

# **FEMALE CHARACTERS' RESISTANCE AGAINST PATRIARCHAL PRACTICES IN SAINT'S *HERA***

## **A THESIS**

**Presented in a Partial Fulfillment of the  
Requirements for Completing the  
Sarjana Degree in Department of English Literature**



**By:**

**AULIA KYARAHANNA SETYAWAN**  
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**FAKULTAS ILMU BUDAYA  
UNIVERSITAS 17 AGUSTUS 1945 SURABAYA**

**2025**

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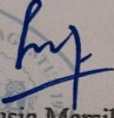
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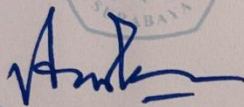
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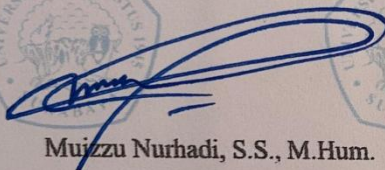
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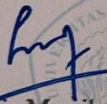
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Surabaya, 25<sup>th</sup> July 2025

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## ABSTRACT

This thesis examines how patriarchal practices are reflected and resisted by female characters portrayed in *Hera* (2024) by Jennifer Saint. This study applies Kate Millett's *Sexual Politics* (2000) and Rosemarie Tong's *Feminist Thought* (2009). Millett's theory is used to identify patriarchal practices embedded in the novel, while Tong's theory is used to identify how the female characters resist the patriarchal system. Using qualitative descriptive analysis, this study closely examines textual evidence to reveal how mythological retellings like *Hera* (2024) can critique patriarchal practices while offering alternative narratives centered on female empowerment and resistance. Thus, the approach applied is feminist literary criticism. By using Millett's theory, the analysis shows that there are two types of patriarchal practices found in the novel, namely, male authority and sexual hierarchy, as well as the subjugation of the female body. In response to these patriarchal practices, the analysis identifies acts of resistance expressed by female characters through strategies outlined in Tong's theory of radical feminism, namely, directly challenge male authority, reject traditional gender roles, separation from patriarchal structures, reject femininity and embrace masculinity, and reject sexual practices that normalize male violence. The resistances represent a form of agency that challenges the patriarchal practices embedded in the mythological structure of Olympus. From this study, it can be understood that patriarchy is a system created to justify males' aggression, which can be fought and resisted both in real life and in literature.

**Keywords:** *Female Resistance, Feminism, Patriarchy, Patriarchal Practices, Radical Feminism*