

**EXPLORING THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN NATURE AND
WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IN *WHERE THE CRAWDADS SING* (2022):
AN ECOFEMINIST ANALYSIS**

A Research Paper

Submitted as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for *Sarjana Sastra* Degree



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**ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE STUDY PROGRAM
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Sebuah skripsi yang diajukan untuk memenuhi salah satu syarat memperoleh gelar Sarjana
Sastra pada Fakultas Pendidikan Bahasa dan Sastra

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to explore the relationships between nature and women's empowerment in the film *Where the Crawdads Sing* (2022) by Olivia Newman, based on a novel by Delia Owens. Through close reading, the study uses Freyne's (2018) two ecofeminism models: the ecological self and interdependence. This study also employs Bordwell, Thompson, and Smith's (2017) film theory analysis to analyze the cinematic aspects. The current research finds that nature and Kya, the protagonist, achieve their interconnection in the form of ecological self and interdependence through the motifs of (1) marshland, (2) animals, and (3) wind. It also reveals that the violence faced by nature and Kya is due to their interconnectedness, which is committed by male treatments. Furthermore, the study concludes that nature and female characters can successfully overcome injustice and oppose patriarchal exploitation through their relationships and agency, both narratively and cinematically. In conclusion, the study can contribute to the ongoing discussion on literary criticism of gender and environmental justice.

Keywords: ecofeminism; empowerment; film analysis; nature-women relationship; *Where the Crawdads Sing*

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