

Lecture no: 3

Novel

stage 3

The major characters in the novel

3-Marlin

The Marlin is certainly an important character in the novel. The Marlin is the fish Santiago spends the majority of the Old Man and the Sea. The marlin is the giant, 18-foot fish that battles with Santiago in the middle of the ocean for three days and three nights. Although Santiago hooks the marlin on his first afternoon at sea, the marlin refuses to come to the surface and instead pulls Santiago farther and farther from land. Santiago admires the marlin's beauty and endurance, and considers it a "noble" adversary, telling the fish repeatedly that though he loves it, he must kill it. Ultimately, the marlin is presented as Santiago's worthy opponent.

Santiago's struggle with the marlin is a struggle to face and overcome his own weaknesses as much as it is a struggle to subdue the great fish. In the process, by refusing to give in to the fish or the weakness of his mind and body, Santiago transcends those weaknesses.

Q/ Discuss the relationship between Santiago and the Marline

- Santiago pities the great fish and feels that they are bound together in brother hood .
- Although Santiago respects the marline , he vows to kill him before the end of the day. In the midst of the struggle , the old man pauses to reflect , and endows the fish with his own qualities : nobility, calmness, and endurance .

- The marline, like Santiago, has a strong will to live and continue his life by overcoming the old man.
 - At first Santiago believes the great fish is being treated unjustly but he finds justification in the realization that his actions demonstrate what a man can do and endure.

4-The Sea:

As its title suggests, the sea is central character in the novella. Most of the story takes place on the sea, and Santiago is constantly identified with it and its creatures; his sea colored eyes reflect both the sea's tranquility and power, and its inhabitants are his brothers. Santiago refers to the sea as a woman, and the sea seems to represent the feminine complement to Santiago's masculinity. The sea might also be seen as the unconscious from which creative ideas are drawn.

Q/ Discuss the role of the sea in the novel

Hemingway focuses on the connections between Santiago and his natural environment: the fish, birds, and stars are all his brothers or friends; he has the heart of a turtle, eats turtle eggs for strength; and drinks shark liver oil for health. This connection with the sea and its creatures helps Santiago in the midst of his great tragedy. For Santiago, success and failure are two equal facets of the same existence.

thanks