

**The Different Values of the Relationship between Western and
Eastern Cultures in Pearl S. Buck's *Letter from Peking***

Thesis



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2025

**The Different Values of the Relationship between Western and Eastern
Cultures in Pearl S. Buck's *Letter from Peking***

A Thesis

As a partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of
Sarjana Pendidikan in English Language Teaching



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The writer hereby declares that this thesis is entirely of his own work. The writer affirm that he has not taken any ideas or scientific work from others in dishonest fashion. All sources and references in this thesis have been properly acknowledged in accordance with the standards of academic writing ethics. Any consequences caused by the discovery of plagiarism in this thesis will be fully accepted without complaint.

Surabaya, July 7 2025



Fransiscus Xaverius Ivan Zamorano

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The Writer

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ABSTRACTS

Zamorano, Fransiscus Xaverius Ivan. 2025. **The Different Values of the Relationship between Western and Eastern Cultures in Pearl S. Buck's Letter from Peking.** An unpublished S-1 thesis of the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya.

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Key terms: Values, Novel, Relationship, Culture.

This study examines Buck's Letter from Peking using a mimetic approach, focusing on the different between Eastern and Western cultural values represented by two character in the novel, Elizabeth and Gerald MacLeod. Set during the Communist Revolution in China, the story highlights the emotional and ideological tensions caused by their separation. Elizabeth embodies individualism, making sacrifices for her son's safety and showing resilience despite societal prejudice. In contrast, Gerald represents collectivism, prioritizing his loyalty to his heritage and cultural identity, even at the expense of his own happiness. Their letters illustrate their efforts to bridge these cultural divides, reflecting the broader challenges in cross-cultural relationships. Ultimately, the study reveals how Buck emphasizes love, responsibility, and identity, highlighting the need for personal agency while navigating family obligations in a changing world.