
CONTENT	PAGE
Abstract	2
Acknowledgements	4
Organization of Dissertation	7
Chapter- Introduction	9
Chapter One - Knowing Our Place: Bioregionalism and Eco-cosmopolitanism	28
Chapter Two - Kinship Systems: Partnership Ethics	72
Chapter Three - Growing Trust: Ecocritical Animal Studies	101
Chapter Five - Paradise Lost: The Anthropocene	124
Chapter - Conclusion	159
Appendix	164
Bibliography	168

ORGANIZATION OF THE DISSERTATION

This thesis is thematically divided into six chapters, including the introduction and conclusion. The titles of the four core chapters are borrowed from the writings of Barbara Kingsolver. The appendix has an interview with Barbara Kingsolver and the scholar.

Introduction

This introduction examines the major trends in ecocriticism and explores the various approaches and positions in the field. It includes the literature review and presents the existing body of international and national literary scholarship. The introduction also offers a detailed biographical sketch of the writer Barbara Kingsolver on whom this study focuses. The research gap and research questions that the scholar raises are also presented.

Chapter 1 - Knowing Our Place: Bioregionalism and Eco-cosmopolitanism

In the chapter “Knowing Our Place”, Kingsolver’s fiction and non-fiction are studied through the perspectives of bioregionalism and eco-cosmopolitanism to foreground the transition from local to glocal. Kingsolver’s works focus on place-specific issues of a bioregion and propose a path for global concern, an alternative new way to connect and live in the global biosphere.

Chapter 2 - Kinship Systems: Partnership Ethics.

The chapter “Kinship Systems” studies Kingsolver’s fiction and non-fiction as new sets of recovery narratives from the perspective of partnership principles. It

also draws a connection with the broader precepts of ecofeminist thoughts postulated by philosophers like Carolyn Merchant, Karen Warren, Val Plumwood, and Ynestra King in their works.

Chapter 3 - Growing Trust: Ecocritical Animal Studies

The chapter “Growing Trust” studies Kingsolver’s works from an Ecocritical Animal Studies perspective, a mode that “seeks to challenge and complicate human ways of thinking about another species” (Slovic 360-362). Her creative works take a nonhuman turn as they examine the human connectedness to multiple species. These literary texts represent the nonhuman world that includes flora, fauna, landscape, and issues related to nature conservation and the environmental crises.

Chapter 4 - Paradise Lost: The Anthropocene

The chapter “Paradise Lost” studies her works representing large-scale environmental problems, particularly climate change, species extinction, and growing toxicity. Kingsolver's writings foreground an understanding of the role of humans in the complex and shifting dynamics of the whole ecosphere.

Conclusion

The conclusion includes a summary of the dissertation, the contribution and limitations of this dissertation, and the scope for further research.

Appendix

Interview with Barbara Kingsolver.