

Good, True, and Beautiful in "The Picture of Dorian Gray" by Oscar Wilde



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Reviews

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(Dorothy Daugherty)

GOOD, TRUE, AND BEAUTIFUL IN "THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY" BY OSCAR WILDE

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GRIN Verlag Jul 2012, 2012. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 211x149x3 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware - Seminar paper from the year 1998 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 1,0 (A), Grinnell College (English Studies), course: The Tradition of English Literature, 31 entries in the bibliography, language: English, comment: , abstract: 1. Introduction: In the following, the notions of good, true, and beautiful in Oscar Wilde's *The Picture of Dorian Gray* will be examined, both separately and as they relate to one another. These adjectives carry a positive meaning, and they create a distinct contrast to the critiques and accusations that have been raised against the book and its writer. *The Picture of Dorian Gray* is in many ways a pivotal work (Lawler 285) in Oscar Wilde's life and career. It sums up his major influences of the 1870s and 1880s, and anticipates the style of his celebrated comedies to come. Why was the public's opinion, which meant his ruin in the end, so important to Oscar Wilde? To answer this question it is necessary to look at Wilde's audience and environment. Wilde was the epitome of a new type of professional writer (Small 3). Thus *The Picture of Dorian Gray* and the scandal it provoked have to be situated in the context of late Victorian social institutions of journalism, advertising, homosexual communities, criminology, etiquette, and theater (Gagnier, Cambridge Companion 27). Wilde had always been a great borrower and collector of literary culture, and therefore was often accused of plagiarism, but he transformed everything into his own way of expression. It is the blending of original invention and existing art that enables Wilde to create new effects and moods. This blending helps to explain how *The Picture...*



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