

## Art in Sinclair Ross's 'As for Me and My House' and Lorna Crozier's 'A Saving Grace'



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### ***Reviews***

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***(Letha Okuneva)***

## ART IN SINCLAIR ROSS'S 'AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE' AND LORNA CROZIER'S 'A SAVING GRACE'



GRIN Verlag Sep 2007, 2007. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 210x148x2 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware - Seminar paper from the year 2004 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 1,7, University of Cologne (Englisches Seminar), course: The Great Depression in American and Canadian Literature, 21 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: Since its reprint in 1957 Sinclair Ross's *As for Me and My House* has been considered to be one of Canada's most important literary works and has been honoured with great attention amongst numerous critics. The discussion ranges from gay / lesbian approaches over biographical comparisons of the characters with historical figures to psychoanalytical approaches to the protagonists' personalities. The subjective point of view of the fictional diary of Mrs. Bentley has always been an obstacle for the critics. As the diarist she slips into the roles of author, actor and reader, which leads to a constant shifting of her position as subject, object, observer, or third person. John H. Ferres has pointed out three capital themes in Sinclair Ross's works, which are of special relevance for *As for Me and My House*: the difficulty of communication, the strive for authenticity and the struggle against the harsh Canadian prairie. Being categorized as a *Künstlerroman*, artistic expression of any kind plays a major role in the novel. Thus, art is also functioning as a medium for the expression of the characters' personalities, for coping with the hostile natural environment and finally for the constant try to carry their inner concerns outside. Based on *As For Me and My House* the volume of poems by Lorna Crozier, named *A Saving Grace* give further insights into Mrs. Bentley's nature. The poems pick up the topics of...



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