The Pearl

Erich Fromm once said “[Greed is a bottomless pit which exhausts the person in an endless effort to satisfy the need without ever reaching satisfaction.](http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/e/erichfromm391095.html)” This quote relates to this story because the theme of the story is greed as a destructive force. In the end Kino loses his most prized possession.

In the beginning, Kino and Juana didn’t have a very good life. They had no money, old clothes, a canoe and a son named Coyotito. They were happy and satisfied the way they were. Until Kino found a huge pearl that caused him to become very greedy. Juana told him to get rid of the pearl the first offer Kino had. She felt that the pearl had great evil. Kino denied the three offers he had gotten. He wanted more money for his pearl.

Now, everybody in their poor village knew that he had the pearl. Some of the people tried to steal the great pearl from him. One time Kino got into a fight trying to defend for his pearl. He ended up killing the man. Kino knew he had to leave town. Kino and his family left the very small poor village. A man on a horse and two men called trackers tried to find Kino and his family and kill them. One time the three came close to finding the family.

Eventually, they decided to go to the mountains to hide from them. The family came to the mountains where there was a rushing spring of water. They drank the water and found a cave to hid in. the three men had come to the place where the family was staying. Kino decided that he would kill them as Juana and Coyotito hid in the cave. The man that rode on the horse had a rifle so Kino decided to kill him first with his knife. Kino attacked him and as they were fighting the man let a shot go off toward the cave. Kino killed all three men. He went to go check on his family. Coyotito was dead. They went back home and buried their son and threw the pearl into the sea where they had gotten it.

In the end Kino’s greed overruled how much his family meant to him. His greed for the pearl made him kill that man. He would have never lost his son if he would have listened to Juana. The author wanted to teach people that greed will take what means the most away from you.