**Plot – save this document and then fill it in electronically.**

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| **Type of narrative conflict** | **Quotes, examples** | **Explain what the quotes/examples show/mean:** | **Conforms to typical conventions of cli-fi** |
| **Person vs nature** | **“I could just hibernate here…Little England is shrinking. The tide’s creeping in every day. This country’s just a lifeboat now. They’ll chuck anyone overboard who they don’t need.” Shelly.**  **“Her mum had been stuck down the sinkhole for two days now.”**  **“Flea had learned to live with a lot of things since the superstorms had first brought her family to this city…Since the Mersey floodwaters of her poor drowned Liverpool had forced them this way up the Union Canal.”**  **“There was only one working week left now until the Global Mandatory Hibernation. The big G.M.H that’d been looming over Flea’s entire life…This was the last week of the world as Flea knew it.** | * **In this quote, Shelly encapsulates the loss of living space and the harsh reality of their society through an extended metaphor to convey not only the shrinking size of the land, but also that those who cannot adapt and change to the superstorms will perish, while insinuating that she belongs to this category, no longer able to fight the climate.** * **This line establishes the main conflict of this short story on the first page, which brings both interpersonal and environmental conflict. The sinkhole is used as a device to demonstrate how everyday life has been disrupted by climate disaster, with it symbolizing how society and the people within it are sinking, unable to continue to overcome the difficulties that the climate disaster has presented.** * **This expository line establishes how the superstorms have affected Flea’s family and the environment, forcing them to migrate from a coastal city as it has become submerged under flood water. Livable land is rapidly shrinking, resources are dwindling, and morale is low.** * **This line introduces the novel’s solution to a near-future scenario suffering from superstorms and extreme weather conditions, being the Global Mandatory Hibernation. The remnants of society has no choice but to flee underground to survive. Without access to a sufficient food supply nor safe shelter, Flea refuses to follow the government hibernation plan and decides to continue to roam above ground, to brave the weather and do what she can to live. To her, this is the end of the world – the world she has grown up in is sinking below the flooding and storms, all the while she has to leave her mother behind as ‘She’d only slow (them) down’. This is signified by her giving Shelly a can of coke, which she said she ‘would only crack their ring pulls at the end of the world.’** | **Essential to cli-fi is a conflict of climate disaster. In this case, superstorms and flooding. This massive global conflict is shown to have rippling repercussions such as displacement, resource scarcity, loss of livable land all of which work together to explore the key cli-fi theme of survival in a post-climate disaster world.** |
| **Person vs person** | **“They know you’re lucky. That you’ll survive…I’m not as lucky as you are, kid.” Shelly.**  **“Don’t give up, Shell. Not now. Please.” Flea.**  **“She didn’t want to leave…they’d rather be left to drown in the comfort of their own homes.” Shelly.**  **“And you feel the same?” Flea.**  **“I…I like it down here, Flea. It’s quiet. I can’t hear the thunder or the wind rattling the walls. It’s like going back into the womb. Like being all safe inside your mum’s tum.”** | **Shelly’s dialogue connotates her unwillingness to continue, as she believes she is not ‘lucky’, where she can no longer survive in their extreme climate. She has lost her hope for a bright future, as supported by the line, “(Shelly had) lived long enough to remember the sunshine. Long enough to miss it like hell and lose hope that is was ever coming back.” She has no drive to continue fighting for what is a society that in her view is inevitably going to collapse.**  **Flea’s response demonstrates the love she has for her mother, as she does not want to lose her. As the conversation progresses, Flea realizes that her mother is insistent on staying in the sinkhole, despite Flea’s wishes. Structure – ‘please’ is in italics for emphasis and the rarity of manners in Flea’s dialogue further reinforces how much she wishes that her mother escapes the sinkhole and continues to live on the surface with Flea and Wes. Expresses desperation.**  **Shelly’s bleak and depressive view of the world is reflected in her desire to, in Flea’s eyes, ‘give up’ and pass peacefully in their home, rather than to continue striving for a better future. To her, such a future does not exist, as she has “los(t) hope that (the sunshine is) ever coming back.” Since the rising floods forced them out of their previous home, the climate disaster has drained her morale, leaving her to seek comfort in alcohol. “It was only after the Wheelers lost their old home that Shell started washing her headache pills with cheap gin, which had sunk her faster than any flood.”**  **This quote portrays how the sinkhole is only another form of escapism for Shelly, a way to flee from the harsh realities of their existence like her abuse of alcohol as a means to cope. Within the sinkhole, there are no signifiers of the state of the outside world, as she ‘can’t hear the thunder or wind’ and cannot be reminded of the dire climate crisis. Her simile of ‘going back into the womb…like being all safe inside your mum’s tum’ describes this blissful ignorance, of being unaware of the suffering and the struggles of society outside of oneself. It also implies warmth, comfort and sustenance, all aspects of life that Flea, Shelly and Wes all lack. To her, giving up is soothing, even the prospect of death does not bother her. It may even be a comforting thought. To Flea, the potential death of her mother unsettles her deeply, and does all she can to convince her otherwise until eventually giving up and giving her a can of coke to commemorate the end of the world, or a world without her mother.** | **Typical of cli-fi, this short story focuses on personal responses to climate disaster, showing how climate disaster might disrupt and dismantle family. In this short story, there is conflict between Flea and her mum because of their different responses to climate disaster. Flea can adapt and survive, Shelly cannot change and remains stuck. Shelly’s inability to adapt thwarts Flea’s main goal of keeping her family intact through this climate disaster. So we see this conforms to conventions of cli-fi, focusing on the personal impacts of a huge climate disaster.**  **The highest point of tension is not actually focused on extreme weather but on how people respond to such disaster. This is typical of cli-fi in the microfocus on ways individuals and smaller aspects of society such as family may be reshaped by mass climate change.** |
| **Person vs nature and person vs person** |  |  | **The sinkhole is both an example of person vs nature conflict because it keeps Flea separate from her mother and an example of person vs person conflict because Shelly chooses to stay in the sinkhole rather than let Flew rescue her.** |
| **Person vs society** |  |  | **Flea’s rejection of the government mandated Global Mandatory Hibernation is an example of person vs society conflict. This is typical of cli-fi in that it focuses on the personal, the individual in response to events out of their control that were put in motion before the story takes place.**  **Individuals are pitted against each other fighting for survival.** |