

[Environmental Imagination in Marilynne Robinson's *Housekeeping* and *Lila*]

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[Abstract] *This article considers how the natural environment is represented in two novels by Marilynne Robinson and also references her non-fiction work. While Robinson is an outspoken advocate of various social causes in her essays and public speeches, environmental themes do not appear very frequently in her non-fiction texts. However, in her novels, and particularly in *Housekeeping* and *Lila*, nature a large role. These two novels have some significant connections, and yet they differ fundamentally in their environmental implications. This difference can be related to the difference between first- and second-wave ecocriticism.*

[Keywords] *Marilynne Robinson; environment; nature; wilderness; garden; ecocriticism*