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Poetic Justice in William Faulkner's "Absalom Absalom"

By Manuela Gertz

GRIN Verlag Jul 2010, 2010. sonst. Bücher. Book Condition: Neu. 216x147x1 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware - Seminar paper from the year 2010 in the subject English - Literature, Works, grade: 2,5, University of Stuttgart, course: William Faulkner, language: English, abstract: In his novel 'Absalom, Absalom!' William Faulkner recounts the story of Thomas Sutpen, a pioneer who tries to establish his family dynasty in the Southern aristocratic plantation society in Mississippi. Thomas Sutpen rigorously pursues his design at all costs, not considering the possible consequences. This moral flaw in his character causes the downfall of his dynasty and the destruction of the whole family. At the end of the novel Sutpen's Hundred, the decaying mansion Sutpen built to accomplish his design, is burned down, together with the last descendants of the family. This tragic development of the story provokes the idea of poetic justice, where virtue is rewarded and vice is punished. But can such a sharp categorization really be applied on this complex novel In the following paper I will show whether the term poetic justice can be applied on 'Absalom, Absalom!'. I will take a look at the elements which might...


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