**Question:-**

**Answer:-**

**i) Marquez’s literary reputation is inseparable from the term magic realism, a phrase that literary critics coined to describe the distinctive blend of fantasy and realism, the ordinary with the extraordinary, where fantastical things are treated not just as possible but also as realistic. Magical-realist fiction consists mostly of true to life narrative punctuated by moments of whimsical, often symbolic fantasy described in matter of fact manner. “*A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings*” is one of the most well known examples of magic realism as is included in his book “*Leaf Storm*”. The story is a wonderful example of Marquez’s talent in telling a fairy tale in a realistic manner while subtly weaving through it the magic of an angel.**

ii) The story begins with an odd allegorical reference to time, “*On the third day of rain, the world had been sag since Tuesday*” seem to indicate the weather and human emotion in a way that seems mythic and magical. On top of this the world behaves strangely supernaturally. Swarms of crabs infesting Pelayo’s house , the darkness at noon, all these changes events seem to foreshadow the eerie arrival of the other worldly visitor, the angel.

iii) Thus this rainstorm drives legions of crabs into Pelayo and Ellisenda’s house. After killing the crabs and dragging them back to sea, Pelayo returns to find a very old man in his courtyard, “*lying face down in the mud, who, in spite of his tremendous efforts, couldn’t get up, impeded by his enormous wings*”.

iv) Pelayo called Ellisenda who was attending to their feverish baby and they both attempted to speak to the old man who replies in a dialect they do not understand.

v) Trying to explain his wings away, Pelayo calls in the neighbour woman who “*knows everything about life and death*”. She declares him as an angel coming for the child but foundered in the rain storm.

vi) The neighbour woman advises them to club him to death, but Pelayo and Ellisenda lacked the heart to do so, instead locked him in the chicken coop.

vii) Pelayo and Ellisenda felt magnanimous when their child miraculously recovered. So they decided to “*put the angel on a raft with fresh water and provisions for three days and leave him to his fate on the high seas*”.

viii) However this supernatural does not affect the people greatly. He is a curiosity but ordinary, respond to him with less awe than confusion. The old man is an angel but a decayed aged angel. Here is a surreal coupling of the holy and the profane which continues throughout the story.