

**THE DIARY OF MA YAN BY MA YAN AND PIERRE HASKI: A LIBERAL
FEMINIST STUDY ON WOMEN'S EDUCATION**



**An Undergraduate Thesis
Submitted as a partial fulfillment of
the requirements for *Sarjana Sastra* Degree**

**Kayla Azalia Yulfaninta
1809010015**

**ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY PROGRAM
FACULTY OF CULTURAL SCIENCES AND COMMUNICATION
UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH PURWOKERTO
2025**

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2025**

APPROVAL SHEET


This is to certify that this graduating paper entitled *"The Diary of Ma Yan by Ma Yan and Pierre Haski: A Liberal Feminist Study on Women's Education"* by Kayla


Azalia Yulfaninta has been approved by the advisor and the Head of English Department to be examined by the Board of Examiners.

Purwokerto, 28th July 2025

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VALIDATION SHEET

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STUDY ON WOMEN'S EDUCATION**

An Undergraduate Thesis

**By
Kayla Azalia Yulfaninta**


**has been examined and approved by the Board of Examiners as one of the
requirements for Sarjana Sastra Degree on 29th July 2025.**

THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS

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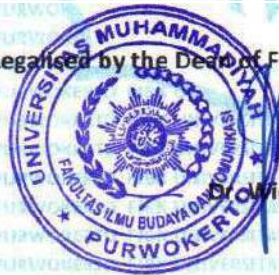
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STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

Name : Kayla Azalia Yulfaninta

Student Number : 1809010015

I, the undersigned researcher of the undergraduate thesis entitled *THE DIARY OF MA YAN BY MA YAN AND PIERRE HASKI: A LIBERAL FEMINIST STUDY ON WOMEN'S EDUCATION*, hereby attest and affirm that the material in this thesis has not been previously submitted and published for a degree in any universities, and to the best of my knowledge, any referenced-quotations are shown in the arrangement of citations and bibliography. If later it can be revealed that this research contains partly or wholly plagiarised pieces of other intellectual works of any kinds, the researcher will be ready to accept the sanction.

Purwokerto, 28th July 2025



Kayla Azalia Yulfaninta

MOTTO

“Talk Less, Do More”

-anonymous-



DEDICATION

This undergraduate thesis is dedicated to myself and the university.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Alhamdulillahirobbil'alamin. All praise to Allah Subhanahu wa ta'ala, because of all His blessings given to me during my studies from the beginning of college until I can accomplish my studies.

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Thanks to my parents for their patience. My best friend, Keane, I hope we are still close even when you grow up. My friend in college, April, because of you, I can start this, and I will always thank you for that. Along the journey, making this work, there are a lot of friends, but special thanks to Aya, Elvi, and Nanda. I am so grateful we can do this together.

May this undergraduate thesis serve not only as a reflection of academic growth, but also as evidence of the strength of friendship and faith that have accompanied me throughout this journey. I offer my deepest appreciation to everyone who has walked beside me—your support and kindness have truly made this accomplishment meaningful. May Allah Subhanahu wa ta'ala continue to guide and bless us in all our future.

PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN PUBLIKASI SKRIPSI

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Yang menyatakan,



Kayla Azalia Yulfaninta

ABSTRACTS

Yulfaninta, Kayla Azalia. 2025. *The Diary of Ma Yan* by Ma Yan and Pierre Haski: *A Liberal Feminist Study on Women's Education*. Undergraduate Thesis. English Literature Study Program, Faculty of Cultural Sciences and Communication, Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto.

This study analyzes *The Diary of Ma Yan* through the liberal feminist theory by Mary Wollstonecraft and Betty Friedan to explore the representation of women's education in rural China. It examines the social, economic, and geographic barriers faced by girls like Ma Yan, whose educational opportunities are restricted by a patriarchal mindset and poverty. The research focuses on Ma Yan and her mother as main characters of resistance—Ma Yan through her persistent desire to study and self-expression via writing, and her mother through physical labor and sacrifices to support her daughter's learning. Utilizing qualitative methods and feminist literary critique, the study reveals how Ma Yan's diary summarizes both personal and structural struggles for equality, highlighting education as a tool for emancipation and social change. The findings illustrate that Ma Yan's story goes beyond her diary, creating effects of change, solidarity, and hope within her family and community, and reinforcing liberal feminism's assertion that access to education is essential for women's empowerment and societal progress.

Keywords: *The Diary of Ma Yan*, Liberal Feminism, Mary Wollstonecraft, Betty Friedan, Women's Education.

INTISARI

Yulfaninta, Kayla Azalia. 2025. *The Diary of Ma Yan* oleh Ma Yan dan Pierre Haski: *Kajian Feminis Liberal tentang Pendidikan Perempuan*. Skripsi. Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Ilmu Budaya dan Ilmu Komunikasi, Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto.

Studi ini menganalisis *The Diary of Ma Yan* melalui teori feminis liberal karya Mary Wollstonecraft dan Betty Friedan untuk mengeksplorasi representasi pendidikan perempuan di pedalaman China. Studi ini mengkaji hambatan sosial, ekonomi, dan geografis yang dihadapi oleh anak perempuan seperti Ma Yan, yang kesempatan pendidikannya dibatasi oleh pola pikir patriarki dan kemiskinan. Penelitian ini berfokus pada Ma Yan dan ibunya sebagai tokoh utama perlawanan—Ma Yan melalui hasratnya yang gigih untuk belajar dan mengekspresikan diri melalui tulisan, dan ibunya melalui kerja fisik dan pengorbanan untuk mendukung pembelajaran putrinya. Dengan memanfaatkan metode kualitatif dan kritik sastra feminis, studi ini mengungkap bagaimana buku harian Ma Yan merangkul perjuangan pribadi dan struktural untuk kesetaraan, menyoroti pendidikan sebagai alat emansipasi dan perubahan sosial. Temuan ini menggambarkan bahwa kisah Ma Yan melampaui buku hariannya, menciptakan dampak perubahan, solidaritas, dan harapan dalam keluarga dan komunitasnya, serta memperkuat pernyataan feminisme liberal bahwa akses pendidikan penting bagi pemberdayaan perempuan dan kemajuan masyarakat.

Kata Kunci: *The Diary of Ma Yan*, *Feminisme Liberal*, *Mary Wollstonecraft*, *Betty Friedan*, *Pendidikan Perempuan*.

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