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Easterine Kire's *The Thundercloud*: A Mythical Discourse between Man and Nature.

Prasenjit Panda

‘F or our children’s children and for those people out there whose voices have been drowned out by the politics of greed. I thank you all for this amazing award tonight. Let us not take this planet for granted. I do not take tonight for granted.’ (Leonardo DiCaprio)

We are living in the dystopian world of ignorance and hypocrisy. After the great speech of Leonardo DiCaprio in the Oscar winning ceremony for his *The Revenant*, people started to take the environmental crisis as real. Easterine Kire’s *Son of the Thundercloud* is a combination of myth and reality which enables her to focus on the dystopian world we live in. The novella allegorically presents her concerns for the degrading world caused by the endless greed of human. Kire combines lyrical storytelling with the magic and wisdom of Naga legends to produce an unforgettable, life-affirming fable only to establish an ageold relationship between man and nature which is somewhere lost in the progressive worldview.

Keywords: Dystopia, environmental crisis, nature

Climate change is the biggest challenge that is faced by the mankind today. But surprisingly enough, we are not paying any heed to the upcoming peril. There are large amount of pages have been written by the environmentalists and the ecocritics to make us aware of the disaster which is looming large in our life. Easterine Kire expresses the urgent concern of climate and ecological change which has brought about famine and annihilated complete tribes in the North-East, especially in Nagaland. These are complex natural phenomena which are beyond rational truth and beyond the comprehension of common people. So to aware the people about the environmental crisis, Kire takes help from the Naga folktales and myth. Hence, Kire’s *Son of the Thundercloud* better be seen as an allegory of hope and resurrection which is narrated through primitive myth and dialogues. The tale of hope amidst a dystopian world takes us into a timeless place of the myth of the son of the