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Surbakti, Reza Panca Rani Br

2025

# Rejection of Women's Submission in Jamaica Kincaid's Lucy

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**REJECTION OF WOMEN'S SUBMISSION IN  
JAMAICA KINCAID'S *LUCY***

**This undergraduate thesis is submitted as partial fulfilment to obtain  
Bachelor Degree at English Department Faculty of Cultural Sciences  
Catholic University of Saint Thomas Medan**



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Solemnly declare that this thesis entitled “**Rejection of Women’s Submission in Jamaica Kincaid’s *Lucy***” is my own work, free from plagiarism. Quotations are referenced following the scientific writing ethics that apply. If it is proven that this thesis contains plagiarism and is deemed to have violated the rules, I am willing to accept sanctions for the act as outlined in the applicable regulations.

Medan, 30 July 2025

Reza Panca Rani Br Surbakti

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Grateful praise to the Almighty God for His grace and mercy, the writer has successfully completed the thesis entitled **Rejection of Women Submission in Jamaica Kincaid's *Lucy***. This thesis is submitted as one of the requirements to obtain a bachelor's degree in English Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Catholic University of Saint Thomas Medan.

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Medan, July 2025

The Writer

Reza Panca Rani Br Surbakti

## ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the rejection of women's submission as depicted in the literary work *Lucy* written by Jamaica Kincaid and published in 1990. The researcher employs a qualitative method with the novel as the primary data source. Supporting data are obtained from secondary sources such as scientific books, journal articles, and library research, both online and offline. Data are collected through thorough reading and note-taking to identify elements relevant to the research focus. All significant findings are then categorized and analyzed using feminist literary theory. The main objective of this novel is to explore how the main character in the novel refuses to comply with traditional rules that marginalize and oppress women. Through in-depth reading, this study identifies forms of female subservience to traditional roles rooted in patriarchal culture. These traditional roles have been shown to limit women's freedom in determining their own path in life. The results show that the main character's rejection is a form of self-defense as well as an act of stepping out of their comfort zone. This study emphasizes the importance of encouraging women to step out of their comfort zone, reject traditional roles that limit their roles only to the domestic sphere, and demand full freedom over themselves and their roles in both the domestic and public spheres. Furthermore, this research also invites women to have the courage to become independent individuals, able to voice their opinions and challenge traditional roles that prevent them from pursuing their dreams.

***Keywords: rejection, women's submission, traditional rules, feminism***

## ABSTRAK

*Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis penolakan terhadap kepatuhan wanita sebagaimana digambarkan dalam Lucy karya Jamaica Kincaid yang diterbitkan pada tahun 1990. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif dengan novel tersebut sebagai sumber data utama. Data pendukung diperoleh dari sumber-sumber skunder seperti buku ilmiah, artikel jurnal serta penelitian pustakan baik daring maupun luring. Data dikumpulkan melalui pembacaan menyeluruh dan pencatatan untuk mengidentifikasi unsur-unsur yang relevan dengan fokus penelitian. Seluruh temuan yang signifikan kemudian dikategorikan dan dianalisis menggunakan teori sastra feminis. Tujuan utama dari novel ini adalah untuk mengeksplorasi bagaimana tokoh utama dalam novel tersebut menolak untuk patuh terhadap aturan-aturan tradisional yang memarjinalkan dan menindas wanita. Melalui pembacaan mandalam penelitian ini mengidentifikasi bentuk ketundukan wanita terhadap peran-peran tradisional yang mengakar dalam budaya patriarki. Peran-peran tradisional ini terbukti membatasi kebebasan perempuan dalam menentukan jalan hidupnya sendiri. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa penolakan karakter utama adalah bentuk pertahanan diri sekaligus tindakan untuk keluar dari zona nyaman. Penelitian ini menekankan pentingnya mendorong perempuan keluar dari zona nyaman, menolak peran-peran tradisional yang membatasi peran mereka hanya pada ranah domestik, dan menuntut kebebasan penuh atas diri sendiri serta peran dalam ranah domestik maupun publik. Lebih lanjut, penelitian ini juga mengajak perempuan untuk memiliki keberanian menjadi individu yang mandiri, mampu menyuarakan pendapatnya dan menentang peran-peran tradisional yang menghalangi mereka mengejar cita-cita.*

***Kata kunci: penolakan, ketundukan wanita, peran-peran tradisional, feminisme***

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