

**Tribhuvan University**

**Ecological Dystopia in Paulo Bacigalupi's *The Water Knife***

**A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English, T.U.**

**in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the**

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Letter of Approval

This thesis, entitled “Ecological Dystopia in Paulo Bacigalupi’s *The Water Knife*” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Rama Regmi has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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## Abstract

*The major thrust of this study is to probe the projection of eco-consciousness, ecological crisis, climate change and socio-economic breakdown of South west America through the cause of water scarcity in Paulo Bacigalupi's The Water Knife. A Las Vegas water knife, Angel cuts water for his boss, Catherine Case, ensuring that her luxurious developments can bloom in the desert, so the rich can stay wet while the poor get dust. The women are more suffers through this crisis. Women spend most of the time and are closed with nature for their shelter in this dominated society. When rumors of a game-changing water source surface in drought-ravaged Phoenix, it seems California is making a play to monopolize the life-giving flow of the river, and Angel is sent to investigate. The concept of ecological dystopia is useful to describing the situation of a woman who is forced to dwell in a critical situation. It has portrayed the importance of natural resources in human life for the continuation of the ecological system. While some kind of crisis appears in nature, all human and non- human beings get suffered. If ecological integrity breaks down, human existences would face serious threats and dangers. The degrading environmental condition calls into question the permanence and continuity of human existence. When the existence of human being faces serious limitations, human beings would be really at a loss. Thus, this research explores how the hope for scientific progress has turned the world into toxicity leading to ecological dystopia.*

**Key Words:** Ecological dystopia, water scarcity, patriarchal society, natural destruction, apocalyptic, environmental condition, enlightenment