



Symbolic Power in Nathaniel Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter

By -

Grin Verlag. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 28 pages. Dimensions: 8.1in. x 5.7in. x 0.2in. Seminar paper from the year 2009 in the subject American Studies - Culture and Applied Geography, grade: 1, 0, University of Frankfurt (Main), language: English, comment: Untersuchung von symbolischer Herrschaft in Hawthorne's Roman The Scarlet Letter und deren Wandelbarkeit, abstract: In discussions about Nathaniel Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter much attention has been given to the question what the A, which the sinful heroine Hester Prynne was ordered by the magistrates of the Puritan society to wear on her bosom, means. Scholars like Michael Pringle have concluded that the emblem of sin can be interpreted in manifold ways, from A for adulteress to A for angel. This diagnosis indicates that the meaning of the symbol A changes during the course of the plot. However, not so much attention has been given to that process of change and to the symbol as a strong instrument of power to determine social discourse. This study will deal with the question of symbolic power in The Scarlet Letter, or, to be more precise: How does Hester change the meaning of the A, which originally has been forced upon her to...



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