

MAH'S and NICHOLAS'S BOOK REPORT

This book report is about *My Friend the Enemy* by J.B. Cheaney. The book has 266 pages, published by Yearling books 2005.

The main character is Hazel, an 11 yr old girl who begins the story terrified by anything Japanese, and by the end of the story has become very good friends with a Japanese boy Sogoji. Sogoji is 15, orphaned and has been taken in by the Lanski family.

The other characters include Jed Lanski, his parents Mr and Mrs Lanski, Estelle (Hazel's sister), Mr Mayhew the school teacher, Hazel's mother and Hazel's brother Frank. Jed is Estelle's 21 yr old fiancé, and enlists in the navy. His parents are important because they take in and look after orphaned Sogoji. Estelle is Hazel's beautiful fun loving sister, who is engaged to Jed. Mr Mayhew arrives pretending to be a war hero to teach school, but is found to be an imposter who deserted the army. Hazel's brother Frank is important because he planned to build observatory with Hazel before he went off to war.

The story takes place in the Western USA during WW II. The people are terrified of the Japanese. Hazel is adventurous, and out exploring one day meets Sogoji. Initially she is very frightened of him because he is a "Jap". Eventually she learns that he is a child just like her. They bond over their concern about Jed, who they both love.

Noah: I like this book best of all the book club books this year, and give it overall 9 apples out of 10! I liked the WW II setting and learning about history. My favorite character was Hazel because she is adventurous. I was sad at the part where Jed died.

Nicholas: I like this book because Hazel learnt to be friends with Sogoji, who she was at first frightened of. I would give this book 8 apples out of 10. I liked that Hazel and Sogoji became such good friends and helped each other do something for Jed and build the observatory. I didn't like the part when they find out that Jed is "missing in action".