

"The Painted Door" Sinclair Ross

A. Vocabulary: As a class we will define the following to use as a word bank.

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| 1. Acquiesced | 21. Implacability |
| 2. Appraise | 22. Increment |
| 3. Ascendancy | 23. Insolent |
| 4. Atoned | 24. Interminably |
| 5. Blanch | 25. Inured |
| 6. Complacency | 26. Latent |
| 7. Conspiratorial | 27. Naively |
| 8. Constrained | 28. Petulantly |
| 9. Contritely | 29. Prophecy |
| 10. Covert | 30. Rancour |
| 11. Derisive | 31. Rebuked |
| 12. Discretion | 32. Relentlessly |
| 13. Drudgery | 33. Reprove |
| 14. Erratic | 34. Retrospect |
| 15. Fidelity | 35. Rime |
| 16. Furtive | 36. Stalwart |
| 17. Futile | 37. Transfixed |
| 18. Glib | 38. Tyranny |
| 19. Hitherto | 39. Unfettered |
| 20. Humility | 40. Wistfully |

B. Comprehension Questions (18 marks)

Answer the following in complete sentences on a separate piece of lined paper.

1. Describe the setting of the story. /1
2. Sometimes to create mood and atmosphere a writer will use repetition. How has Sinclair Ross used this device in "The Painted Door"? Find at least one example. /2
3. How are Steven and John character foils? /2
4. There is much description of both fire and cold throughout the story. Which of the two represent John, and which represents Steven? Why? /3
5. What is the significance of the title "The Painted Door"? /2
6. When does Ann realize what it is that she actually wants? Support your answer with a quote and page number. /2
7. Who do you believe is at fault for the affair between Steven and Ann? Why? /2
8. Create a theme statement for the story. /1
9. Explain the symbolism and importance of either the lamp, or the weather, in "The Painted Door". /3

C. Journal Entry (12 marks)

Choose one of the following Journal Entry topics to write about after reading "The Painted Door" in class. Aim to write **at least** one page single spaced, or two paragraphs.

- A) Could you live in an isolated setting, away from all contact with society, for a long period of time? Do you think such a setting would have some effect on your mental and emotional well-being? Relate your thoughts to "The Painted Door".
- B) Think of a time when you thought you *didn't* want something, only to discover too late that, in actuality, you *did* want it? How did you feel? How did Ann's realization compare to your own?
- C) How do you view *fault* in an infidelity? Who is most often to blame? Relate your own thoughts to the relationships present in "The Painted Door".