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David Attenborough: A Life on Our Planet Documentary Summary

"There is a tremendously moving sense of finality about Attenborough's terrifying new documentary on the climate emergency. It is being marketed as a retrospective, a look back at his life and 60-years-plus career. But make no mistake about its true agenda: Attenborough is here to deliver a stark warning that time is ticking for the planet. It is a personal film – and political, too. There is emotion and urgency in that familiar soothing voice. At one point he rubs his eyes, reddened and damp.", The Guardian

Meet Sir David Attenborough, English climate activist, broadcaster, biologist, natural historian, and author as we track the history and changes of Earth's biodiversity over his life time. This film is his witness statement to the world recounting his life and the evolutionary life on earth, to grieve the loss of wild environments and to offer a vision for the future. Attenborough is known for creating a body of work which became a benchmark of quality in wildlife film-making, and influenced a generation of documentary film-makers; he then later developed his climate action cause in his documentaries to be urgent in delivery and impact.

"The natural world is fading, the evidence is all around, It's happened in my lifetime. I have seen it with my own eyes. This film is my witness statement and my vision for the future, the story of how we came to make this our greatest mistake and how, if we act now- we can yet put it right." Sir Attenborough shares his wisdom with us as we journey through his life time witnessing his experience in the deterioration of our natural wild life resources.

For 65 million years we have been reconstructing our living world until we come to our time, what scientists refer to as the Holocene- our garden of eden. In Holocene, we began to transform the world through our intelligible ideas.

The film then begins to account a tally of the year, the world population, parts per million carbon in atmosphere, and remaining wilderness. The discouraging statistical

transgression accompanied with the graphic before and after examples being worse with before: orangutans swinging through the rainforest in Borneo, and after: no forest, a single orangutan attempting to clamber up a branchless tree trunk.

With global warming a threat, we see the vast landscapes explored by young Attenborough and learn of the African Serengeti herds and that they need this massive grass landscape in Africa to survive. Attenborough remarks on shooting 'Life on Earth' and how he journeyed to 39 countries and demonstrates to us the before and after situations to our biodiversity around the world. He gives account for factual information found in 1970 for the film and how our planet has evolved over time weakening our life forms ability to survive. Whales were killed off in numbers by industrial ships in the 1970s and we have cut down over 15 billion trees each year.

He gives multiple facts of current climate activity in the warming of our planet which become frightening to us to see our planet losing its life, headed for disaster. In the later third of the movie Attenborough lends his topic toward taking action in solidarity combating climate change. He begins to gift the viewer with solutions to combat climate change through diet, no fishing zones, halting the population growth and in taking action toward sustainable practices in emitting carbon globally. He extrapolates a positive story as an example to bring health back to our earth through sustainable farming in the Netherlands. The New York Times states, "The film's grand achievement is that it positions its subject as a mediator between humans and the natural world. Life cycles on, and if we make the right choices, ruin can become regrowth."