

THE ENEMY

-Pearl.S Buck



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Pearl S Buck (1892-1973)

Pulitzer Prize, Nobel Prize winner.

- Believes in *brotherhood ,equality.*



THE ENEMY(Pearl S. Buck)

Pearl Sydenstricker Buck (June 26, 1892 – March 6, 1973; also known by her Chinese name Sai Zhenzhu; was an American writer and novelist. As the daughter of missionaries, Buck spent most of her life before 1934 in Zhenjiang, China. Her novel *The Good Earth* was the best-selling fiction book in the United States in 1931 and 1932 and won the Pulitzer Prize in 1932. In 1938, she was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature "for her rich and truly epic descriptions of peasant life of China and for her biographical masterpieces She was the first American woman to win the Nobel Prize for Literature.



Know Your Author



Birth - June 26, 1892, in Hillsboro, West Virginia.

Parents - Southern Presbyterian missionaries, stationed in China, where Pearl S. Buck spent most of her first forty years of her life.

Awards - 1932, won the Pulitzer Prize and the Howells Medal in 1935, for *The Good Earth* which was adapted as a major MGM film in 1937.

In 1938, won the Nobel Prize in literature, the first American woman to do so.

By the time of her death in 1973, Pearl published over seventy books: novels, collections of stories, biography and autobiography, poetry, drama, children's literature, and translations from the Chinese.



THEME

- Humanism transcends
- The story reveals the conflict between East and West



THE ENEMY (Pearl S. Buck)

- **THEME**
- 'The Enemy' gives the message that humanism transcends all man made prejudices and barriers. There are moments in life when we have to make hard choices between our roles as private individuals and as citizens with a sense of national loyalty. The story is a great lesson of peace, love, sympathy, fellow feeling and humanism.



BACKGROUND

- US and Japan war(1941)
- Japanese were superior over americans



THE ENEMY

(BACKGROUND- US JAPAN WAR)

Dr. Sadao Hoki a Japanese of 22 studied surgery (America)

- *Marries Hana.*
- *Encounters a man(**Tom**) near ocean*
(a man of 17 having US navy)
- *Helps him(he is wounded as gun wound reopened)*
- *Soon he recovers*
- *Plans to kill Tom*
- *Couldn't execute his plan*
- *Tom recovers completely*
- *Author decides to live him to a deserted island nearby*
- *Reminds him of all americans*



Chapter Sketch

This lesson is set at the time of Second World War. It is a heart rendering portrayal of the conflict between man's head and heart. An American sailor is washed ashore in a dying state and is found at the doorstep of a very eminent surgeon and scientist, Doctor Sadao Hoki. Sadao is torn between his duty as a doctor and as a Japanese. His heart is telling him to save the prisoner while his mind is fighting to turn him over to police. It is a difficult choice to decide whether one should allow oneself to be governed by emotion or by reason.



Appropriateness of the Title

- The Enemy is an apt title for the story that has Second World War as the background. The political situation at that time had made America and Japan sworn enemies. The writer weaves episodes to set the reader thinking about the concept of 'enemy', 'patriotism', and the validity of war. Although the doctor treats the American sailor as a patient, still, neither he nor his wife consider him to be their friend. So the author succeeds in his efforts in forcing the readers to re-describe an enemy.

CHARACTERS

- **Dr. Sadao Hoki:** A Japanese doctor trained by Americans in America.
- **Sadao's father:** much concerned about his son's education, a true patriot.
- **Hana:** Wife of Dr. Sadao, met in America, became friends and got married in Japan.
- **Tom:** An American prisoner of war, a soldier of U.S. Navy.
- **The old General:** a sick Japanese army General, needed an operation, trusted only Dr. Sadao.
- **An officer:** A messenger of the General.
- **Gardener:** an old gardener in the house of Dr. Sadao.
- **Yumi:** Hana's maid servant.



Sadao's Education-----

- Sadao's education - His father's main concern
- Dr. Sadao's house was built on the Japanese coast.
- Sadao knew that his education was his father's chief concern.
- For this he had sent him to America to learn surgery and medicine
- Before his father died he had seen Sadao become a famous Surgeon and scientist.



The Enemy

- Dr. Sadao Hoki's Childhood
- Climbed pines, watched islands, played along the coast
- Stone house located upon rocks, well above the narrow beach
- Education
- At 22yrs. Went to America & returned after 8yrs., became a surgeon & scientist

Presently

- Army at war but Sadao not sent to war..
- General might need him
- Was perfecting a discovery that would render wounds entirely clean

Sadao Married Hana

- Sadao had met Hana in America at a professor's house.
- He did not fall in love with her until he was sure that she was Japanese.
- His father would have never accepted her unless she had been "pure in race".
- They came home to Japan. Their marriage had been arranged in the old Japanese tradition.



Wife

- Pleasant, affectionate, caring, Sadao met Hana at Prof. Harley's House in America
- Married her in Japan (traditional way)

Wounded American Soldier Tom

- Found Crawling
- Sadao and Hana found something coming out of the mist.
- A man seemed to be on his hands and knees crawling. Then they saw him fall on his face and lie there.
- He was wounded and lay motionless on the sand. A gun wound had reopened on the right side of his lower back and was bleeding.
- Sadao packed the wound with sea moss. The cried but didn't wake up.
- They read the faint letters on his cap: US Navy. The American was a prisoner of war, an enemy of the Japanese.



Who is
that?



Dilemma started---

- If they sheltered a white man in their house they would be arrested.
- But if they turn him down as a prisoner, he would certainly die.
- The couple was in a fix. If he were healthy they could hand him over to the police
- But he was wounded. He would die unless he was operated on.
- At any rate, something was to be done with him.

"But he is wounded"

"A White Man!"

"What shall we do with this man?"



Dilemma contd-----

"If we sheltered a white man in our house we should be arrested and if we turned him over as a prisoner he would certainly die"

"But what about the servants?"

"If the man were a whole I could turn him over to the police without difficulty"

SADA

HANA

"The kindest thing would be to put him back into the sea"

"You also cannot throw him back to sea. Let's carry him into the house"

The couple was patriotic to the core and duly considered Americans as their enemy. But the humane side in them did not allow them to toss back a wounded man into the wild rocky ocean

Takes the POW Home--

- Knowing fully well that it would affect Sadao's reputation, they still decided to go ahead and treat the POW.
- Hana and Sadao took the man into the house
- There was an empty bedroom- the room belonged to his father.
- Everything there had been Japanese to please the old man. No chairs or a foreigner's bed
- Decided to tell the servants that they would just treat the soldier and hand him over to the police.



Servants frightened and didn't approve--

- The two servants were frightened at what their master had just told them.
- They thought that their master should not heal the wound of that white man.
- Hana herself washed Tom's body and face with steaming hot water carefully as Yumi refused to wash him.
- The gardener being an old superstitious man, warned them that they should not try to help the enemy.



Tom Operated on :

- Checking the man's pulse and heart beat which was faint, he decided that he had to operate immediately.
- Sadao asked Hana to help him turn the man. She obeyed.
- She was asked to give him the anaesthetic if needed.
- The bullet was still there and he had lost much blood.
- Hana came with a bottle and cotton in her hand.
- Hana choked seeing the operation, went out and retched.
- Sadao became impatient and irritable(why)(imp)



Hana observing the man's scar-

- Watching the man she recalled the stories about the suffering of prisoners and also wondered what she had read in newspaper about glorification of Japanese army.
- Flickers of rumours that Japanese are kind hearted, contradicted seeing the badly wounded man.
- She recalled general Takima beating his wife .
- Then she concluded that Japanese can also be cruel if the General can be.



Sadao- a skilled doctor

- Felt the tip of the bullet near the kidney
- Felt the purest pleasure.
- Remembered his Professor in Anatomy, “ Ignorance of human body is cardinal sin.”
- “It is not quite at the kidney ,my friend” said Sadao (Irony)
- Sadao went on with his work and a very clean and precise incision, the bullet was taken out.
- The man quivered but was still unconscious. He only muttered a few words in English.
- Dr. Sadao declared that the man would live despite all.



The Youngman woke up Terrified

- The Youngman woke up. He was very weak.
- He was terrified when he thought where he was.
- Hana consoled him not to be afraid. She comforted him saying that he would soon be strong.
- Tom asked what they were going to do with him. For a moment, Sadao didn't answer.
- Tom was a prisoner of war. He should have been handed over to the police.
- He typed a letter addressed to the Chief of Police, that on the twenty first day of February an escaped prisoner was washed up on the shore in front of the house. He kept this unfinished letter in a secret drawer.



SEVENTH DAY-----(IMP)

- On the seventh day two things happened-
- after having taken in the POW by the Sadaos, the servants of their household decided to leave as a mark of protest for giving shelter to an enemy.
- Sadao, even though accepting ,that the American was his enemy, refused to turn his patient away because he had been trained to save lives.
- However the servants left with their belongings. Hana and Sadao managed the household chores and taking care of their children.



Seventh day---

- On the same day, a messenger in uniform came.
- Terrified Hana ran to Sadao thinking that the servants must have disclosed the information about the POW.
- But the messenger had actually come to fetch Sadao to treat the General who was in pain.
- Seeing Hana in distress, Sadao decided to get rid of the POW as soon as possible.



Sadao goes to the General--

- The old general was sick.
- He knew that Sadao was indispensable to him. He didn't want Sadao to be arrested.
- Suppose what would happen if he were condemned to death and the next day he had to have his operation?
- He didn't trust other surgeons.
- German Ruthlessness and American sentimentality.(Page No-40)
- The General hit upon a plan. It would be best if the American could be quietly killed.
- He had his own private assassins. Sadao agreed(because of Hana) that it would be very natural.



Arrival of Assassins-

- Tom thanked Sadao for saving his life.
- Sadao's conscience pricked him.
- He could not sleep for three nights.
- Waited for the assassins for three nights, but they didn't come.
- Unable to take it any more, he devised a plan for Tom's escape.



Sadao plans for the Enemy's escape-

- Revealed to Tom that the authorities knew of his presence in his house and that he would plan for his escape.
- Told him to take his boat and row to an uninhabited, submerged, and unprotected island nearby.
- Also gave him food, extra clothing, quilts, bottled water.
- Warned him not to take help from anyone except a Korean fishing boat.
- Didn't let Hana know anything about the escape plan.
- Also gave him his own flash light asking to signal two flashes at the instant the sun dropped over the horizon, in case he ran out of food.



Sadao goes to meet the General-

- Sadao then went to the General and after operating upon him informed that the prisoner had escaped.
- The General said that he had been unwell and had not been able to think about anything other than his health, he had forgotten to send the assassins.
- Sadao didn't tell him about the escape of the POW as the General was suffering.



General's repentance– Sadao relieved

"It was certainly careless of me. But you understand, it was not lack of patriotism or dereliction of duty. If the matter should come out you would understand that. Wouldn't you?"

"I can swear to your excellency"

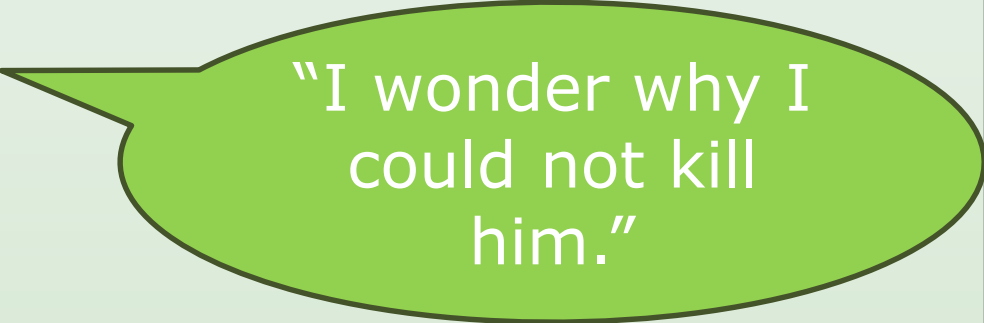
General

"You are a good man. You will be rewarded"

Sadao suddenly comprehended that the General was in the palm of his hand.

Sadao Saved Tom but Wondered Why?

- There was no prick of light in the dark.
- The prisoner had gone. Sadao had his reward.
- Stood in the veranda, gazing out to the sea from whence the young man had come.
- Remembered all the white people he met in America-old teacher of Anatomy, land lady, professor and his wife and finally the youthful haggard face of his prisoner.



"I wonder why I could not kill him."

MESSAGE

- It is an Anti-War story. It de-glorifies war and awakens feelings against the horrors of wars.
- The story also conveys that if at all war becomes inevitable, one should not let the negative sentiments of hatred overpower the positivity of humaneness.
- The soldier at the front, suffering the bullets should be treated as a human being first and an enemy later.
- The service of the wounded and ailing is the best example of patriotism. The doctors of the world should rise above nationality, religion, caste or creed to serve mankind as Sadao did.

■ POINTS TO REMEMBER

What is more important - loyalty to your country or saving a person's life no matter to which country they belong to?

- Story is set during World War II

- Japan is fighting America

- It is a story of conflict between fellow-feeling and loyalty

- Shown through the situation between Tom, the American prisoner and the Japanese couple, Dr. Sadao and Hana

■ **Characterization of Sadao**

- A dedicated surgeon and doctor
- A nice human being
- Full of fellow, feeling, kindness for people in distress
- Sadao undergoes a conflict due to the prisoner's identity - Tom
- is an American

Sadao is afraid of being called a traitor

- He is also prejudiced against the white man
- His goodness win in the end as he removes the bullet
- Risked his own life by sheltering an enemy.
- He is loyal to his country as well - informs the General

- - **The General agrees to have the prisoner killed by private assassins**
 - Undergoes conflict again-spends three restless nights
 - Overcomes conflict- decides to help the white man escape
 - Helps the soldier escape
 - Couldn't understand why he saved the prisoner

■ **Character Sketch of Hana**

- A balanced woman
- Affectionate
- Responsible - she washes the prisoner and treats him respectfully
- Dignified and graceful about servants leaving the house
- Kind and sympathetic towards the soldier

■ **Kind and sympathetic towards the soldier**

- Obeyed Sadao and helped him in carrying out the operation
- Maintains her calm, though she is extremely tense and fearful
- Becomes an anaesthetist when the need arises
- Is a true human being

■ **The American Soldier- Tom**

- Flung out of the ocean
- A prisoner of war-hardly 17
- Escaped but was shot at the back
- Suffered torture and hunger
- Wounded, bleeding, was in great pain, lay unconscious

■ **Needed medical aid**

- Had strong will power
- At first he is afraid - later feels secure in the house of Japanese couple
- Full of gratitude towards Dr. Sadao

How Sadao and Hana help the soldier

- Sadao packed the wound with sea moss to stop bleeding
- Together both lifted the prisoner and laid him on a deeply matted floor of their father's bedroom
- Hana washed his wounds with steaming hot water

- **Sadao operated on his body, pulled the bullet out**
 - Hana helped Sadao with anaesthesia
 - Both took care of his weak body
 - Hana fed him with her own hands
 - Later towards the end of the story help the prisoner to escape

■ **Reaction of servants**

- The servants did not like the idea of helping an enemy
- Yumi refused to wash a white man
- The gardener felt that Sadao should have allowed the soldier to die
- He said the sea and the gun would take revenge if Sadao saved the soldier
- The cook said that Sadao was proud of his skill and used it irresponsibly
- They left the house when the American prisoner was treated and nursed by Sadao and Hana

■ **The General**

- Selfish- thought of his own treatment
- Did not think of anyone else except himself
- A ruthless general-has private assassins
- Promised to send his assassins to kill and remove the body of the soldier
- Doesn't want the doctor to be arrested because he needs him
- Had faith in Sadao's skills as a doctor
- Careless - forgot to send assassins

- **How Sadao helps the American soldier escape**
 - Sadao put his boat with food and extra clothing
 - Asked the soldier to row to an uninhabited island nearby
 - Asked him to wait for a Korean fishing boat on the island

- **Told him that he could catch fish but eat it raw**
 - Gave him his flashlight.
 - Asked the soldier to signal him two flashes if his food ran out and one flash if he was alright
 - Sadao gave him Japanese clothes and covered his hair with a black cloth

■ SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. Give two reasons why Dr Sadao was not sent abroad with the Japanese troops?
2. Why did Sadao and Hana not marry heedlessly in America?
3. Why did blood start flowing out of the wounded man as soon as Sadao touched the wound with his fingers?
4. What makes Dr Sadao comment, “This man must have extraordinary vitality”?
5. What reason would you ascribe (assign) to the General beating his wife?
6. How did Hana wash the wounded man? Why did she have to do it herself?

■ SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

7. How do the servants react to the decision of Sadao's to keep the American prisoner of war in their house?

8. How did the old gardener react when Sadao told him about the wounded American sailor?

9. Why does the General not want to be treated by a doctor trained in Germany?

10. How did the General offer to help Sadao get rid of the American?

11. Why did Sadao feel that the General was in the palm of his hand?

■ LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. “The kindest thing would be to put him (the P.O.W.) back into the sea”, says Hana. What are your comments regarding Hana’s statement?
2. A negative value of hatred for the enemy initially interfered with Dr Sadao’s instinctive urge to rescue the helpless, wounded American. What was it that eventually made him treat the wounded soldier and rather than waiting for him to be killed by the General’s assassins help him escape to safety?
3. What negative values prompted the servants first to criticize their master’s decision to treat an American and later on to quit their jobs?
4. Highlighting its horrors and condemning war, write an article for your school magazine on “The Need for Universal Brotherhood”.
5. Imagine you are the American sailor. You managed to get a Korean boat and reach home safe. Write a diary entry highlighting the Sadao’s kind heartedness, magnanimity and all other qualities that you were impressed with.

Thank you!!!

