

A successful thesis sentence will contain the following parts and in this order:

Narrow your topic + State your argumentative claim + List the four subtopics you will analyze

Both Armand and Desiree's dialogue and behavior reveal the dominance of men in the patriarchal structure of their culture and its reflection in their marriage through Armand's selection of Desiree for his wife, Desiree's knowledge that Armand prefers to have a son, Desiree's lack of self-worth when rejected by Armand, and Armand's final erasure of her memory from his life in a bonfire.

Lula Ann's mother and father mistreat their child inflicting unnecessary hardships and potentially damaging her self-image and their relationship when the mother rejects her child at birth, the father abandons the family and sends a monthly check, the mother limits Lula Ann's independence and teaches her to degrade herself, and in the end, Lula Ann isolates herself and signs her letter to her mother, Bride.

The heart of the thesis sentence is the argumentative claim which is central to your interpretation of the author's purpose. Your claim must state your informed opinion that other students could disagree with. If it is a fact in the story or a summary of the story, it is not arguable.