

Tribhuvan University

Self Evasive Anthropocentric Motives in *Refuge* and *The Road*

**A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of
Master of Philosophy (M. Phil.) in English**

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Letter of Recommendation

Hari Prasad Adhikari has completed his dissertation entitled "Self Evasive Anthropocentric Motives in *Refuge* of Terry Tempest Williams and Cormac McCarthy's *The Road* under my supervision. He carried out his research from Feb. 2017 A. D. to July 2017 A. D. This dissertation meets the required standards to justify the award for the Degree of M. Phil. in English. I, therefore, recommend his dissertation be submitted for the viva voce.

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Approval Letter

This dissertation entitled "Self Evasive Anthropocentric Motives in *Refuge* of Terry Tempest Williams and Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*" submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Hari Prasad Adhikari, has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee for the award for the Degree of Master of Philosophy (M. Phil.) in English.

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Abstract

This research work examines how Terry Tempest Williams' *Refuge* and Cormac McCarthy's *The Road* give importance to human beings and ignore nature. This tendency of ignoring nature is self- evasive, self- deceptive and thereby self- destructive for human beings. *Refuge* presents the narrative of nuclear testing in Utah which is geared by human desire to assume power, but this anthropocentric hubris causes cancer with which a majority of population suffers beyond cure; and the Great Salt Lake also overflows due to human encroachment on it. Likewise, in *The Road*, the protagonists, an unnamed man and a boy suffer from hunger and insecurity in the woods because the woods have turned into grey site ensuing from wars. This research studies both the texts in the light of ecological crisis of reason propounded by Val Plumwood who views that human tendency of giving importance to themselves leads to self- evasive and self- destructive attitude endangering their existence. The research comes up with a finding that human beings impose their supremacy on nature, but such an attitude endangers them and nature alike and that there is no human survival unless they realize their presence in the presence of other parts of nature.

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