

La peinture du rêve des jumelles dans *Les Fous de Bassan* d'Anne

Hébert

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Abstract: The ancestress portrait made by the Brown twins in 1982 in the gallery of ancestors of Griffin Creek is the painting of one of their dreams in which the heads of Nora, Olivia and Irene, who were dead in 1936, float on a greenish background. These pictures bring back to life the repressed memories of a community whose clergyman Nicolas Jones becomes the voice that tells the story of the tragic events of the summer of 1936, being gradually overwhelmed by the past. But the sea painted by the twins on the walls of the gallery links the content of their dream to the dreams of their brothers, Perceval, the mentally retarded teenager, and Stevens Brown, the cousins Atkins's killer. Their oneiric experiences are based on the presence of water: guarantee of primordial safety for Perceval, menacing world for Stevens, the oneiric water is, in the novel *Les fous de Bassan*, synonym of the Brown children's mother who has abandoned or abused them during their childhood.

Keywords: hebertian novel, dream, painting, recalling, obsession, guilt, oneiric water, mother, safety, anxiety.