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Seducing Transcendental Narrative Perspectives in Nathaniel Hawthorne's "Rappaccini's Daughter"

By Anonym

GRIN Verlag Jan 2011, 2011. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 210x148x2 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware - Seminar paper from the year 2005 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 1,0, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, language: English, abstract: 1. Introduction As with every text in literature, a single consistent reading is never possible. However, Nathaniel Hawthorne's 1844 story 'Rappaccini's Daughter' has caused quite a sensation about its topicality, and many attempts to reconcile different critical approaches have been thwarted. Whereas, still today, some critics see religion, in particular the Fall of Man, as the story's major issue, others oppose with their ideas about stereotypical womanhood or Hawthorne's supposedly harsh criticism of science. Till the present day, as Fogle states, an 'accurate definition of its elements is next to impossible' (92). The question of whether these so radically contradicting analyses of the story root in Hawthorne's use of allegory is justified. As with every allegory, it needs a deeper examination to encode the story's secondary meaning in order to understand the different layers of the text. With this, it seems quite obvious that contradicting readings arise. I argue though that it...



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