



American Adolescence: J.D. Salinger's the Catcher in the Rye and Bret Easton Ellis Less Than Zero

By Christopher G. Hn

Grin Verlag. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 92 pages. Dimensions: 8.3in. x 5.8in. x 0.4in. Bachelor Thesis from the year 2008 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 1, University of Paderborn, language: English, abstract: American Literature thematizing youth, adolescence and initiation draws on a long tradition reaching back to the 18th century, including writers like Herman Melville, Mark Twain, Henry James and William Faulkner. After the Second World War, the American novel of adolescence flourished again in a period that also gave birth to the genres arguably most prominent representative: When J. D. Salinger's novel The Catcher in the Rye first entered the American book market in 1951, its critical reception could not have diverged more. Salinger's first novel, after publishing a number of short stories in the New Yorker, was mostly attacked for its extensive use of colloquial language. Initial reviews ranged from an unusual brilliant first novel to wholly repellent in its mingled vulgarity . . . and sly perversion. In 1985, thirty-four years later, Less Than Zero, the first novel of Bennington College student Bret Easton Ellis, was published and also received widely mixed criticism. While Interview Magazine called his debut startling and...



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