

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Maleficent (2014) is a 2014 fantasy film starring Angelina Jolie as the title character, which is a live-action rendition of her antagonistic performance in Walt Disney's 1959 animated *Sleeping Beauty*, which was based on Charles Perrault's 1697 fairy tale. A strong fairy named *Maleficent* (2014) resides in the Moors, a mystical forest region that borders a kingdom of humans. She falls in love with Stefan, a human peasant lad, when she first sees him as a child. As they grew older, they drifted apart, with *Maleficent* (2014) taking on the role of protector of the Moors and Stefan's desire to become king overshadowing his love.

An ecological movement known as ecofeminism first appeared in the 1970s and emphasized the connections between women's dominance and the exploitation of nature. It examines how patriarchal systems impact both women and nature, viewing women's oppression and taking advantage of the environment as connected issues brought about by common power structures.

Understanding that many types of discrimination (such as gender, race, class, etc.) interact and compound one another, ecofeminism acknowledges the intersectionality of oppression. It recognizes that women from underrepresented groups frequently carry the Capitalist systems that put profit before people and the environment are criticized by ecofeminism.

Ecofeminism is closely linked to the fight for environmental justice, which seeks to change a disparity of ecological benefits and drawbacks along race, class, and gender lines. It fights for the rights of underprivileged groups to live in wholesome, environmentally friendly surroundings that are free from racism and exploitation

A multifaceted theoretical framework known as ecological feminism analyzes the connections between the exploitation of nature and the subjugation of women. It brings attention to the similarities between the exploitation of the environment and the enslavement of women, claiming that both are products of patriarchal systems that place a premium on dominance and control.

Ecofeminism is an interesting synthesis of feminist ideas and ecological concerns. It examines the links between women's subjugation and the exploitation of the natural world, arguing that both are products of the patriarchal and hierarchical structures that underpin many countries. Ecofeminism's main goal is to expose and undermine the structures that undervalue women and the environment. It highlights how these behaviors reinforce one another and criticizes the exploitation of women's bodies and labor in the same manner as it criticizes the exploitation of natural resources. Ecofeminists frequently promote an inclusive, holistic worldview that is based on respect for all life, human and non-human. The demand made by ecofeminism for a more peaceful coexistence of humans and the environment speaks to me.

1.2 Research Question

The author has the following two queries in light of the study's background and primary objectives:

1. What is the main character of *Maleficent* (2014) film described?
2. How does the *Maleficent* (2014) film embody ecofeminism?

1.3 Aims of the Studies

The primary aim of this study is to analyze the film *Maleficent* (2014) through the lens of ecofeminism in order to explore how the film portrays the interconnected oppression of women and nature. This research aim to

1. To describe the main character, Maleficent, in *Maleficent* (2014) film.
2. To analyze ecofeminism in *Maleficent* (2014) film.

1.4 Scope of the study

This study analyzes the 2014 film *Maleficent* using ecofeminist theory, focusing on both intrinsic and extrinsic aspects of the film. The intrinsic aspects examined include the narrative structure, characterization, setting, conflict, character, and characterization. That highlight the connection between women and nature. Special attention is given to how *Maleficent's* transformation, emotional journey, and relationship with the Moors represent ecofeminist values such as resistance to patriarchal domination and the reclaiming of feminine power through nature. The extrinsic aspects cover the social and cultural context surrounding the film's production and reception. This includes how the film reflects contemporary concerns about gender roles, environmental destruction, and feminist discourse in modern media. The study also considers the influence of Disney's reimagining of fairy tales in shaping public perception of female agency and environmental awareness. This research thesis is limited to the *Maleficent* (2014) film only and does not analyze its sequel or other adaptations of *Sleeping Beauty*. It also does not apply other critical theories beyond ecofeminism.

1.5 Previous of the Studies

There are earlier studies that can be used as references for this research to highlight their differences from those studies.

The first relevant study is the research thesis from Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta titled "Women Representation in *Maleficents* film," written by Fitri Nanda Annur in 2015. The author of this study focuses on how women are portrayed in the *Maleficent* (2014) film and looks at the way the story is constructed.

The second research is a research thesis from Gorontalo State University titled "Deconstructive Analysis of *Maleficent* (2014) Film," which was written by Rian Irawati in 2015. The approach used in the current research is qualitative descriptive research. According to the study's first analysis, the three magic pixie figures represent the powerful nature of motherhood.

This research thesis is different from any previous study by focusing the method through ecofeminism lens. However, while they address broader themes, there remains a gap in exploring the specific narrative and cinematic techniques used to convey ecofeminist messages in the film. This research thesis to fill that gap by conducting an in-depth analysis of *Maleficent*'s (2014) character and her relationship with nature in the context of ecofeminist approach.

1.6 Method of The Study

1.6.1 Data and The Sources of Data

According to Creswell (2014), Primary data is referring to the original data collected directly by the researcher for the specific purpose of the current study. It is firsthand information that has not been previously analyzed or interpreted by others. Supporting data is consisting of information that has already been collected, analyzed, or published by other researchers, authors, or institutions. This data is used to **support, explain, or strengthen** the analysis of the primary data. Supporting data provides **context, background theory, or comparative perspectives** that help deepen the understanding of the research topic. In this research are obtained from these sources. The object used in the analysis, which is taken from a *Maleficent* (2014) film, is the main source of information. In order to assist with the evaluation of the research, the supporting details are drawn from any information pertaining to the material issues, web sites, and books that are cited.

1.6.2 Library Research

According to Creswell (2014), **Library research** is a research method that involves collecting data and information from various written or recorded sources, such as books, academic journals, articles, theses, official reports, and credible online publications. This method is used to **review existing knowledge**, build theoretical frameworks, and support the analysis of primary data. The first step in collecting data for this study is to watch the movie *Maleficent* (2014) repeatedly. The second step is to observe the movie. The third step is to take notes so that it can be easily analyzed. The fourth step is to categorize and identify the pertinent information into different groups. The final step is to take notes from the sources and other resources that are connected to the film and the analysis.

1.6.3 Research Approach

According to Creswell (2014), a **research approach** is a plan and procedure for research that spans the steps from broad assumptions to detailed methods of data collection, analysis, and interpretation. This approach used in this research thesis is an ecofeminist approach. Ecofeminism is a movement and philosophical framework that links environmentalism and feminism, highlighting the parallels between the oppression of women and the exploitation of the natural world. It critiques how patriarchal structures of power and dominance, which historically marginalized women, are also responsible for the degradation of the environment (Warren, 1987).

1.7 Organization of Writing

The four chapters that make up this paper are as follows: Included in the first chapter is the paper's introduction, which includes background of the study, research question, scope of the study, aims of the study, previous studies, method of the study, and writing organization. The second chapter of *Maleficent (2014) film includes both intrinsic and*

extrinsic aspects. The third chapter for answering the research question. The conclusion is found in the final chapter.