

## Identity in Zadie Smith's "White Teeth" and Hanif Kureishi's "My Beautiful Laundrette"



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### ***Reviews***

*The publication is great and fantastic. It can be filled with knowledge and wisdom You wont truly feel monotony at at any moment of your time (that's what catalogues are for about if you ask me).*

***(Dr. Marcos Grimes III)***

## IDENTITY IN ZADIE SMITH'S "WHITE TEETH" AND HANIF KUREISHI'S "MY BEAUTIFUL LAUNDRETTE"

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Grin Verlag Jun 2011, 2011. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 210x148x5 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Titel. - Bachelor Thesis from the year 2011 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, printed single-sided, grade: 1,3, University of Paderborn (Institut für Kulturwissenschaften), language: English, abstract: Who am I What makes me me These are questions of daily importance to every individual human being. The question of what defines us in our per-sonality cannot be answered in a single sentence, or easily. Multiple external factors from the field of culture such as ethnicity, race, class, gender, sexual orientation or history impinge on who we are, what we identify ourselves or are identified with. According to the Oxford English Dictionary, identity defines 'Who or what a person or thing is; a distinct impression of a single person or thing presented to or perceived by others; a set of char-acteristics or a description that distinguishes a person from others.' Depending on a person s social surroundings with all its cultural identifiers, his or her identity is shaped. In Zadie Smith s novel White Teeth and Hanif Kureishi s screenplay My Beautiful Laundrette identity is presented and problematised as In-betweenness . Both works focus on immigrants and their children, the se-cond generation, and the difficulties they face in their daily life caused by in-betweenness. In-betweenness as a term is quite self-explanatory and depicts ambiguity on several levels like belonging, ethnicity or sexual orientation/ habits, to name only a few. This ambiguity entails the social life of the characters as well as their emotional state. In the context of belonging, it is Cherry, from My Beautiful Laundrette, who first brings the term in-betweenness up:Oh God, I m so sick of hearing about these in-betweens. People should make up...

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