

**“Walden Or, Life in the Woods” is an Experimentation of Life  
with Nature by Henry David Thoreau**

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**Abstract**

This paper scrutinizes the importance of nature in our life as well as how nature can give an immense gratification in the midst of chaos. Nobody can reject the beauty of nature, which bestow us in to ecstasy instantly we confront nature. Here Thoreau explains his own experience with nature where he experiences a simple and joyful life. Solitude gives us a spiritual comfort and delight, which Thoreau be acquainted with. It is an amazing experience of Thoreau that he realizes the solitude in midst of companions. It is an unnatural thing one can get loneliness with his companions. Thoreau deeply explain each thing what he has seen in the woods. The life of wood near by a pond is unexplainable scenery of a person like Thoreau, who loves nature. It is a considerable thing that if we love nature, in return nature gives us love and care. Eco literature propagate the value of nature and the inevitability of regain its past glory from its dreadful circumstance. In Thoreau's work “Walden or, Life in the Woods” interprets his companionship with nature that gives him spiritual discovery and self-reliance.

**Keywords:** Henry David Thoreau, *Walden Or, Life in the Woods*, Solitude, Eco Literature, Spiritual Discovery and Self-Reliance

**Introduction**

“Walden or Life in the Woods “is a book published in 1854, explained the simple life lead by Thoreau in the woods near pond name Walden. He decided to live in the woods which offers him uncomplicated and untainted life. He settles near the pond name Walden, and begins to learn the mystery of nature. The American transcendentalist spent at Walden for two years, two months and two days. In Chapter 15, he describes the winter season with frozen pond and snow-covered landscape where he could see many different birds and animals roaming in the beginning of the winter.

“One night in the beginning of winter, before the pond froze over,  
about nine o' clock, I was startled by the loud honking of a goose,

ad, stepping in to the door ,heard the sound of their wings like a tempest in the woods as they flew low over my house” (Ch-xv)

Here he totally enjoyed his life with nature, and everything went on smoothly with an exceptional beauty and copious enchanting of nature. In this book, he explained every incident, which he experienced in the woods. Life for live with all bliss. Nature can give tremendous happiness to us. We never try to explore the beauty of nature which heap in front of us.

“Our village life would stagnate if it were not for the unexplored forests and meadows, which surround it. We need the tonic of wildness ---to wade sometimes in marshes where the bitten and the meadow –hen lurk and hear the booming of the snipe ;to smell the whispering sedge where only some wilder and more solitary fowl builds her nest , and the mink crawls with its belly close to the ground . At the same time that we are earnest to explore and learn all things, we require that all the things be mysterious and unexplorable that land and sea be infinitely wild,. “(Ch-xvi)

Nature and man have an amazing relationship with each other. If we try to separate from nature, it can affect us severely.

After he left the wood due to the obligation, often he remembers his old days in the woods, and it provides him endless happy what nature gave him once. He realized the connectivity between nature and man. If once experience its unfathomable values and benefits, nobody can refuse the nature in his life.

“Rather than love, than money, than fame, give me truth. I sat at a table where were rich food and wine in abundance , but sincerity and truth were not ; and I went away hungry from the inhospitable board . The hospitality was cold as the ices. I thought that there was no need to ice freezes them. They talked to me of the age of the wine and the fame of the vintage; but I thought of an older, a newer and purer wine, of a more glorious vintage, which they had not got, and could not buy” (Ch-xvii)

Evidently, nature plays a fundamental role in our life. Without nature, life cannot be lead. Now days are we realizing the importance of nature in our existence. Environment endow with numerous things for our life. Life is an ever-changing phenomenon. We can see the changes even in nature. It has divided different seasons appropriates for the place. Once we learn how to live in this

changing process, we can easily survive and life becomes comfortable. The foremost thing in our life is an adaptation. From the beginning, all the creatures in the world learn to live with nature and gradually they adapt with the environment.

Obviously, literature is the mirror of life. Literature plays an essential role in our life. Here literature works as propaganda to give the awareness of the necessity of nature in our day-to-day life. Unless both go hand in hand, life becomes terrible. Emerson says in his work Nature, "Nature always wears the colours of the spirit" (Ch1). We can see how nature represented in literature. Our culture deeply linked with nature. Ecocritics believe that nature really exist. So here in this paper I wish to say that even if thoreau left the nature life, he rally enjoyed with nature and its features when he was in the woods. So nature can give us what you want to be. " For him Walden Pond and Walden Woods and the Concord countrysid is a heavenly place and nature is a tonic for him.

Cheryll Glotfelty and Fromm explain that eco-criticism is the study of the relationship between literature and the physical environment" (xviii).

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#### Works Cited

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