kualitatif, tulisan ini menggambarkan keadaan kerajaan di alam peri setelah manusia berusaha untuk menghancurkannya. Didukung Hipotesis Gaia oleh James Lovelock terkait dengan hubungan antara perempuan dan alam, etika kepedulian, gagasan tentang bumi pertiwi, dan gagasan untuk menyembuhkan bumi. Hasil penelitian ini menyimpulkan bahwa masih banyak orang yang ingin merusak alam untuk kepentingan mereka sendiri. Selama masih ada makhluk lain yang hidup di sana, menjaga alam dengan segenap daya manusia dan diberdayakan dari analisis ini dapat menyadarkan manusia di masa depan untuk selalu menjaga alam tetap hidup bagi semua makhluk di muka bumi.

### ABSTRACT

Maleficent (2014) is a Disney film that tells the story of a kind fairy named Maleficent. One day, several armies from the human kingdom invaded the forest and threatened the harmony of the land. Due to betrayal and loss of wings, Maleficent begins to build a kingdom of darkness to protect the fairy kingdom namely the Moors. The film indicates further ideas of relations between human and nature as also supported by Gaia Hypothesis. Then, how is Gaia Hypothesis represented on the Film Maleficent? By using a qualitative method, this paper describes the state of the kingdom in the fairy realm after humans tried to destroy it. Supported by the proposed Gaia Hypothesis by James Lovelock related to the relationship between women and nature, the ethics of caring, the idea of mother earth, and the idea of healing the earth. The results of this study concluded that there are still many people who want to destroy nature for their own sake. While there are other creatures that live there, guarding nature with all human's might and empowered from this analysis can awaken human beings in the future to always keep nature alive for all creatures on earth.

## INTRODUCTION

Literature work is a human personal expression in oral or written media (Darmuki, 2014). In simple terms, literary studies is a science that analyzes literature with a variety of scientific problems. There are three genres in fiction literature, namely poetry, prose, and drama based on each physical differences. All three are the works of one's imagination to express what is thought, felt, and experienced. One of the three genres is drama. Drama is part of a literary work that is intended to display actions, actors and characteristics in a performance. An example of drama is a film. The film is a work of art that is audiovisual, packaged in a frame to convey a moral message to a group of people in such a way that the messages contain in the film can convey to the audience (Asri, 2020). Film is the most popular medium in society apart from television, so that people can accept stories in films that are part of our daily life.

In 2014, Disney presented their latest fantasy film entitled *Maleficent*. In the English dictionary, maleficent means evil or harm, the definition is one of committing a crime or intent to harm another (Pondaag, 2018). In this film, Maleficent is a strong woman who is capable of saving her own people or country. She is not only strong, but Maleficent also has a maternal nature. Without knowing it, Maleficent

later loves and protects the young girl from her own enemies (Roth, 2014). She prioritizes love of maternal nature than her own ego to destroy others.

Moreover, there are many scenes where Maleficent is very close to nature, Maleficent is a lovely fairy. She is living in a kingdom in which its location is in the middle of a forest named Moors with a natural beauty that nobody knows about. Because the nature is beautiful, humans from other kingdom want to dominate the land of the Moors (Roth, 2014). Maleficent's nemesis is a kingdom ruled by King Henry who has the ambitions to kill her. King Henry tries to conquer Maleficent who is described as the ruler of nature. The domination actually denies actual fact as humans and nature coexist with each other (Beasley-Murray, 1997; Pausas & Bond, 2022). Nature does its job to maintain human survival and the task of humans is only to keep nature to be sustainable and comfortable for living creatures on earth, so that human survival is also guaranteed. Based on the explanation above, humans will always need a comfortable and natural environment as a place to live and develop as it where humans belong as well.

The Gaia Hypothesis assumes that the earth is the largest living ecosystem that interacts with organic environment in order to form a network system with the aim of creating a stable state, this Hypothesis was coined by an earth scientist, James Lovelock (Lovelock, 2000; Rubin & Crucifix, 2019). In this case, the Gaia Hypothesis establishes a system that keeps the earth in balance. Gaia, the goddess of the earth and the mother of all living things in Greek mythology, is the name given to this idea. The Gaia Hypothesis explains that living things have the ability to modify their surroundings so that they are best placed for human survival, but not by destroying things that have been given by God (Pausas & Bond, 2022; Rubin & Crucifix, 2022).

In this study, the researchers used the Gaia Hypothesis by James Lovelock proposed in 1960 to analyze the film *Maleficent* released in 2014 which was sourced from his book *Gaia: A New Look at Life on Earth*. The Gaia Hypothesis is chosen because it is considered relevant for analyzing human influences on events on earth (Beasley-Murray, 1997; Rubin & Crucifix, 2022). The concept reveals how the ethics of caring, the notion of motherland, and the idea of healing are always intact. The aims and objectives of this research are to find out the relationship between humans and nature, to find out how human cares about nature, and to find out how to heal the earth that has been damaged by humans according to the sources in the theory and the film.

## RESEARCH METHOD

To analyze the film *Maleficent*, the researchers uses qualitative method through descriptive and explorative research. By emphasizing interpretations, this method underlines everyday and problematic moments and meanings in people's lives, such as experiential experiences, introspection, life stories, interviews, observations, histories, interactive, and visual texts. Main data of this article is taken from the dialogues in the film *Maleficent* directed by Robert Stromberg. The data is collected by doing observation, documentation, and literature studies. The researchers watched the *Maleficent* film directly by paying attention to how the dialogues and storylines are spoken in the film. Furthermore, the documentation is using the film as the main object while Gaia Hypothesis is the tool to analyze in this research. Then literature study is done to collect secondary data. In this case, the researchers read books and journals to find references and to complete data on the Gaia Hypothesis by James Lovelock and its relationship with the film *Maleficent*.

## FINDING AND DISCUSSION

### Finding

#### The Closeness of Nature and Living Things through Character of Maleficent

*Maleficent* tells the story of a fairy named *Maleficent*, a kind-hearted fairy who becomes the guardian of the land of the Moors, because her wings grow wider than other fairies (Roth, 2014). Maleficent is respected in the world of Moors. The Moors is a very beautiful nature located in the middle of a forest. It has a beautiful nature to live in but humans want to seize it. They undermine and threaten Maleficent to

give up the Moors. Maleficent then acts as the mother earth who protects the earth from all damage caused by living things.

In Moors, beautiful fairies live who fly with their beautiful wings and the strange creatures in question are amazing little monsters, creatures that humans have never known. Then, this film shows a little girl named Maleficent who is resting on a big tree (Roth, 2014). Suddenly, Maleficent sees a broken tree branch. Maleficent tries to heal the broken tree branch back to normal by using the magic power she had.

[Narrator] [00:01:07]

*(For in the other kingdom, the Moors lived every manner of strange and wonderful creature)*

[Narrator] [00:01:21 - 00:01:37]

*In a great tree, on a great cliff in the Moors, lived one such spirit. You might take her for a girl, but she was not just any girl. She was a fairy.*

[00:02:03]

*Maleficent: There you go. (Scene holding a tree)* (Roth, 2014)

The quotation above shows the closeness of nature and living things. Maleficent is like other fairies but her power could guard them all.

[00:03:40]

*(Humans, here. I hope this is not another war).* (Roth, 2014)

The narrator says that many threats to nature have the potential to damage nature. One of the threats is human being. The narrator says so since any war will bring damage furthermore to nature and all living things.

[00:04:05 - 00:04:13]

*Stefan: No! They mean to kill me. And besides, they are hideous to look at.*

*Young Maleficent: That's extremely rude*

....

*Young Maleficent: Do not listen to him, Balthazar. You are classically handsome.* (Roth, 2014)

A human named Stefan snuck into Moors. He was amazed by the beauty of that place. However, his presence is unwanted by the guardians. One of the guardians is a Trent; tree-like creatures that walk like human beings. Stefan said that the guardians seem ugly then Maleficent cursed him back. Seeing Stefan's scary face mocking the Moors, little Maleficent tried to tell him that all amazing creatures in Moors are handsome. She then asked Balthazar, the guardian for not taking Stefan's saying into his heart. This dialogue shows how kind Maleficent is. She appreciates all beings as all creatures are living in harmony in Moors.

[00:04:18 - 00:04:21]

*Young Maleficent: It's not right to steal, but we do not kill people for it.* (Roth, 2014)

The dialogue states that nature does not kill other natural things even though it is humans who want to destroy nature. The dialogue actually is about Stefan who was caught taking the beautiful stones of Moors in the river. Interestingly, Maleficent stated that any stealing is bad, yet punishment and even killing is either. She chooses to forgive Stefan since he did not know that what he did was wrong.

[00:05:30 - 00:05:32]

*Young Maleficent: I did not throw it away. I delivered it home, as I am going to do for you.* (Roth, 2014)

What is in the nature should be given back to nature. Something that is taken from nature by stealing or not according to the provisions will be returned to nature. Humans should be aware of that,

humans have a duty to care for and preserve, not destroy or take what does not belong to humans themselves (Hunt et al., 2022; Rubin & Crucifix, 2022). That task is best delivered by Maleficent. She is not only guardian of Moors but she also keeps everything in place both physically and ethically. She gives examples to human beings how they should behave to natural beings.

[00:07:35 - 00:07:37]

[Narrator] (*And for a time, it seemed as if, in them at least, the old hatred between man and fairness has been forgotten*) (Roth, 2014)

That simple saying above indicates many things. The dialogue stated that it was hatred between humans and nature. It went for a long time until Moors becomes secluded from outside. Peace is the nature of natural things (Hunt et al., 2022; Pausas & Bond, 2022). Moors keeps its peaceful condition by leaving out human beings.

[Narrator] [00:08:22 - 00:08:25]

(*While Maleficent became the strongest of the fairies rose to become the protector of the Moors.*) (Roth, 2014)

Maleficent is one of the strongest fairies and has big wings to protect the Moors. She grows to be respected by others not only by her power, but also her softness of heart. She always takes care of others and she is the symbol of all fairies in Moors.

[00:09:21 - 00:04:25]

[Narrator] (*For she had never understood the greed and envy in men.*) (Roth, 2014)

Maleficent always does good things for the sake of others. Her ethics are noble values for Moors. She never meets any man yet she never knows that men symbolizes greed and envy. It is said so until she met Stefan (Roth, 2014).

In another scene, the researchers finds a scene where how to heal the earth those has been damaged by humans and see how Maleficent protects her nature (Moors).

[00:12:06 - 00:12:33]

*The Soldiers: Attack!* (Roth, 2014)

The scene above shows that when King Henry and his soldiers wanted to dominate the Moors, they attacked the Moors. However, King Henry's plan to dominate the Moors did not go smoothly because Maleficent came and stopped them. In that scene, Maleficent was not afraid of King Henry at all and she challenged King Henry and his soldiers (Roth, 2014). In that war, King Henry was so arrogant to beat Maleficent and underestimated him. King Henry thought that Maleficent was just a fairy with wings, but he did not know that Maleficent was a very powerful fairy in the Moors. Then, Maleficent was assisted by other creatures from the Moors to fight with King Henry and his soldiers.

[00:13:21- 00:13:04]

*Maleficent: You will not have the Moors! Not no, nor ever! You.* (Roth, 2014)

Maleficent has the ambition to protect her nature. She is a soft creature but she could turn to be angry when needed. This time, her anger came to its peak as her home would want to be burned by the soldiers. She must move to hold them back to their places.

[00:28:17 - 00:28:21]

*Knotgrass: Sweet Aurora, I wish for you the gift of beautiful.* (Roth, 2014)

When Aurora, daughter of Stefan, was born, the three fairies came to bless her. This is a scene that shows caring to other creature. The sweetness of fairies as symbol of nature. Being beautiful is indeed one of main attribute to any natural being.

[00:34:13 - 00:34:16]

[Narrator] (*The fairies began their charge to raise Aurora in a snug little cottage in the woods*) (Roth, 2014)

Though the little fairies from Moors knew that King Stefan will destroy Moors, they keep agreeing to guard Aurora. This is a symbol of caring as well since this is main task of nature to protect anyone. Nature will never care for any power and even politics (Hunt et al., 2022; Rubin & Crucifix, 2022). Its main purpose is solely survival and helping others.

[00:38:40- 00:39:30]

*Stefan's order: Flame! Release!* (Roth, 2014)

The soldiers screamed as fireballs are fired into the thorns, causing them to start burning. Maleficent employs magic inside the Moors to make them taller, which causes the soldiers to run in panic and go back to the palace. In this scene, Maleficent makes a tree out of tall thorns to protect the Moors from King Stefan soldiers attacking the forest with fire. Maleficent used her magic tactics from within the Moors to beat them all, making the trees kill all the soldiers from the kingdom led by King Stefan (Roth, 2014). Maleficent won this battle. Stefan replaced King Henry as king because Stefan managed to cut off Maleficent's wings and thought that Maleficent had lost this battle. The fact is that Maleficent is still a strong fairy even without wings.

Later, Aurora is amazed by the beauty of nature and the creatures that live in it. The sleeping body of Aurora is carried by Maleficent farther into the Moors. Maleficent hid behind a tree and wake up Aurora. As she watches as Aurora gazes in awe and amazement at the creatures in her immediate vicinity until they become aware of Maleficent's presence and try to escape in fear, Aurora turns toward the trees.

[00:52:05 – 00:53:11]

*Aurora: They are so beautiful.* (Roth, 2014)

Aurora found her own way to Moors. Then, she was watching the creatures fly in amazement as she sits down with Maleficent by the lake in the Moors. When one of the creatures inadvertently strikes Maleficent in the face with mud while she and Diaval are watching, Diaval laughs and Maleficent uses her magic to clean herself in mud, causing everyone to laugh and then she smiles.

[00:55:02 – 00:55:10]

*Aurora: What color were they? Were they big?*

*Maleficent: So big they dragged behind me when I walked. And they were strong They could carry me above the clouds and into the headwinds. And they never faltered, not even once. I could trust them.* (Roth, 2014)

Aurora asked Maleficent about her wings. She is curious about how big they are. Maleficent explains them to her in wise sentences. This dialogue shows how Maleficent sees the wings as her reliable friend. This is also a symbol of nature that is always reliable in its natural aspects. Nature provides all to every living being then humans should also trust nature like Maleficent believes her wings.

Fairy is a symbol of nature and Maleficent fights over greed of Stefan. Stefan stole wings Maleficent for his own sake to become king. At the end of the story Maleficent wins the battle, where she kills King Stefan. The broken wing has now returned, Maleficent uses her wing again which was stolen by King Stefan (Roth, 2014). Nature (the land of Moors), which was turned dark after Maleficent lost her wings, is now back to Nature as it was before humans wanted to take over and destroy it. Maleficent lowered her wall of thorns, the wall that was once made to protect the Moors from Stefan's soldiers.

[Narrator] [01:26:13 – 01:26:37]

*(Maleficent brought down her wall of thorns and look off her crown. And she invented aurora to see how the Moors had been once, long ago, when Maleficent was but a child and her heart was right. For now, it was again. But that was not all.)*  
(Roth, 2014)

Maleficent shows to Aurora the real beauty of Moors. She believes that such beauty should be spread to all over the kingdom. Maleficent's task to fight others is over. Her main task now is to spread goodness to all living beings. Aurora agrees with her, as all beings should live to complement each other in harmony.

[01:27:09 - 00:27:10]

*Maleficent: Our kingdoms have been unified.* (Roth, 2014)

As the symbol of unity of human and nature, Maleficent brought Aurora before all the creatures in Moors and Maleficent put a crown on Aurora's head. Aurora is seen as the new generation where Maleficent's hope could come true. She believes that Aurora could bring happiness in harmony by spreading message of peaceful nature.

[01:28:08 - 00:28:12]

*[Narrator] (In the end, my kingdom was united not by a hero or a villain)* (Roth, 2014)

Hero for nature, but villain for human, and Maleficent could unite them both through help from Aurora. After Maleficent returned the state of Moors as before, the film ends with Aurora becoming queen in the land of the Moors. Nature is beautiful again with full of joy, there is no dark nature because of revenge.

All the dialogues above show that nature does not stand for itself. It lives among other living things. Even all living things are nature itself. Nature is meant to be natural without any intervention (Bergthaller, 2020; Eissa, 2020). In this film, Stefan's kingdom would like to dictate Moors and that triggered Maleficent to fight back. In other words, Maleficent is not wrong since it is her natural reaction to hold back anyone who wanted to destroy Moors. Later, even Stefan used Maleficent by cutting her wings to weaken her. This is an action to deceive nature by doing bad deeds against it. Then, through all bloody struggle, nature won and all returns to its natural beauties.

### **The Idea of Gaia Hypothesis and Condition of Natural Beings**

The Gaia Hypothesis was developed by British scientist James Lovelock in 1979 and reinforced by studies by American biologist Lynn Margulis. The hypothesis is named Gaia because according to the Greek language (Beasley-Murray, 1997; Bergthaller, 2020). Gaia means the goddess of the Earth and the Mother of all living things. Lovelock wrote a book entitled *A New Look at Life on Earth* in 1979. This idea describes humans who like to walk or just stare and stand somewhere, and question the earth and the life that exists within the earth itself, and also question the consequences of our own presence on this earth (Bergthaller, 2020; Lovelock, 2000).

Gaia Hypothesis focuses on how the biosphere and the transformation of life forms contribute to the mobility of global temperatures, ocean salinity, atmospheric oxygen, and other classifying aspects in homeostasis or the process of maintaining body temperature (Beasley-Murray, 1997; Hetland, 2021). The Gaia Hypothesis holds that the Earth's lower atmosphere is an integral way of continuous addition, regulated and necessary part of life itself. For hundreds of millions of years, life has controlled the temperature, the chemical composition, the oxidative capacity and the acidity of the Earth's atmosphere.

The concept of Gaia is dynamic because it creates a geophysical balance of energy and chemical elements (Banerjee & Arjaliès, 2021; Hetland, 2021). It could also provide the basis to visualize Earth in literature through ecocriticism (Garrard, 2004; Pausas & Bond, 2022). The emergence of eco-critical understanding in society is as a result of criticism of the environment and the universe. Ecocriticism is part of the exploration of how humans imagine and describe the relationship in his mind between humans and the environment in all aspects of life (Eissa, 2020; Garrard, 2004). Eco-criticism then is used in all aspects of the physical environment and its relation to literature.

The Gaia Hypothesis considers that the earth is alive as a single but complex organism. This hypothesis is a symbol of the motherland (Banerjee & Arjaliès, 2021; Pausas & Bond, 2022). The perspective is important to living things because it studies how to keep the earth and living things in balance. It can be said in the Gaia Hypothesis may contribute positively to nature and the surrounding environment. Humans who do deliberate actions for their own satisfaction to destroy the contents of the earth will contradict the Gaia Hypothesis. Living things on earth that are able to make changes to the environment for the convenience of survival can also be referred to in this hypothesis, these changes do not lead to negative things such as destroying the contents of the earth (Banerjee & Arjaliès, 2021; Pausas & Bond, 2022). From here, it could be understood how important this hypothesis is for the life of living things on earth. *Maleficent* is full of Gaia Hypothesis understanding since humans in this film oppose that idea. Humans want to destroy the contents of the earth while nature is trying hard to protect it.

## Discussion

### The Chronicle of Relations between Humans and Nature

Based on the data findings and theories that have been explained, the researchers analyzed the dialogues in *Maleficent* which shows the relationship between humans and nature based on the Gaia Hypothesis. Beautiful depictions of nature in both the human and Moors kingdoms create a sense of serenity. Nevertheless, the Moors is more attractive because of its pure and beautiful nature (Roth, 2014). Moreover, the existence of fairies is a plus value as an idea to live in harmony with nature. Thus, there are clear differences between the two situations. Introduction to the human world is somewhat negative compared to Moors, as the narrator describes the King of Mankind as vanity, greedy, and jealous. Thus, there was already a glimpse of the contrast between the two realms, and a further hunch of human intervention by the descriptive adjective Human King (Bang, 2020).

In the postmodern world we live in, the Gaia Hypothesis is a boundless idea, one that is the consciousness of our being balanced in the universe and the earth (Banerjee & Arjaliès, 2021; Sagan, 2022). In the *Maleficent*, people who live in the Moors are represented as symbols of pure nature, which are in harmony with the lives of animals and other magical creatures (Roth, 2014). This is further appreciation to nature as it is inherently shows understanding of how to behave naturally. Harmony is to be emphasized here and this idea is the nemesis of Stefan's kingdom in the film (Eissa, 2020; Sagan, 2022). Stefan only wants pure domination by destroying others. He believes that his value is he only one, while the reality is actually so plural. It is like Moors that is lived by many kind of creatures, from animals, trents, to fairies.

The scene when *Maleficent* restored a broken branch is interesting. The researchers found that the main character *Maleficent* performed an action by using power to save nature. It is her affection to nature that pushes her to use her power (Pausas & Bond, 2022; Pondaag, 2018). Power is usually used to dominate others, but *Maleficent* shows otherwise. She used her power to amend nature. In other words, her abundant power is used to help others who need it. This is the total opposite of any usual aspect in human's world. People struggle to have power to dominate others more, and then it comes to bring certain damages to nature (Beasley-Murray, 1997; Sagan, 2022). *Maleficent* shows that power actually belongs to nature and should be used to fix nature as well. This is in line with understanding of Gaia Hypothesis as a purpose to keep nature as best as possible.

At the minute of [00:05:30 - 00:05:32], young *Maleficent* took the gem that had been stolen by Stefan from the Moors (Roth, 2014). The gemstone is then returned by *Maleficent* to its natural environment. Something that is taken from nature by stealing or not according to what is provided will be returned to nature (Banerjee & Arjaliès, 2021; Sagan, 2022). When Stefan took the Moors' gemstone, he is abusing the environment. This scene can be considered exploitation in which seizing natural resources, claim ownership of them, use them without planning for restoration, and ignore to reduce the negative effects (Akhiyat, 2021; Pausas & Bond, 2022).

It could be argued that Stefan did not really know that he was wrong. However, that argument was incorrect as later adolescent Stefan became the one that ordered the soldiers to attack Moors (Roth, 2014). Young Stefan should not have done this since what he knows is he must own anything that he wanted. He was told from his childhood that he could be spoiled to get anything. This is in line with human's attitude today. If someone is taught not to care of his or her surrounding from his or her childhood, he or she later will act to dominate rather than act to live in harmony with any natural being (Banerjee & Arjaliès, 2021; Sagan, 2022).

At the minute of [00:08:22 - 00:08:25], the narrator said "*While Maleficent became the strongest of the fairies rose to become the protector of the Moors*", it proved that *Maleficent* represented nature in a living form (Roth, 2014). She also plays as revenger of nature to repay humans for any suffering caused by humans. *Maleficent's* plight reflects environmental realities as well as a warning of the damaging effects of exploitation and human greed on nature. In this idea, *Maleficent* is not a villain but an embodiment of nature, seeking revenge on evil human villains (Bang, 2020). Aiming to raise awareness of the forces of nature on the one hand and human manipulation on the other, ecocriticism examines how the relationship between humans and the environment is represented in all kinds of cultural products (Abou-gag, 2016;

Rubin & Crucifix, 2022). The idea of this criticism is also in line with Gaia Hypothesis in which nature should be seen as it is, not by any evil domination of humans' eyes.

When Maleficent's character says that the human empire will never own the land of the Moors [00:13:21- 00:13:04], Maleficent has the ambition to protect her nature (Roth, 2014). The ambition is actually not evil, but she acts as mother earth who guides, guards, protects, and provides. Later, she probed her doing by winning the battle against human's kingdom. The dialogue reflects Gaia Hypothesis as maleficent tries to defend and to protect the Moors after trying to be damaged by the humans. This idea is similar with condition of a mother who protects from any crisis that in this case is ecological one (Beasley-Murray, 1997; Sagan, 2022). Existence of mother is embodied into self of Maleficent as she thinks that any imperative doing must be done to amend Moors that she always loves.

Besides, there are the three little fairies who were in charge of looking after Aurora when Aurora was exiled for her safety and disappeared from Maleficent's curse. Baby Aurora was guarded by the three fairies in a hut far from human occupation, in the middle of the forest Aurora grew up to become a beautiful woman [00:34:13 - 00:34:16] (Roth, 2014). Without seeing Aurora's background, the three fairies guarded Aurora happily. From here, it could be seen that nature will take care of anything even though it knows that humans could turn into evil creatures.

Nature still believes in goodness of every living being. It also applies to humans, as she knows that humans could not live alone on earth, without help from their surroundings. Without nature that is overgrown with various plants, humans also will not feel what it is like to eat vegetables (Eissa, 2020; Pausas & Bond, 2022). However, King Stefan's ambition has blinded him to see nature in its wider aspects. He attacked Moors by throwing fireballs carried out by his soldiers. Maleficent was not idle at all since she adjusted her magic to make the thorns even higher which protect Moors from further damage.

Fairy is a symbol of nature and Maleficent is a fairy either. Nature that is damaged and not maintained properly, will make the natural creatures repay the actions of humans that damage it [00:38:40- 00:39:30] (Roth, 2014). Humans with all their greed will be taken over by nature if they do not change their minds (Eissa, 2020; Sagan, 2022). Ecocriticism exactly indicates this idea to avoid hurting ecosystem furthermore. The idea is based on Gaia Hypothesis in which any crisis should be amended not by nature itself, but by humans' actions. Humans must fix their own former actions to help nature to recover (Beasley-Murray, 1997; Egan, 2008). Stop hurting is not even enough since human beings should repair what has been done in the past.

The curse that Maleficent has given to Aurora does not include sexual love but genuine love from mother to child. In the scene [01:15:36 – 01:17:37] Maleficent approaches Aurora who has been sleeping due to the curse given by Maleficent herself (Roth, 2014). Maleficent cried and regretted by cursing Aurora. Maleficent kissed Aurora's forehead and apologized, from this sincere action, Aurora woke up and without realizing that Maleficent had released the curse. Maleficent's character is described as a person who easily sympathizes with her environment.

From here, it is not Maleficent that saved Aurora. It was herself as the mother of natural being that saved Aurora. She did not represent herself but nature is reflected in herself. Maleficent is the nature himself and it saved Aurora as she also believed that Aurora is a good being that will bring further goodness all across the earth. Her kiss is symbol of true love between mother and daughter. The love is infinite and unconditional as that is how nature be in all life (Beasley-Murray, 1997; Eissa, 2020).

## CONCLUSION

Nature will continue to care for the creatures in the surrounding environment regardless of any background. It includes humans that will be protected either though they have tried many times to destroy the calmness and beauty of nature. Maleficent is a symbol of nature, as mother earth who takes good care of nature based on the Gaia Hypothesis. Maleficent is also a symbol of true love that occurs between mother and child, not even sexual from male to female figure. A good human being like Aurora is already one with nature, she is an intrinsic part of nature who does not try to destroy it but rather enjoys the natural beauty that exists. Her attitude is totally contrast to his father, King Stefan, who was greedy and wanted to seize the Moors and destroy nature. Moreover, the analyzed environmental criticism proves that human beings and life on earth are one, and therefore human beings have to cope well with the natural



environment. To survive on this earth, harmony between humans and nature is necessary. Lately, the environmental crisis has continued to increase because lack of human awareness is so serious. Humans must also be aware of the beautiful nature since humans will always need fresh oxygen. Human's consciousness must be increased to keep focus on natural beings.

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