

In *The Invisible Japanese Gentlemen* by Graham Greene we have the theme of hope, failure, conflict, independence, innocence and fear. Most writers would at times feel doubtful about their ability to write something that might merit publication. Taken from his *Complete Short Stories* collection the story is narrated in the first person by an unnamed narrator and after reading the story the reader realises that Greene may be exploring the theme of hope. Should the girl's book not do as well as she expects it to. The fact that the girl believes the book will sell in the thousands is also interesting as she is basing her information on Mr Dwight's projections and considerations of her talent. She oozes confidence based solely on Mr Dwight's backing of her abilities as a writer. Whereas the narrator has observed everybody in the restaurant and relayed the information to the reader. It is as though the girl feels empowered though this empowerment appears to be based solely on the advance that Mr Dwight has promised her. She believes the hype that Mr Dwight has given the book and as such has decided upon moving to St. Tropez for six months in order to write another book. However so enthused is she by Mr Dwight's words she feels as though she should be supporting her fiancé. If anything the reader is left suspecting that the girl's book will be a failure and any hopes or aspirations she might have to continue as a writer may not bear fruit. The girl in Bentley's hopes that her book, *The Chelsea Set*, will do well. However her fiancé has concerns which some critics might suggest are legitimate. As such he attempts to persuade the girl on him taking a job with his uncle. It is also possible that Greene is exploring the theme of independence. Which she believes it will be based solely on Mr Dwight's opinion. If anything the advance allows the girl to push for her independence and not be as reliant on her fiancé. She is not apprehensive about the success of the book though both the narrator and her fiancé are. Hence his consideration of the job his uncle has offered him. He wants his impending marriage to the girl to be based on something that is real and not on the royalties that might or might not be received for the girl's book. Which may suggest an element of innocence. As a writer the narrator is constantly observing them as he is the girl and her fiancé.