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Class 12th | ENGLISH

ई-पाठशाला

BOOK - 1
The Rattrap

&

BOOK - 2
The Enemy

ONE SHOT

FULL CHAPTER EXPLAINED IN ONE CLASS

24 SEP 2026 | 2:00 PM



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CLASS – 12

bait

cheese chapati

Flamingo

Chapter – 4

THE RATTRAP



Arpita Sharma

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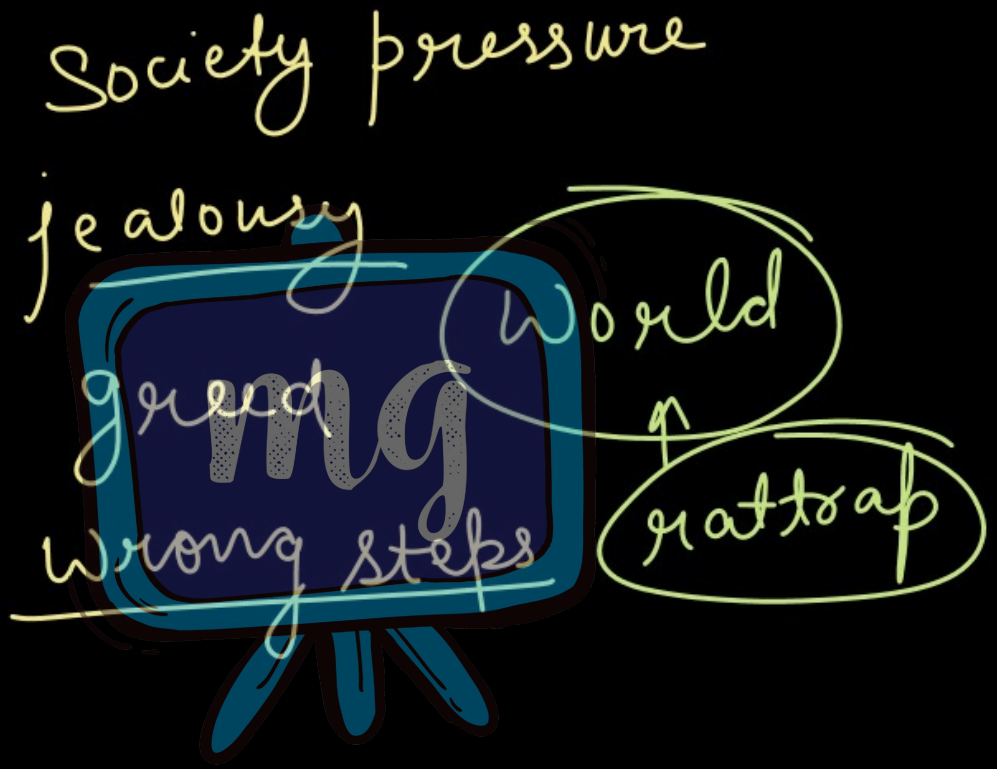

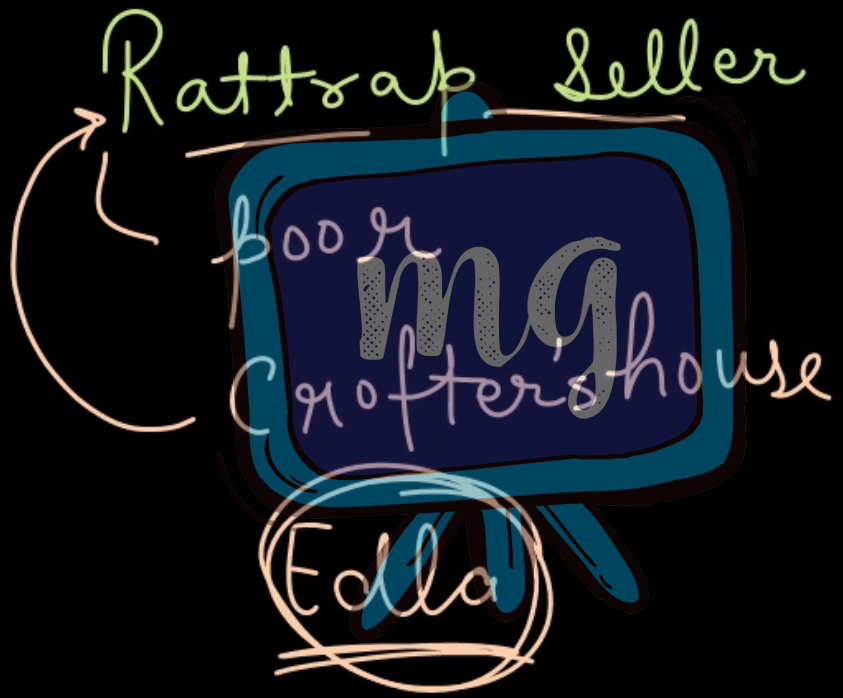
Rattrap Seller
Boor
mg
Crofters house
Edla

The Rattrap



Selma Lagerlöf's The Rattrap revolves around a poor, homeless peddler who makes and sells small rattraps. His life is lonely, monotonous (आरोचक), and filled with struggles, forcing him to beg and steal to survive.

The Rattrap



1. One day, while wandering, he reflects on the world as a giant rattrap. He believes that the world offers riches and joys as bait. चारा similar to a rattrap, and anyone tempted by them gets trapped.

The Rattrap



2. On a dark evening, the peddler seeks shelter at a crofter's cottage. The crofter, a lonely man, welcomes him warmly, offering food, tobacco, and conversation. The crofter shares that he recently earned 30 kronor by selling milk from his cow and shows the money to the peddler, storing it in a leather pouch by the window.

The Rattrap



3. The next morning, after leaving the crofter's cottage, the peddler returns, steals the money, and flees into the forest. Initially pleased with his theft, he soon finds himself lost in the thick, confusing woods, feeling trapped like a rat in a rattrap.

The Rattrap



4. As despair (निराश) sets in, the peddler hears hammer strokes from Ramsjö Ironworks and follows the sound to seek refuge (शरण). The blacksmiths (लोहार), used to such vagabonds (आवारा), allow him to warm himself by the forge (लोहारखाना).

The Rattrap



5. The ironmaster, owner of the mill, mistakes the peddler for an old regimental comrade (साथी), Captain von Stahle. Hoping to help his "friend," he invites the peddler to his manor house. Fearing exposure (खुलासा) because of the stolen money, the peddler refuses, but the ironmaster insists.

The Rattrap



6. The ironmaster's daughter, Edla Willmansson, is sent to persuade the peddler. Her kind and gentle nature makes him trust her, and he agrees to accompany her home. However, during the carriage ride, the peddler feels uneasy, haunted by his guilt (पाप/अपराध).

The Rattrap



7. At the manor, Edla treats the peddler with respect and ensures he is bathed, fed, and given clean clothes. The next morning, the ironmaster realizes his mistake when the peddler appears clean-shaven. Angry at being deceived, he threatens to involve the sheriff (अफ़सर).

The Rattrap



8. The peddler defends himself, admitting he never pretended to be anyone else. He compares the world to a rattrap and insists that the ironmaster, too, might one day fall for its bait. Amused, the ironmaster decides to let him go, but Edla intervenes, insisting that he be allowed to stay and enjoy Christmas in peace.

The Rattrap



9. Edla's kindness touches the peddler, who spends the day quietly, sleeping and eating. The next morning, after the family returns from church, they learn that the crofter has been robbed. Expecting the worst, they are relieved to find the peddler gone, leaving behind a small package.

The Rattrap



10. In the package is a small rattrap, the stolen 30 kronor, and a letter addressed to Edla. The peddler thanks her for her compassion, which made him feel like a real captain, and explains that her kindness saved him from falling into the world's rattrap. He signs the letter as Captain von Stahle.

The Rattrap



Conclusion

Theme / Central Idea

The story highlights the power of understanding and love to awaken the inherent goodness in every individual.

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Vistas

Chapter – 4

The Enemy



Arpita Sharma

The Enemy



In the story 'The Enemy', written by Pearl S. Buck, Dr. Sadao Hoki, a Japanese surgeon, faces a moral dilemma when he decides to save the life of an American soldier, his enemy during World War II, highlighting themes of compassion, duty, and the complexities of human emotions in times of war.

The Enemy



1. Dr. Sadao Hoki, a Japanese surgeon, lived with his wife, Hana, in a house overlooking the Japanese coast, where he had spent his childhood.

The Enemy



2. Sadao's father instilled (शिक्षा देना) in him a sense of ambition and dedication, sending him to America to study medicine and surgery, which shaped him into a renowned surgeon and scientist.

The Enemy



3. Due to his expertise, Sadao was kept in Japan to treat the elderly General and continue his medical research instead of being sent to the battlefield.

The Enemy



4. One foggy evening, Sadao and Hana noticed a figure stumbling on the beach near their home. Upon closer inspection, they found a wounded American soldier, an enemy during World War II, washed ashore.

The Enemy



5. Sadao examined the soldier and discovered a gunshot wound in his lower back, bleeding profusely and infected. Despite knowing the risks of harboring an enemy, he was compelled by his duty as a doctor to save the man's life.

The Enemy



6. Hana, though apprehensive, supported Sadao's decision but was visibly uncomfortable with the situation, especially as it might jeopardize their family's safety and reputation.

The Enemy



7. The couple decided to bring the soldier into their home, intending to save his life temporarily before handing him over to the authorities.

The Enemy



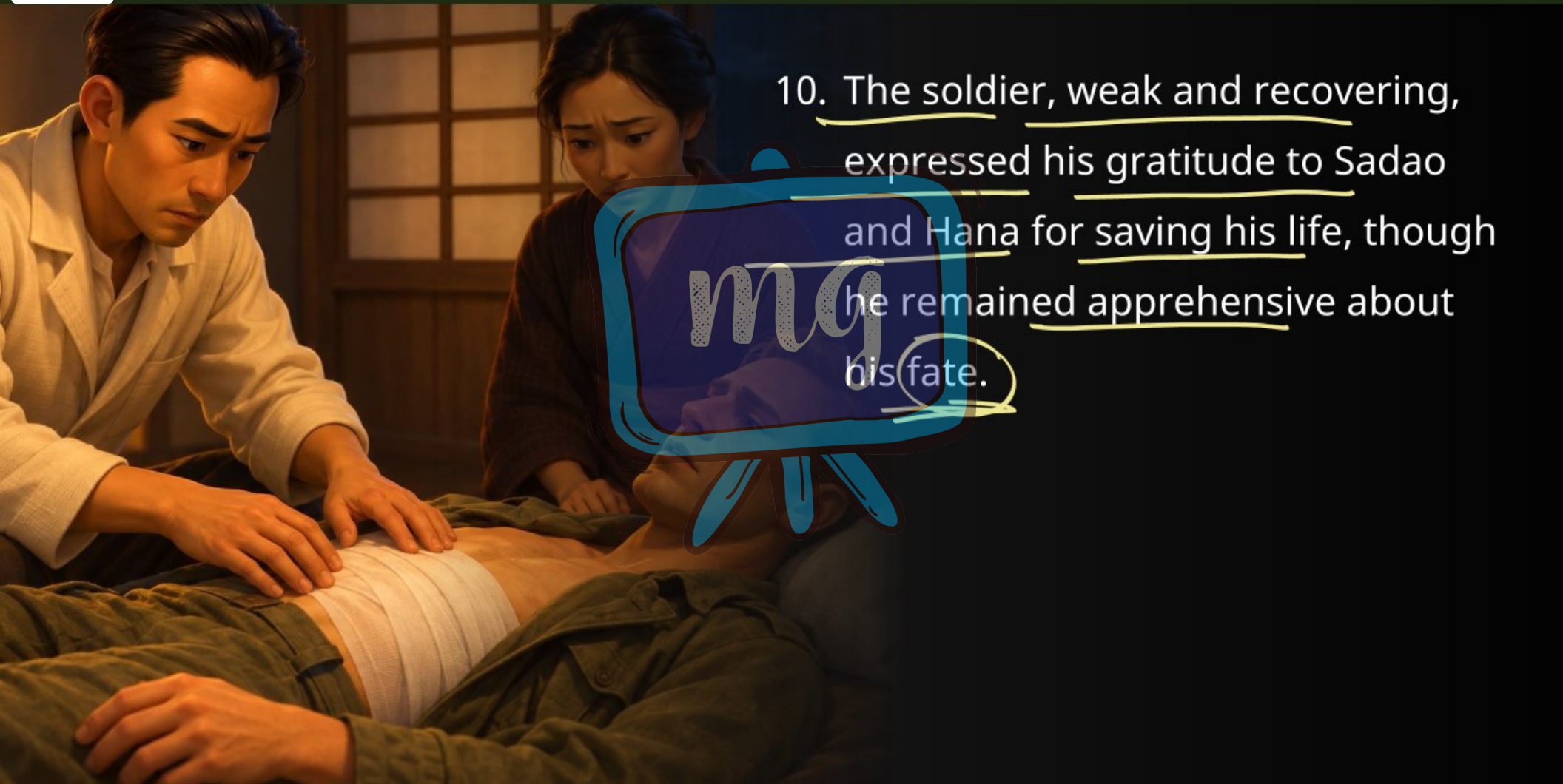
8. Their servants, however, strongly disapproved of their actions, fearing repercussions (दुष्परिणाम) and accusing them of betrayal. This led to tensions within the household, with the servants ultimately leaving their jobs in protest.

The Enemy



9. Sadao performed a meticulous (अति सावधान) surgery to remove the bullet and save the soldier, demonstrating his unparalleled skill and adherence to medical ethics. Hana assisted him despite her initial hesitations and fears.

The Enemy



10. The soldier, weak and recovering, expressed his gratitude to Sadao and Hana for saving his life, though he remained apprehensive about his fate.

The Enemy



11. As the days passed, the couple grappled (पकड़ना) with the moral and legal implications of harboring an enemy. Hana was concerned (चिंतित) about the risks to their children and their position in society.

The Enemy



12. Sadao consulted the General, who valued his surgical expertise and assured him that assassins could eliminate the soldier discreetly (चतुराई से/ सावधानी से). However, the General, preoccupied with his health, forgot to carry out the plan.

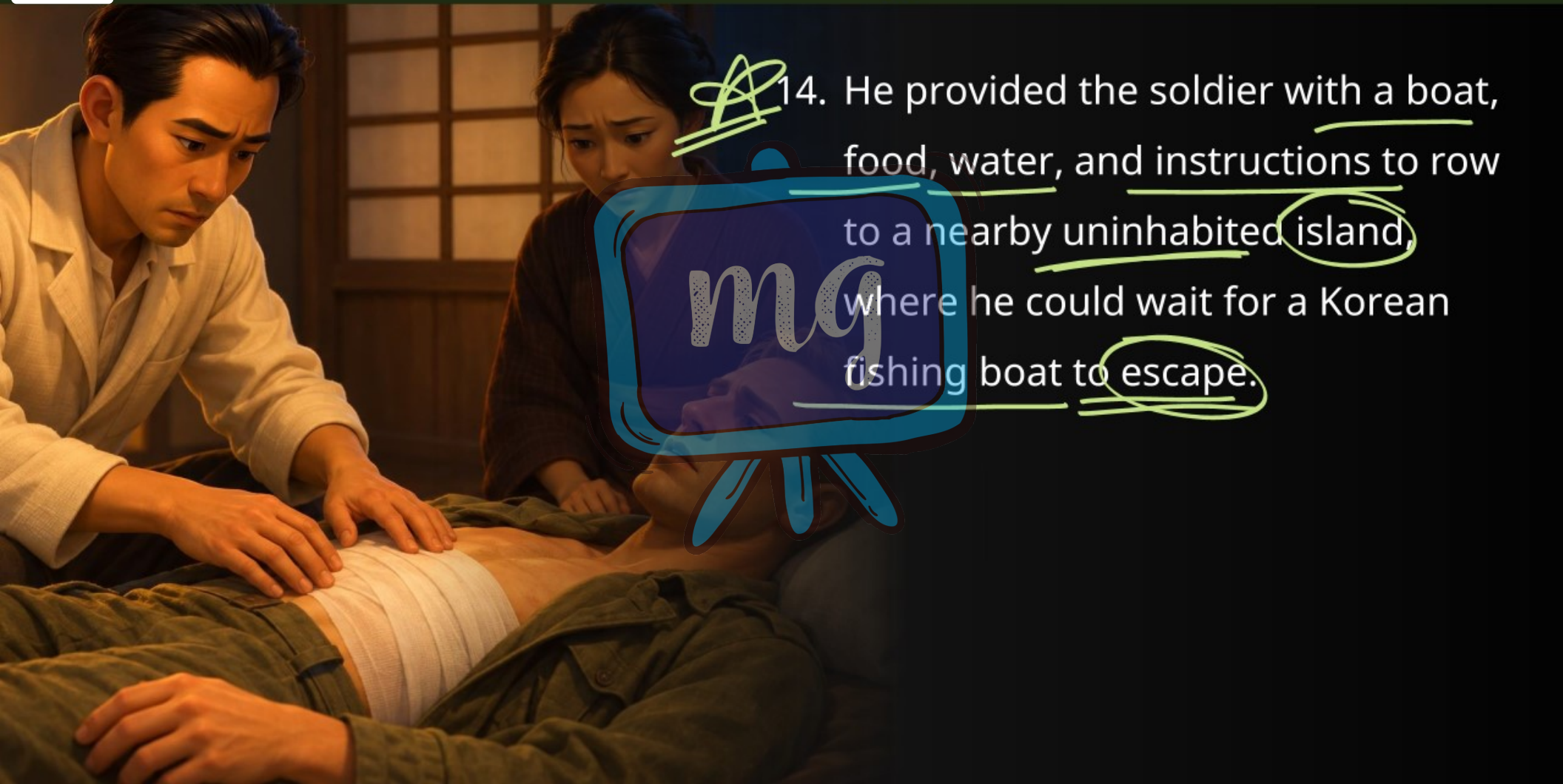
The Enemy



13. Unable to reconcile his conscience with turning the soldier over to authorities or allowing him to be killed, Sadao devised an alternative.

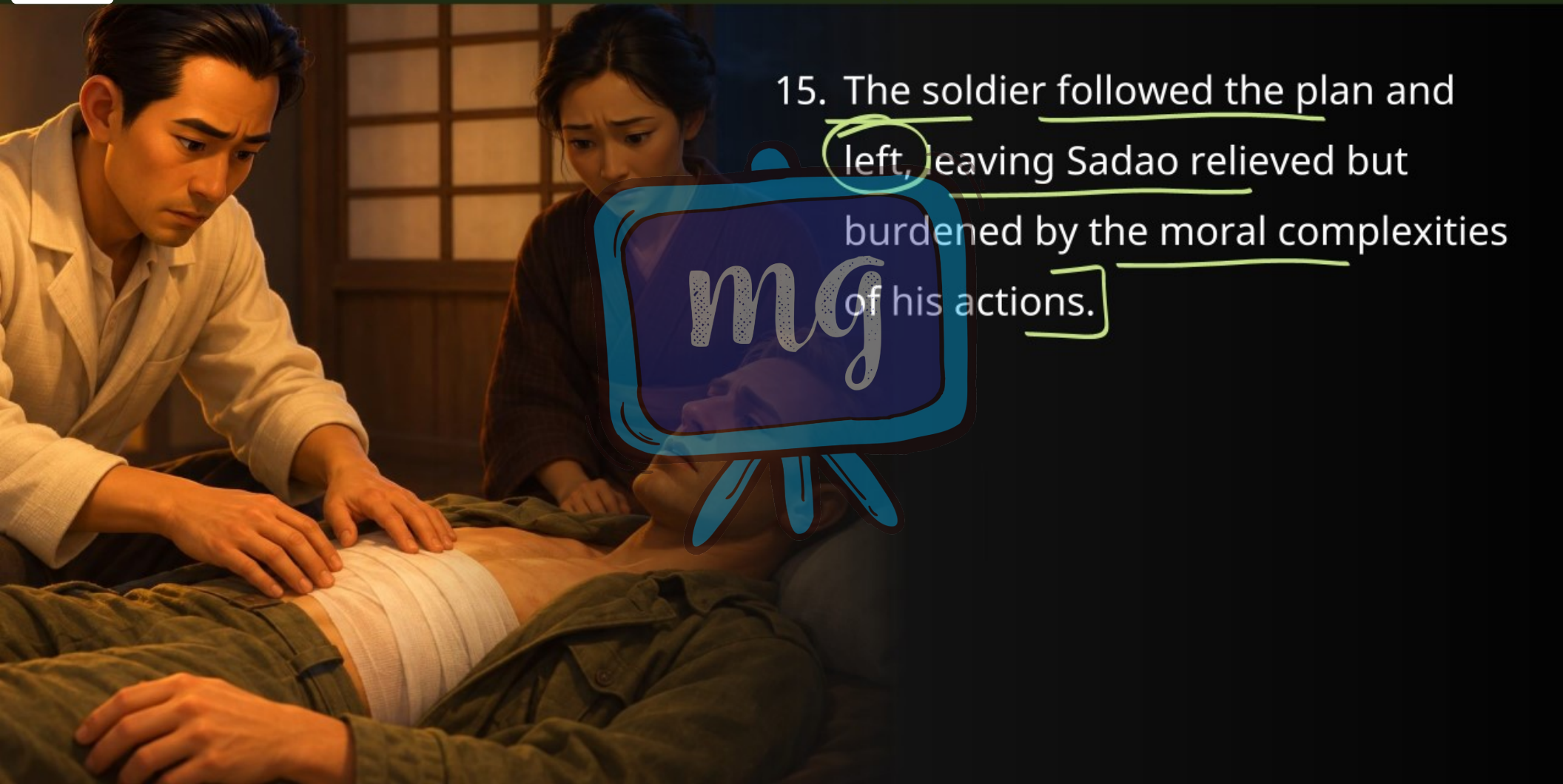
plan

The Enemy



14. He provided the soldier with a boat, food, water, and instructions to row to a nearby uninhabited island, where he could wait for a Korean fishing boat to escape.

The Enemy



15. The soldier followed the plan and left, leaving Sadao relieved but burdened by the moral complexities of his actions.

The Enemy



16. The General later admitted his oversight regarding the assassins (हत्यारा), subtly acknowledging Sadao's discretion (विवेक) in handling the situation.

The Enemy



17. Sadao reflected on the experience, recognizing the lingering prejudices (पूर्वाग्रह) he faced during his time in America and questioning why he could not bring himself to kill the enemy soldier despite the societal and national expectations.

The Enemy



18. The story delves into themes of human compassion, the conflict between duty and morality, and the ability to rise above prejudice during times of war.

xxx

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