

**THE REPRESENTATION OF FEMALE OPPRESSION IN UNDER THE
GASLIGHT LAURA COURTLAND CHARACTER BY AUGUSTIN DALY**

A THESIS

*Intended To Fulfil One of the Requirements
for the Award Sarjana Degree
in English Study Program*



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UNDER THE GASLIGHT LAURA COURTLAND CHARACTER
BY AUGUSTIN DALY**

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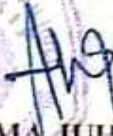
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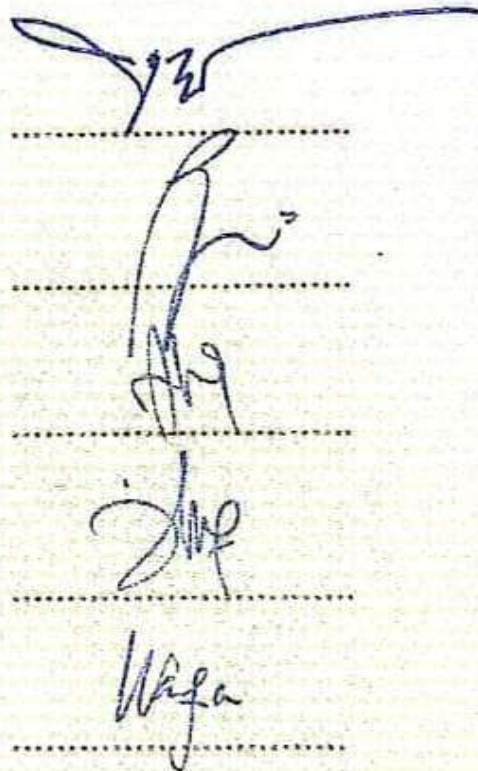
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Rokan Hulu, July 2026

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ABSTRACT

Julaika. 2026. *The Representation of Female Oppression in Under the Gaslight*
Laura Courtland Character By Augustin Daly

This research aims to analyze the representation of female oppression and identify the forms of female oppression experienced by Laura Courtland in Augustin Daly's *Under the Gaslight*. This study employs a qualitative descriptive research design using feminist literary criticism. The primary data were taken from the drama *Under the Gaslight* (1867), particularly dialogues, scenes, and character actions related to Laura Courtland. The data were collected through document analysis and analyzed by identifying, classifying, interpreting, and drawing conclusions from the selected data. Iris Marion Young's (1990) theory of oppression was used as the main theoretical framework to examine the forms of oppression experienced by Laura. The findings reveal 20 data representing seven forms of female oppression: social oppression, psychological oppression, identity oppression, economic oppression, emotional oppression, gender expectation, and patriarchal authority. Social oppression is the most dominant form, with five data, followed by psychological oppression with four data, identity oppression with three data, economic oppression with three data, emotional oppression with two data, gender expectation with two data, and patriarchal authority with one data. The findings also show that female oppression is represented through Laura Courtland as a socially marginalized woman, a psychologically oppressed woman, a woman whose identity is controlled and questioned, an economically vulnerable woman, and a woman subjected to patriarchal authority. These forms of oppression are interconnected and demonstrate how social judgment, discrimination, gender expectations, and male dominance restrict Laura's freedom, identity, social position, and personal choices. The study concludes that *Under the Gaslight* portrays female oppression as a structural condition reinforced by patriarchal social values and unequal power relations in nineteenth-century society.

Keywords: female oppression, Laura Courtland, *Under the Gaslight*, feminism, patriarchy, Iris Marion Young.

ABSTRAK

Julaika. 2026. *Representasi Penindasan Perempuan dalam Karakter Laura Courtland di Under the Gaslight* oleh Augustin Daly

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis representasi penindasan terhadap perempuan serta mengidentifikasi bentuk-bentuk penindasan terhadap perempuan yang dialami oleh Laura Courtland dalam drama *Under the Gaslight* karya Augustin Daly. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif dengan pendekatan kritik sastra feminis. Sumber data utama dalam penelitian ini adalah drama *Under the Gaslight* (1867), khususnya dialog, adegan, dan tindakan tokoh yang berkaitan dengan Laura Courtland. Data dikumpulkan melalui analisis dokumen dan dianalisis dengan cara mengidentifikasi, mengklasifikasikan, menginterpretasikan, serta menarik kesimpulan berdasarkan data yang telah dipilih. Teori penindasan Iris Marion Young (1990) digunakan sebagai landasan utama untuk menganalisis bentuk-bentuk penindasan yang dialami oleh Laura. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa terdapat 20 data yang merepresentasikan tujuh bentuk penindasan terhadap perempuan, yaitu penindasan sosial, penindasan psikologis, penindasan identitas, penindasan ekonomi, penindasan emosional, ekspektasi gender, dan otoritas patriarkal. Penindasan sosial merupakan bentuk yang paling dominan dengan lima data, diikuti penindasan psikologis sebanyak empat data, penindasan identitas sebanyak tiga data, penindasan ekonomi sebanyak tiga data, penindasan emosional sebanyak dua data, ekspektasi gender sebanyak dua data, dan otoritas patriarkal sebanyak satu data. Hasil penelitian juga menunjukkan bahwa penindasan terhadap perempuan direpresentasikan melalui karakter Laura Courtland sebagai perempuan yang mengalami marginalisasi sosial, tekanan psikologis, pengendalian dan ketidakjelasan identitas, keterbatasan ekonomi, serta dominasi patriarkal. Berbagai bentuk penindasan tersebut saling berkaitan dan menunjukkan bagaimana penilaian sosial, diskriminasi, ekspektasi gender, serta dominasi laki-laki membatasi kebebasan, identitas, posisi sosial, dan pilihan pribadi Laura. Penelitian ini menyimpulkan bahwa *Under the Gaslight* menggambarkan penindasan terhadap perempuan sebagai kondisi struktural yang diperkuat oleh nilai-nilai sosial patriarkal dan ketimpangan relasi kekuasaan dalam masyarakat abad ke-19.

Kata kunci: penindasan terhadap perempuan, Laura Courtland, *Under the Gaslight*, feminisme, patriarki, Iris Marion Young.

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Finally , I realized this thesis is still far from perfect. I hope this thesis will be beneficial to the development of education.

Pasir Pengarian,.....2026

The researcher

Julaika

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