

The Enemy

by Pearl S. Buck

Glossary

Creeping up – (here) slowly moving up	Wreathing – encircling
Haori – a loose outer garment resemblance a coat and extending to the knees worn over kimono	Kimono – wide sleeved Japanese dress
Voluble – talkative	Heedlessly – (here) carelessly; recklessly
Breaker – heavy wave	Staggered – walked unsteadily
Surf – foam of sea	Tended – nursed
Solemn – earnest; serious	Beachcombers – a person without a regular job, who lives by selling whatever is found on the beaches
Muttered – mumbled; murmured	Stanch – check or stop the flow of blood
Packed – (here) filled	Strewed – scattered
Stupor – unconsciousness	Repulsion – disgust; aversion
Inert – immobile, inactive, lifeless	Battered – (here) torn
Fowl – chicken, poultry as food	Distress – anxiety, dismay, sorrow
Pallor – paleness	Stoop – bend down
Vitality – strength, vigor, stamina	Menace – (here) a person who is threatening or dangerous
Bluntly – curtly, straight forwardly, frankly	Sustained – supported, encouraged
Conviction – belief	Impulsively – instinctively; involuntarily
Ebbing – declining; (here) subsiding	Tokonama alcove – a niche in Japanese home, generally for displaying flower arrangement or a piece of art
Concise – brief	Peered into – looked closely into
Superficial – on the surface; not deep	Choked – suffocated, felt gagged
Retching – making motion of vomiting	Distress – anxiety, sadness, grief
Moaned – groaned; a low sound of pain or grief	Ruthless – callous, hard, cruel, fierce, heartless

• Intricate – complex, complicated, not simple	• Contradicted – denied
• Scars – marks on the skin	• Probed – examined
• Profound – deep	• Cardinal – chief, fundamental
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• Perceived – became aware	• Summon – call, convene, (here) gather together, muster
• Gasp(ed) – breathe with difficulty; (here) uttered with difficulty	• Porcelain spoon – spoon made of China clay
• Marred – spoiled, damaged	• Contemptuously – arrogantly, scornfully
• Assuage – lessen, soothe, appease	• Dismayed – disappointed, distressed
• Brusquely – abruptly	• Unaccustomed – not accustomed or used to
• Indispensable – essential, crucial	• Assassins – killers, especially political or religious
• Timid – coward, fearful	• Gaily – cheerfully
• Gaunt – grim, desolate, lean	• Stubble beard – unshaven beard
• Blond – golden yellow	• Comprehending – understanding
• Shaggy – rough	• Boughs – branches
• Eaves – overhanging edges of roofs	• Fathoms – measure of six feet in terms of depth
• Dereliction – neglect	• Prejudice – bias, preconceived opinion
• Slatternly – untidy	• Despised – hated, disliked, looked down upon
• Repulsive – causing aversion	• Haggard – worn out, exhausted, run down, unhealthy