



Sister, Mother And Lover: The family roles of Julie in Ian McEwan's "The Cement Garden"

By Ismail Durgut

Grin Verlag Sep 2009, 2009. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 219x151x24 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Titel. - Seminar paper from the year 2009 in the subject English - Literature, Works, printed single-sided, grade: 2.0, University of Duisburg-Essen, language: English, abstract: In [Ian McEwan s] The Cement Garden a prominent interpretative signpost is bestowed by the literary allusion to the story tradition in which children are put into a situation in which they must fend for themselves. The key reference here is to William Golding s Lord of the Flies, a pessimistic tale of savage that emerges within the child when free of social controls. However, the children in McEwan s novel are not entirely cut from society. They try to keep their sense of family together by entombing their dead mother in concrete in the cellar of their isolated house. Moreover, all of them are influenced by adult codes of familial behavior. These codes become distorted in their independent existence, a process that culminates in the incestuous involvement of the eldest siblings. While Sue, the younger sister of the first-person narrator Jack, does not change visibly, Jack himself runs through a metamorphosis in terms...

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