**Crichton’s Jurassic Park Duality of Life And Chaos in The Human Brain**

Skye Yang

Center for Advanced Research and Technology

Mrs. J. Silva

English 11H

January 26, 2024

**Crichton’s *Jurassic Park* Duality of Life And Chaos in The Human Brain**

**Abstract**

In the Web Design class at the Center of Advanced Research Technology, a year-long project about creating a website was given to all students that involved their skills and resources. Students prepared for this project by reading Michael Crichton’s 1990 novel, *Jurassic Park* in their English class. Using the setting from Crichton's novel and film by Steven Spielberg, students created a website that displayed their skills and talent from what they grasp in their class. Students also take in the book’s themes and messages that can be used in their lives. These lessons can be used to put a stop to any unpleasant things that can happen to their life. Students observed the topic of chaos theory and gained a complex way of thinking that can be used in a lifetime.

**Crichton’s *Jurassic Park* Duality of Life And Chaos in The Human Brain**

**Introduction**

The most beautiful things can be broken and shattered in unexpected ways. Micheal Critchton’s *Jurassic Park* tells a series of events involving the establishment known as Jurassic Park. InGen is a corporation working on a huge global project that will attract millions called Jurassic Park. Jurassic Park has the anomaly of having genetically born dinosaurs as its display and profit making the park a global attraction and a scientific accomplishment. InGen’s CEO, John Hammond, sought out a group of experts to see the quality of Jurassic Park. One of the experts, Ian Malcolm, constantly warns everyone that the park will fall into a disaster and there's no way of preventing the oncoming calamity. Malcolm is an intelligent mathematician and proves his judgment by applying a multiplex way of thinking referred to as chaos theory to the situation. The story tells a message to readers as they provide important knowledge that can be used in many real life conditions.

**Scientific and Literary Origins of Chaos Theory/Butterfly Effect**

The chaos theory is a world wide mathematical explanation of unexpected possibilities. It was founded by Edward Lorenz operating an experimental computer simulation to predict nature where it generated an infinite amount of extraordinary possibilities. These results fascinated him, soon presenting his discovery to the public, getting the outlandish title, the Butterfly Effect. Its explanation was that different actions can create endless outcomes, this makes everything very unpredictable. *Jurassic Park* uses chaos theory, but other literature stories have utilized it as well, like Ray Bradbury’s stories like *The Pedestrian* and *A Sound Of Thunder*. *The Pedestrian* has a world of “Silent and long and empty,” (Bradbury, 1951) streets demonstrating a startling future of society and *A Sound Of Thunder* tells, “Killing one butterfly couldn’t be that important,” (Bradbury, 1952) to the genetic future of the human race. This chaos theory is used to tell how unforeseen events can become true.

**Crichton’s *Jurassic Park* Duality of Life And Chaos in The Human Brain**

**Chaos Theory at Play in *Jurassic Park***

In Micheal Crichton’s *Jurassic Park*, InGen made Jurassic Park for visitors to see real dinosaurs and should be safe to the public, attracting more visitors and gaining costly profit. Ian Malcolm, is brought into Jurassic Park following the experience and security systems. As he examines the park, he explains chaos theory and the eventual collapse of Jurassic Park to the characters. He blames, “the behavior of the system in phase space.” (Crichton, 1990, p.53) will cause the park’s demise. Most characters don't agree with his observations and logic or just don’t understand what he’s saying in general. It is shown that Jurassic Park’s security systems and dinosaurs were made with carefulness and thought. There's a universal presumption that the park could never fall into an accident, but there are many things that are hidden from the common eye. This shows us that these sides are both observational and thoughtful, but in the end, Jurassic Park’s fate is very unpredictable. Malcolm is the only character who realizes the importance of chaos theory as he is the only person who reflects ahead in the future while everyone else focuses on the present where things seem to be alright.

**Crichton’s *Jurassic Park* Duality of Life And Chaos in The Human Brain**

**Consequences of Chaos Theory**

The ones who think it’s all safe and out of harm's way actually fabricate the problems and chaos of Jurassic Park, case in point, Henry Wu, the genetic creator of the dinosaurs. His talented skills in genetics appointed him to his position in InGen, manufacturing all of the dinosaurs in Jurassic Park. Wu had made a surprising success on his creations, but they had many abnormal implementations that were overseen which turned things upside down, catching everyone off guard. Another one who assumed it was all safe was Donald Gennaro, the legal counsel of Jurassic Park. He financially gave information and resources to InGen, helping Jurassic Park’s design to become the mega park that it needed to be, even though he didn’t have much knowledge about the park itself. He supposed the park was secured by the park’s demonstration of its security, concluding he spent money on the right thing. These people unintentionally spawned the crisis that occurred in Jurassic Park and don’t recognize their problematic activities. The most dangerous part of Jurassic Park was the dinosaurs themselves, the one that caused the most constructive damage was the tyrannosaurus, a tyrannosaurus on their own were hard to train creating numerous mishaps at the park. The expert hunter, Robot Muldoon, describes the tyrannosaurus as an eight ton rampaging beast, their behavior is very out of the blue and destructive. The deadliest dinosaurs, however, are the velociraptors. The main character, Alan Grant, describes them as rapacious, vicious, and intelligent hunters with sharp jaws and powerful claws. Things also get worse when there's a pack of them, velociraptor’s tactics and ferocity are more treacherous and violent in numbers. They are formidable and countlessly find ways to outsmart all the characters with their trickery and are tough to take down. Jurassic Park is filled with terrifying and menacing savage creatures with no supervision of authority and protection by its staff.

**Crichton’s *Jurassic Park* Duality of Life And Chaos in The Human Brain**

**Lessons Learned from Chaos**

Even though Jurassic Park has fallen into chaos, many things can be learned when failure is made. We can assimilate that not everything can be controlled like the nature of dinosaurs, don’t expect to always be in full control of a situation as every moment can turn into something hysterically wild and unmanageable. We can also comprehend that doing something because you can doesn’t mean you should. With the power that InGen has doesn’t mean they should recreate the dinosaurs and conceal them on an island that they have no authority just to show visitors and have financial gain. This action doesn’t have the justification to be an ordinary good thing for them or the dinosaurs themselves. When things fail, the only way to go back up is to fix those failures which can improve on your faults and give you more caution to frequently evade terrible consequences.

**Crichton’s *Jurassic Park* Duality of Life And Chaos in The Human Brain**

**Conclusion**

Any sense of comfort can turn into a brutal and tiring beat down as written in Michael Crichton’s *Jurassic Park*. *Jurassic Park*’s storytelling can be used to teach it’s readers how to prepare for any unanticipated obstacles. Ian Malcolm views onward to the future and points out the flaws of the present, any person can utilize this perspective in their lives. People like Henry Wu, Donald Gennaro, or John Hammond, have closed and blinded perspectives on their circumstances, and it is best for anyone to avoid their lacking qualities. The story of Jurassic Park can be used as a lecture for anyone to stay clear from any undesirable events that may emerge in their existence.

**Crichton’s *Jurassic Park* Duality of Life And Chaos in The Human Brain**

**References**

Crichton M. (1990, November 20) *Jurassic Park*.

Bradbury R. (1951, August 7) *The Pedestrian*.

Bradbury R. (1952). *A Sound of Thunder*.

Kastorf J. (2019, January 15). *The "Butterfly Effect" Explained.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PWC0bJXkZcE>.

Veritasium (2019, December 6). *Chaos: The Science of the Butterfly Effect.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fDek6cYijxI>.

The Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica (2009, July 16). *Edward Lorenz*

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Edward-Lorenz>.