

## Keyword project Entry 2

Mackenzie Norman

*“The question what is a body, is the question what is it to eat: Take, eat; this is my body.”*(Brown)

For this journal entry I wanted to look at the contrast between the other women and Lucia in *Nervous Conditions*. In the story Lucia was by far the most interesting character to me. She is a foil to every other woman. To the point of nearing masculinity, but despite her masculine qualities, her body is most often described of that of a woman. *“But unlike my mother her complexion always had a light shining from underneath it.”* I think this is what makes her a novel contradiction. She is feminine in body surely - even becoming pregnant. (However when describing her giving birth it is minimized) “Lucia had a kid quote”. She encompasses mind-body dualism in an interesting way simply because her body is so divorced from her mind (and her mind is so divorced from reality)

“You’ve got a waist. One of these days you’ll have a bust. Pity about the backside, ... It’s rather large ” [91] “Shes probably dieting because I told her her bottom is fat” [92]

“nyasha fell on to the bed, her miniscule skirt riding up to her bottom” [114]  
“Lucia had somehow managed to keep herself plump despite her tribulations” [127]  
“As if it is ever easy, And these days it is worse, with the poverty of blackness on one side and the weight of womanhood on the other [16]”

Colonialism puts womens bodies in a constant state of contradiction - plump but not fat... etc.

## 1 Citations

Brown, Norman O.. *Love’s Body*, Reissue of 1966 Edition, University of California Press, 1990. ProQuest Ebook Central, <http://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/psu/detail.action?docID=837241>. Created from psu on 2025-04-09 17:51:58.