

Title & Author: The Old Man and the Sea by Ernest Hemingway

Introduction: I chose The Old Man and the Sea because I heard about its deep meaning and simple but powerful storytelling. It is considered a masterpiece by Hemingway. I was curious to see how such short novel could carry such meaningful and power message. At first I thought book might be slow focusing too much on fishing. I expected a straightforward story about an old fisherman catching a fish but I was surprised by depth of emotions and theme of struggle, hope and inner strength shown in simple way which makes story much more interesting than I expected:

Summary: The novel follows Santiago, an old Cuban fisherman who has not caught a fish in 84 days. His young apprentice, Manolin has been forced by his parents to leave Santiago and work with ~~fisher~~ luckier fishermen. He still cares deeply for the old man. Santiago determined to break his bad luck, he sails far out into sea on the 85th day and he hooks a massive marlin. A two days and two night battle between man and fish begins, testing Santiago's strength and will power. Santiago admires fish's strength and perseverance. He recognises that marlin is a worthy opponent. After finally catching the marlin, his journey to back home turns tragic as sharks attack on marlin and eat all the meat, leaving

leaving only skeleton, Despite his loss, Santiago undefeated in spirit and fight with sharks until only skeleton is left.

Analysis & opinion: The novel's theme of endurance and dignity was deeply moving, and Santiago's character was inspiring. The relationship between him and Manolin added warmth to the story. Hemingway's writing style worked very well.

However, the story felt slow-speed to me, especially with long descriptions of sea and the fishing process.

Santiago is the heart of this novel. His always positive attitude, unbreakable will and deep respect for marlin (fish) makes him a very special person.

Despite his age he never gives up. He says, "But man is not made for defeat. A man can be destroyed but not defeated". This shows he never gave up.

Another standout character is Manolin, the boy who deeply cared for Santiago. The relationship of Manolin and Santiago gives emotional touch to the story. He respects Santiago beyond success or failure.

Manolin said that he would fish with Santiago again.

Showing his deep admiration and love for Santiago.

This book teaches an important lesson about pride, not giving up and struggle of life. Mind even drops on self-talk means the story we tell to ourselves make a key difference between our success and failure.



Personal Connection: This book made me realize that true strength is not in never failing, but in never giving up. Santiago's journey showed me that even life throws challenges, we must keep going with courage. I felt like I had turned over a new leaf, looking at struggles differently. Struggles are part of our life. Sometimes, things don't go as planned, but that does not mean we have lost. This book changed my perspective on success and failure. It also taught me that life will test you, and you have to be strong enough to face it. Instead of throwing in the towel, I now believe fighting till the end just like Santiago did. Before, I believed success was only about achieving goals, but now I see that effort, hard work and lessons learned along the way are more important.

Conclusion: I would highly recommend this book to anyone who loves deep, thought-provoking stories. It is perfect for readers who appreciate the theme of never giving up, attitude, respect for nature and human struggle and spirit. Although it may not be ideal for those looking for fast-paced action. Anyone willing to reflect on life, determination and inner strength will find it incredibly rewarding. Santiago's journey is one that stays with us long after we finish the book.