

LECTURE 3

" He no longer dreamed of storms ,nor of women ,nor of great occurrences ,nor of a great fish ,nor fights ,nor contests of strength ,nor of his wife ,he only dreamed of places now and of the lions on the beach. They played like young cats in the dusk and he loved them as he loved the boy "

This passage which describes Santiago's dreams on the night before he sets out for his fishing expedition, simultaneously confirms and moves beyond Hemingway's immediately recognizable vision of the universe ,Hemingway made his career telling stories about "great occurrences ", "great fish "and "contest of strength " The fact that Santiago no longer dreams of any of these make him unique among Hemingway's heroes .

Of course , by dreaming of lions he is still in a recognizably "Hemingwayesque" world ,but the lions here are at play and thus suggest a time of youth and ease.

They are also linked to Manolin , a connection that is made apparent at the end of the novel as the boy watches over his aged friend Santiago 's dream of the lions return.

" Have faith in the Yankees my son. Think of great Joe DiMaggio "

Santiago says this to Manolin during their conversation in his shack .They speak of baseball before Manolin goes to fetch the sardines for bait for the next day , and Santiago 's admiration for DiMaggio becomes a symbol both of manhood and of overcoming strife for Santiago the

next day while he is battling the great marlin .He cuts his hand and thinks about how Joe DiMaggio keeps playing despite the handicap of a bone spur ,this gives him the strength to catch the fish.

"There are many good fisherman and some great ones .But there is only you ."

Manolin says this to Santiago before he goes to bed ,comparing him to Joe DiMaggio in his unique skill.

The old man has said that he knows fisher men who are better than himself , but Manolin points out that Santiago stands alone among fisher men. This is certainly not because of luck –It has been a long time since he has caught any fish ,but because of the relationship he has with the sea, one of respect and unity .

"They are good ----They play and make jokes and love one another. They are our brothers like the flying fish."

Santiago says this of the porpoises who come to the side of his boat in the night .He has been feeling lonely and thinking to himself that nobody should be alone in their old age ,he lost his wife long ago and now wishes he had Manolin with him on the boat ,but the porpoises comes as a couple ,as a representation of love and to give Santiago strength .He sees them as brothers ,like he sees every creature of the sea. including the fish he has hooked.

Fish ---I 'll stay with you until I am dead ."

Santiago says this to the marlin he has hooked after it makes a lurch forward in the middle of the night .He has a lot of line left .But he knows

it will drain him of his strength to trail the fish until it loses energy and eventually dies, So Santiago says this to express his commitment to that task. Either he will die or the fish will die ,or both.