The Pearl by John Steinbeck

In The Pearl by John Steinbeck, there are so many different emotions but the one I came to believe was the main one would be greed. Greed ripped apart the family of Juana, Kino, and Coyotito. This shows that you never realize the full effects of something until they have already happened.

When the story began, the baby, Coyotito had been stung by a scorpion leaving a very slim chance because his immune system hasn’t built up enough strength to fight off the poison. Kino and Juana then began looking for a pearl large enough to pay the doctor to save their child. But the situation changes when Kino finds a pearl so big that it is being called The Great Pearl.

Coyotito begins to heal on his own which makes Kino start to have ideas on what the pearl’s worth could be used for. He comes up with ideas that would not have been available to him without the pearl such as new clothes and sending his son to school. These are very kindhearted ideas but to others who have their own notions for the pearl, they are preposterous. It was a wonder to them all how much he could get for The Great Pearl. And that makes everyone think of what *they* could do with the money.

As I said before, greed is a strong emotion. So strong that it compels people to do things that they aren’t normally something they would do. In this instance, it made the people of the town attack Kino and his family looking for the pearl only to force Juana and Kino to leave their home and search for a new one. Ending in disaster when people searched them out and Coyotito was killed. The greed of these people not only ruined something beautiful but also brought a sadness that will always be there.