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# «Honolulu» W.S. Maugham

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# William Somerset Maugham

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(25 January 1874 – 16 December 1965) He was an English writer known for his plays, novels and short stories. Born in Paris, where he spent his first ten years, Maugham attended school in England and enrolled at a German university. He became a medical student in London and qualified as a doctor in 1897. He never practiced medicine and became a full-time writer. His first novel, *Lisa of Lambeth* (1897), a study of life in the slums, attracted attention, but it was as a playwright that he first gained national fame. By 1908, he had four plays running in London's West End at once. He wrote his 32nd and last play in 1933, after which he left the theater and focused on novels and short stories.



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# Some interesting words

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**circumnavigate** - совершить кругосветное путешествие

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**chimney** - дымоход

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**birch** - берёза

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**eikon** - икона

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**splash up** - расплескать

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**violently** - неистово

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**cunning** - хитрость

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**vehement** - яростный

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**languid** - вялый

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# Summary

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The main character goes on a trip to Honolulu. His friend Winters shows him around the city, telling him about local life and customs. Winter introduced the narrator to Captain Butler, a cheerful and experienced man. Among the many stories that happened to him during his life, there was one that interested the author. The captain told him how he had been saved from an unknown disease caused by the witchcraft of his local assistant. His girlfriend, who had great love for the captain, managed to outwit the villain and save the captain's life. The main characters were puzzled by the captain's story and thought about the relationship between the western and the island world. However, at the end of the story, the narrator was overtaken by an unexpected twist.



# Good quotes

The wise traveller travels only in imagination.

These are the best journeys, the journeys that you take by your own fireside, for then you lose none of your illusions.

Heaven helps those who help themselves.

The fathers brought Christianity to the Kanaks, and the children jumped his land.

I had some fantastic idea about the power of love being able to work miracles.



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# The main themes of the story

The difference between the cultures of different nations.

Conflicts between indigenous people and colonists.

Problems of love relationships.

The place of mysticism in our lives.

The great power of love.



A three-masted sailing ship is silhouetted against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and blue clouds. The ship is on the water, and its reflection is visible. The overall scene is atmospheric and historical.

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Thanks for your attention!