



Honolulu

by W.Somerset Maugham

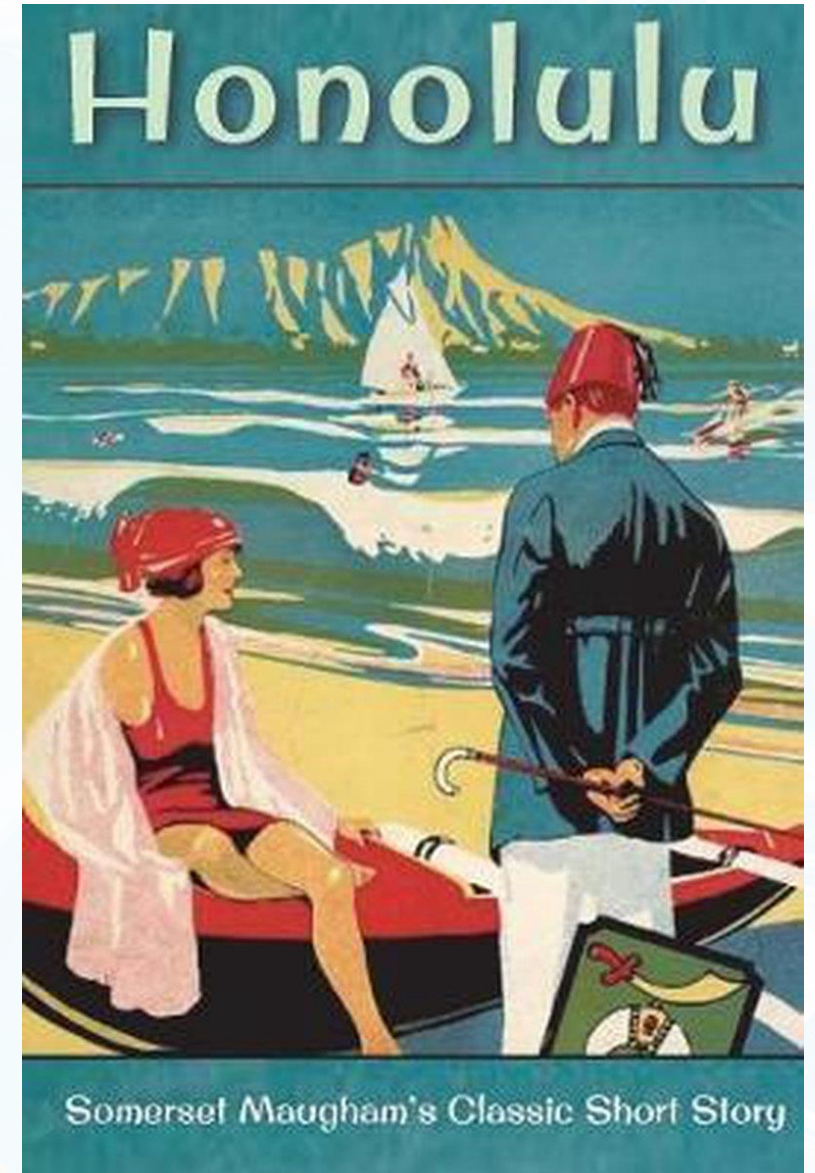
Honolulu

- Honolulu is the capital and most populous city of the U.S. state of Hawaii, which is in the Pacific Ocean.
- Honolulu is Hawaii's main gateway to the world. It is also a major hub for business, finance, hospitality, and military defense in both the state and Oceania.
- The city is characterized by a mix of various Asian, Western, and Pacific cultures, reflected in its diverse demography, cuisine, and traditions.
- Honolulu's favorable tropical climate, rich natural scenery, and extensive beaches make it a popular global destination for tourists.



History and Plot

- Honolulu is a famous short story by Somerset Maugham which was part of his larger collection, *The Trembling Leaf*.
- It was published in October, 1921.
- In the first part of the story, Maugham described the strength of imagination. The author mentioned the title of the book which he hadn't read, but the title stimulates his fancy. In such a journey he could imagine himself being in Russia. When his eyes fell on a piece of porcelain, he felt the odors of China.
- Then the author tells us the history of Captain Butler who has married a native girl in Honolulu. They seem to be very much in love - but Bananas destroys this love...



Quotes

- 'The wise traveller travels only in imagination'.
- 'Those are the best journeys, the journeys that you take at your own fireside, for then you lose none of your illusions'.
- 'You had expected something wholly beautiful and you get an impression which is infinitely more complicated than any that beauty can give you. It is like the weakness in the character of a great man which may make him less admirable but certainly makes him more interesting'.
- 'Heaven helps those who help themselves'.
- 'It is very curious to observe the differences of emotional response that you find in different people. Some can go through terrible battles, the fear of imminent death and unimaginable horrors, and preserve their soul unscathed, while with others the trembling of the moon on a solitary sea or the song of a bird in a thicket will cause a convulsion great enough to transform their entire being'.

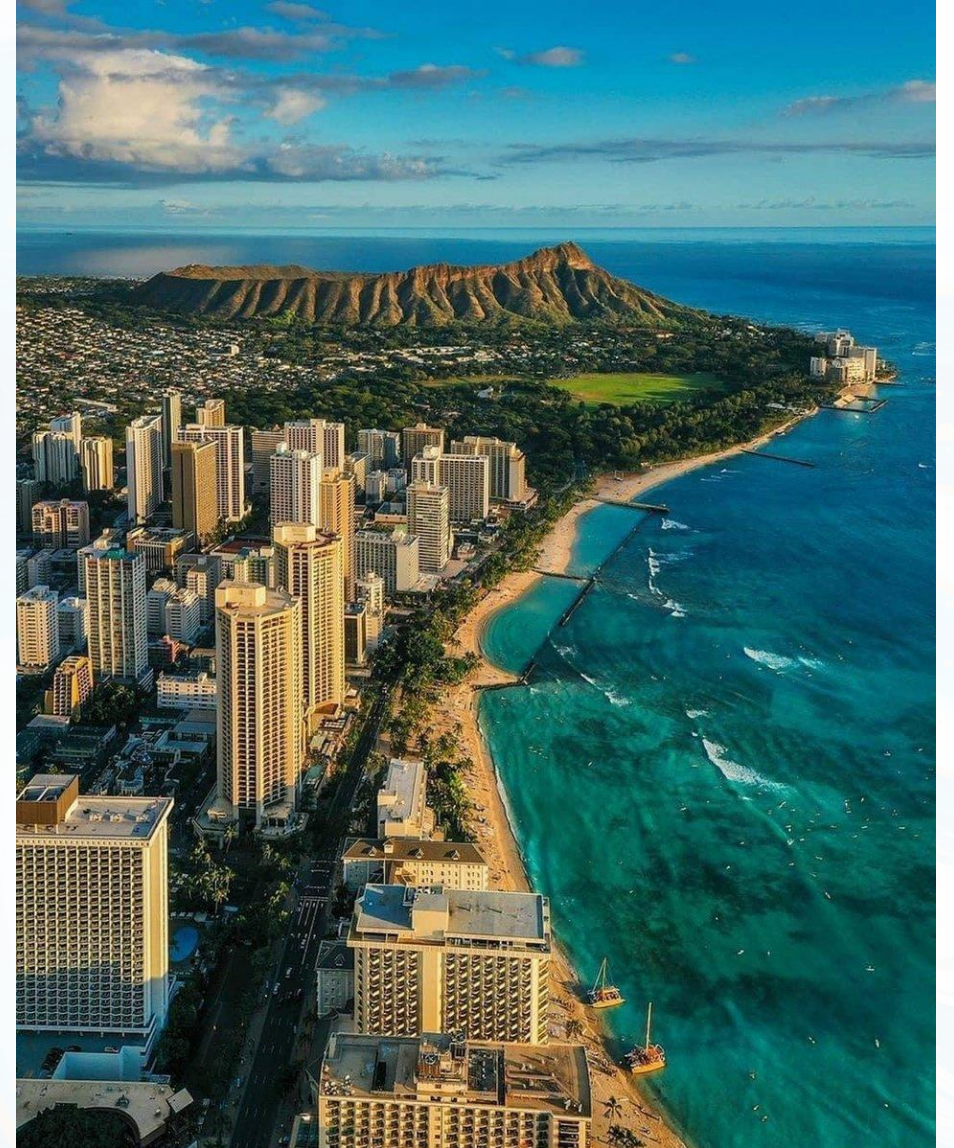
Vocabulary

- **savour** - привкус
- **tang** - сильный, острый запах
- **dilapidated** - полуразрушенный
- **incongruity** - несочетаемость, несовместимость
- **indignation** - возмущение
- **lurid** - зловещий, мрачный
- **imminent** - неизбежный, неминуемый
- **a want of sth** - нужда в чём-либо
- **bedraggled** - потрёпанный, запачканный
- **translucency** - прозрачность
- **exquisite** - изысканный, утончённый
- **expostulate** - уговаривать



Message

- Our imagination is unlimited and it has an ability to move us to any place in the world.
- If you believe in magic, it works.
- Some racial and national prejudices from the story: black people were considered to be ruled by their belief in magic. As for Asian people, they were considered not only hard-working, but also cunning.



Discussion questions

- The narrator says: 'It is very curious to observe the differences of emotional response that you find in different people. Some can go through terrible battles, the fear of imminent death and unimaginable horrors, and preserve their soul unscathed, while with others the trembling of the moon on a solitary sea or the song of a bird in a thicket will cause a convulsion great enough to transform their entire being'. Then he asks himself a question: 'Is it due to strength or weakness, want of imagination or instability of character?'
- Share your opinion - how would you answer this question?
- In the first part of the short story William Somerset Maugham described the strength of imagination. The author mentioned the title of the book which he hadn't read, but the title stimulates his fancy. In such a journey he could imagine himself being in Russia among its great forests of birch and its white churches where the wide Volga flows and bearded men in rough sheepskin coats sit drinking. When his eyes fall on a piece of porcelain and he felt the odors of China.
- Do you believe that our imagination has such a strength? Have you ever experienced something like that?
- Share your attitude to the ending of the story.
- Why does the author describe to us the power of imagination in the beginning of the story? Is it somehow connected with the main plot of the story?



Associations



The background of the slide is a vibrant, marbled pattern. It features swirling, organic shapes in various shades of blue, from deep navy to light sky blue, set against a white base. Scattered throughout the pattern are numerous small, golden-yellow dots, resembling confetti or glitter. The overall effect is dynamic and celebratory.

Thanks for attention!