



## Man is not created to suffer defeat

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**Annotation:** In the novel of “The old man and the sea” by Ernest Hemingway it is described the difficult environment of humanity as well as his ideas and the feelings around the world. The main consideration of the novel is his confrontation with the nature, victory and interosculation with it. The main hero of the novel – the old man Santyago is unusual man who understands his life in his own risk to finish the work till to the end that he began already. He lives in believe in his future success. The readers are in delighted with his feeling of love of life, love of nature and to treat with his adversary with respect.

The philosophical story "The Old Man and the Sea", published in 1952, brought the American writer Ernest Miller Hemingway (1899-1961) worldwide fame and the most prestigious Nobel Prize in 1954.

The philosophical story-parable is based on a real life fact. According to eyewitnesses, a resident of Havana fished unsuccessfully on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean for many days. One day he was lucky, he caught a big fish on his hook, but sharks attacked her, and the fisherman dragged only her huge skeleton to the shore at the stern of his boat. The artist saw a great philosophical meaning in this life episode he heard. With the help of fiction, he was able to create the famous instructive story-parable.

As you know, the writer himself was a passionate fisherman, he had many acquaintances among people of this profession who told him their sea adventures. One such acquaintance of his was an old fisherman named Gregorio Fuentes. He looked like the fisherman Santiago in his outward build. Thus, based on the above facts, it should be noted that the image of the main character of the story of the old man Santiago is of a generalized nature.

At the very beginning of the story, we learn that the old man has been sailing on his boat for 84 days and has not caught a single fish. Despite the fact that in the first forty days with the old man on the boat there was also a boy - Manolin.

Santiago – the old fisherman was thin in appearance, the back of his head was cut with deep numerous wrinkles. And once healthy, his cheeks were covered with brown spots caused by the sun's rays, and they reached up to his neck. On his wrinkled hands were visible traces of deep scars, cut through with a string designed to pull out large fish. However, these scars were as old as Santiago himself, there were no new cuts in his hands, which indicated that he had not caught large fish for a long time. Only his eyes, similar to the color of the sea, were lively, cheerful and were not going to give up.



The old man was kind and unique by nature, loved people, the sea element, and its inhabitants. He also loved his Mandolin student, whom he taught to fish from an early age, and the boy, in turn, considered the old man the best person in the world.

And in the days of the old man's failures, the boy had a great desire to help his teacher. But Santiago, having failed himself, rejoiced at the success of his student on his lucky boat.

And so on the one hand, the old man needs help, and on the other, he persuades the boy to take care of his parents and save himself. The old man, by his life experience and by certain signs, predicted the sea weather. He was also well versed in the baseball game, sympathized with the skill and valor of the players, and among them were his idols, such as John McGraw, Dick Slicer, DiMaggio – about whom he liked to tell the boy. These strong and brave people, with their skills and skill, produced a huge charge of energy in the minds of the old man and his disciple. And old man Santiago, like these athletes, was a strong and unusual nature.

It was decided that the next day, despite his age, violating all the physical laws of nature, the old man would go to sea. A boy, Manolin, will help him get ready. The old man, before dawn, had already managed to be on the seashore, and was confident in his luck today.

Santiago had cases of bad luck, which the boy witnessed.

Over the long years of his life in communion with nature, Santiago developed a character, the ability to fight and achieve his goal. He patiently taught these positive qualities to his student.

The boy knew everything he could, learned from the old man and painfully experienced his failures. He tried his best to support, help and comfort him. The boy, aloud, told past stories about bad luck and success from their common life, and from these memories, the old man's eyes lit up brighter. The old man remembered how, long ago, in the past days, together with a boy, eighty-seven days, they went to the sea and did not catch anything, and then they brought big fish for three weeks in a row.

The conditions of the sea and his life were equally harsh. All his craft supplies, his hut and equipment were old, but they were reminiscent of his past successes. "The hut had a bed, a table and a chair, and a recess in the earthen floor to hide food on charcoal. Brown walls made of pressed fibrous leaves were decorated with oleographs of the Heart of the Lord and Our Lady of Kobren. He inherited them from his late wife." [1]

The old man recalled his youth when he sailed as a cabin boy on a sailboat to the shores of Africa, in the evenings strong free lions came to the ocean shore to drink, which now he often dreamed of. He caught huge turtles in the ocean in his youth.

The old man really was not like the others, he was honest, fair, tried not to borrow money from his friends, if he took it, he returned it and did not lose hope and faith in the future. He lived like that, obeying his own rules of life, not embarrassed by his past and present, without losing his dignity. He believed in lucky symbols and was sure that, "- If the tide does not change, today will be a good day." [2]

As a result of constant, tireless fishing, the old man developed dexterity and skills, he accurately predicted where large fish were found, and what the weather would be like today at sea. And so, the old man had long led a Spartan lifestyle, his only interlocutor was a boy. They talked together not only about fishing, but also about strong and dexterous baseball players and their coaches. The old man read aloud from the pages of newspapers essays about interesting matches, and the boy listened attentively, so they sometimes sat for a long time. And these relationships



testify to the spiritual and physical closeness and unusualness of the characters. The boy, from an early age, joining his teacher, in long conversations discovered a lot of new things for himself. And gradually developed in his mind the mind and manner of perceiving the world around him as an adult.

Before the boy was really a living legend, capable of conquering any difficulties in life.

So Santiago went fishing before dawn. He loved flying fish, and especially pitied the small, fragile sea swallows. He is a philosopher, thinks about the meaning of the life of birds, considering their life difficult compared to human life. He compared the unexpected harshness of ocean life to the conditions of fragile birds.

The old man constantly thought of the sea as a beautiful woman, demanding love and thoughtful actions from people.

The hero of the story and the sea element, as it were, interpenetrate each other, creating a unity built on mutual trust and understanding. At dawn, the old man realized that he had sailed far from the shore, noticed a frigate bird that smelled fish and circled above the water, letting him know about prey.

The old man did not have a network, he sold it long ago. But, on the other hand, he had good hooks, which he used to catch big fish. The old man was guided by the flight of flying fish and birds to the location of the flock of Mackerel.

Santiago for each season, for September, prepared in a special way. He had his own diet, which he ate, which included turtle eggs, shark liver oil, which was stored in large barrels in the barn. And such food gave him strength, and today he felt a great surge of physical strength in himself and believed in his strength. First, the old man caught a small tuna and, from his own experience, felt that luck would smile today. And on the eighty-fifth day of his going to sea, he really wanted to be lucky. Here he felt that a big fish pecked on his hook.

He mentally talks with his prey, he was happy and believed in his luck: "She will still turn around and swallow the hook," the old man thought, but he did not say his thoughts aloud so as not to jinx it. He knew how big this fish was and mentally imagined how it goes further and further in the darkness with tuna across its mouth. For a moment the movement stopped, but he still felt the weight of the fish. Then the pull intensified, and he let go of the line again. [3] At the most difficult moment, continuing to fight with a huge fish, he several times recalls his young student, who would now be very useful to him. The old man was guided by the stars where the fish was swimming, but at the same time he did not feel fear or fear, on the contrary, he felt an influx of strength.

At night, two guinea pigs swam up to his boat, playing with each other. The hero of the story more and more merges with the sea element: "- At night, two guinea pigs swam up to the boat, and the old man heard the male puffing loudly and a little audibly, as if the female was puffing, - They are good, - said the old man, - They play, fool around and love each other friend. They are kindred to us, just like flying fish." [4]

The old man thought about the big fish caught on his hook. On the one hand, he feels sorry for her, and on the other, he is inspired by the physical struggle in the confrontation. He admires the big fish, its behavior and ability to fight without fear.

The old man recalled a past incident when he had hooked a large female marlin, and next to her was a male who did not lag behind his suffering pair, despite heavy blows from the fisherman



with a club. Finally, when the female was in the boat, the male jumped high and looked at his girlfriend for the last time, making sure that she could no longer be saved, dived and went deep into the water.

And the old man felt sorry for the female, and he mentally asked her for forgiveness for what he had done.

He also felt sorry for the big fish and he thought: "Maybe I didn't need to become a fisherman," he thought, "But I was born for this," he says. [5] He kept swimming with the fish and it jerked violently at night, so violently that he fell face down into the boat and cut his cheek, from which blood flowed down his cheekbone. But the old man is strong, like baseball players and their coaches, able to fight.

Therefore, he sympathizes with the fragile bird able to resist the mighty eagles, saving his life, porpoises and big fish, able to love and fight for their love and life.

He mentally talked to the big fish: "Fish," he called softly, "I won't part with you until I die." [6]

The old man was guided by the stars, where the fish was swimming, and the next day the fish was not going to get tired. This confrontation of the fish makes the old man respect her: "Fish," he said, "I love and respect you very much. But I will kill you before the evening comes." [7] So mentally Santiago talked to a big fish, such is the whirlpool of life. Either you need to win, or you will be defeated, and there is no third way.

At that moment, a tired bird flew over the sea and circled over his head and sat on the stern of his boat to rest. And the old man was talking to her. But the bird did not understand him, but he still tried to explain to her that, hawks fly into the sea to catch their victims, this is how life works, it is impossible to remake it in another way. Turning to the bird, he makes the instruction close to his heart with words: "Rest well, little bird," he said, "and then fly to the shore and take risks, as every person, bird or fish risks." [8]

An old man with a romantic soul and his life is directly connected with risk, as evidenced by the deep scars on his hands and the sores on his face, he thinks about the meaning of his life and at that moment the fish twitched again, the string pulled and cut his hand. He felt very sick, but at this difficult moment of his life, he pities the fish more than himself: "It's bad for you, fish," he asked. "God knows, it's not easier for me myself." [9]

On the one hand, he feels sorry for the fish and even wants to feed it: "After all, she is my relatives. But I have to kill her, and for that I need strength." [10]

The old man did not believe in God, but he was ready to read the "Our Father" ten times and the same number of "Theotokos" in order to catch this big fish. He asks the Mother of God to bless him so that he catches this fish. After reading the prayers, he felt much better. The old man is strong, resolute and believing in his strength, he mentally talks to himself: "But I will prove to her what a person is capable of and what he can endure." [11]

The old man has an unusual nature, he believes in himself. He remembered how once in Casablanca he competed in hand wrestling with a huge black man, with the largest man in the port. There were a lot of spectators, they made bets, the referees changed every eight hours, and the opponents looked into the eyes and stubbornly bent each other's arms, the advantage passed from one to the other, and this went on until the morning. This confrontation lasted for a whole day and blood oozed from under the nails of the opponents. In this stubborn struggle, Santiago



defeated a huge opponent. The competition was repeated several times after, but now the enemy was not so confident in his strength, so he was quickly defeated. And the witnesses of the competition called Santiago the champion for a long time. A long history encourages him.

The old man still forced the fish to swim. It was huge: “-But the fish was so big, and by the end of the third circle, it floated to the surface only thirty yards from the boat, and the old man saw its tail rise above the sea. It was larger than the blade of the largest scythe and above the dark blue water it seemed pale lilac. The fish dived again, but not deep enough, and the old man could see its huge body, girded with purple stripes. Its dorsal fin was lowered, and its huge pectoral fins were spread out to the sides.”[12]

The old man, stepping on the forest, threw a harpoon at the fish, and then the fish jumped high above the water for the last time and fell helplessly, I clearly feel my death.

And the old man felt dizzy, but he already felt that he had won. The old man felt great in the sea element, merged with it, he did not need a compass to determine where the shore was, where he had to go on his boat. To do this, it was enough to feel where the wind was blowing and from which side his old intertwined sail was inflated.

From all that has been said, we can draw the following conclusions:

In the story, the confrontation unfolds not between man and society, but against the background of natural nature, which is balanced and does not know good and evil. In the story, a fisherman and a fish, a winner and a loser, a teacher and a student, great baseball players - they are all strong, brave, noble people. Even the old fisherman feels a sense of shame for interfering with the harmonious order of being.

At the same time, he takes inexhaustible energy from nature itself, penetrating it with his soul and heart. We see that, long and difficult, life practice taught the old man the ability to fight to the end. What confirms his words: “-Man is not created to suffer defeat. “Man can be destroyed, but he cannot be defeated.”[13]

The old man defeated the fish, he fought the sharks to the end to save his prey.

Santiago wondered over and over whether he had done the right thing by killing the fish. He admits to himself that he had no idea that by killing the fish, satisfy his hunger or feed others. He convinces himself that: "You were born to be a fisherman, just as a fish was born to be a fish." [14] In this cycle, everyone has their own purpose.

The old man liked to think about everything that surrounded him, he thought about the sea, about the fish, about his love for her, about the share of the fisherman, and about his purpose, about the meaning of life, about friendship and fidelity.

He, in the end, was convinced that he had perfectly fulfilled his role as a fisherman. He knew that today he was very tired in the fight against predators, but his boat was intact and he would sail on it to a small bay, sleep soundly at home. And then he will again sail into the sea on his favorite boat, and will seek his happiness. Because he spent his long life in contact with the sea and nature, and mentally shared with him his everyday impressions of life, and gradually turned into a particle of the objective world and lived with it, otherwise he cannot imagine his tomorrow.

Santiago is a philosopher, he thinks about the meaning of his life, he still feels sorry for the fish: “I should not have gone so far into the sea,” he said. “I’m sorry, fish, that everything turned out so badly for you and for me. Forgive me, fish.” [fifteen]

The excitement of fighting in the sea did not leave him.





He returned to the pier to return to the sea again, but for now he left his boat. Wealthy tourists and experienced fishermen walked around his boat and looked with admiration at the huge skeleton of a fish and mentally imagined what a confrontation took place that night between the old man, a huge fish and marine predators ...

There was also a boy among the spectators, he was the first to run to his teacher, who was fast asleep in his hut, when he saw him, he wept, but these tears were from joy and admiration.

Life consists of a struggle of confrontation and victories, which means that you need to take risks, dare, win and move forward.

The reader admires the talent and skill of the creator of the immortal story.

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