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The Importance of Jazz Music in Toni Morrisons Jazz

By Elena Kramer

GRIN Verlag. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 60 pages. Dimensions: 8.3in. x 5.8in. x 0.4in. Seminar paper from the year 2008 in the subject American Studies - Literature, grade: 1, 3, University of Kassel, language: English, abstract: The first reading of Toni Morrisons novel made me wonder why the author chose the title Jazz. It describes the difficulties various African Americans have in integrating themselves into the urban context of the North. The origin of this dilemma lies in unsolved problems, unprocessed experiences and in an incomplete reappraisal of the past. Identity, as it seems, needs to reconcile history and present. Blacks in northern cities at the beginning of the 20th century still suffered from the reverberations of slavery; the Great Migration out of the Old South and into the industrialized North with its promising opportunities had not settled these problems. In this paper, I want to examine jazz music and its function within the thematic frame of the story. Since history is of great importance in the novel, it is necessary to comprehensively outline the historical background of the story, which reaches from the late years of slavery up to the artistic blossom during the Harlem Renaissance. The development of...



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