

III. MANOLIN IS AS A DISCIPLE TO SANTIAGO, HE PROVES HIS GOOD CHARACTER

The good relationship between the old man and the young boy is one of interinfluence based on companionship and love. Accompanied by Manolin, Santiago in struggling his life feels less burden, because the young boy always consoles and takes care of him. Besides looking after him physically, Manolin also gives his devotion and companionship to the old man.

It made the boy sad to see the old man come in each day with his skiff empty and he always went down to help him carry either the coiled lines or the gaff and harpoon and the sail that was furled around the mast.¹⁴

This quotation tells how much the boy's attention toward Santiago is. Living in indifferent society and being in bad luck, Santiago is very much relieved by the boy's care, for he can share his feeling. Manolin shows us his good character which is useful in achieving his manhood later.

¹⁴Ernest Hemingway, The Old Man And The Sea, Batam ed. (New York, 1965), p. 1.

A. HE GIVES SANTIAGO THE FEELING OF BEING RESPECTABLE

If one is helped, when he is being in sorrow, he will be much pleased, for this help is really needed especially in indifferent society. This also happens to Santiago, who is very glad as Manolin gives him the feeling of being respectable besides strengthening his confidence. The following conversation shows how much Manolin has given to Santiago.

"Que va," the boy said. "There are many good fishermen and some great ones. But there is only you." "Thank you," you make me happy.¹⁵

How happy his feeling is when Manolin greets him. It is just a praise, but Santiago feels much respected among the other fishermen who look down upon him. From this story, we know that a human being needs to be respected and to be accepted.

In order to struggle our lives, Hemingway also suggests to us to have good relationship with the surroundings. Through Manolin, he describes how one should behave in the society. Although Manolin is still a young boy, he has proved his good character as he treats the old man well. Only by giving others respect, one will be respected. We notice this in Manolin's behaviour.

"That's very kind of you," the old man said. "Should we eat?" "I've been asking you too," the boy told him gently. "I have not wished to open the container until you were ready."¹⁶

¹⁵Ernest Hemingway, The Old Man And The Sea, Batam ed. (New York, 1965), p. 15.

¹⁶Ibid., p. 12.

That Manolin is awaiting the old man to open the container and let him to start eating first proves how much respect he shows to Santiago. Without Manolin realization, he makes the old man pleased and love him. "The old man looked at him with his sunburned, confident loving eyes."¹⁷ Here, we see that Manolin is greatly loved by Santiago.

Through the good relationship between the old man and the young boy, Hemingway implies generally that the relationship between two person should be based on take and give. If one is selfish in his relationship with the surroundings, he won't be respected by others. In other words one will be respected if he respects others.

¹⁷Ernest Hemingway, The Old Man And The Sea, Batam ed. (New York, 1965), p. 5.

B. HE GIVES HIS DEVOTION AND COMPANIONSHIP TO THE OLD MAN

Manolin gives not only his devotion but companionship to the old man as well. He brings food and drink for Santiago. While eating together, they make a nice chat on everything like baseball, fishing, or sharing their own experience. Manolin makes Santiago very pleased and he loves him as his own child. As a true companion, Manolin is never bored to console Santiago especially in his bad time. Manolin's help is not much, but it means a lot to Santiago. By helping Santiago, Manolin has performed his good personality which is useful for him to adapt himself in society later on.

Being a true companion, Manolin has shared in the work, pleasures or misfortunes of Santiago. By depicting Manolin's character, Hemingway says that it is not fair to leave a friend when he is in sorrow. Manolin is devoted to Santiago. He is much worried when Santiago does not return from fishing for three days. We know this from the following:

The boy saw that the old man was breathing and then he saw the old man's hands and he started to cry. He went out very quietly to go to bring some coffee and all the way down the road he was crying.¹⁸

That Manolin cries after looking at Santiago's misery proves his sensitive feeling. He can understand and feel how much suffering Santiago has undergone. By fetching some coffee hurriedly, Manolin also shows his devotion to Santiago.

If one is already old, he often feels lonely. He is very pleased

¹⁸Ernest Hemingway, The Old Man And The Sea, Batam ed. (New York, 1965), p. 113.

if he can find a true companion with whom he is able to share his feeling. The following quotation reveals how well behaved Manolin is.

I'll be back when I have the sardines. I'll keep yours and mine together on ice and we can share them in the morning. When I come back, you can tell me about the baseball.¹⁹

By preparing the sardines and making a chat with Santiago about the baseball, Manolin has lessened his burden a lot. From the good relationship between Manolin and the old man, Hemingway suggests that the young people should behave well towards the old ones, since every man will gradually grow older and older and needs the care of the younger ones.

¹⁹Ernest Hemingway, The Old Man And The Sea, Batam ed. (New York, 1965), p. 9.

C. HE STRENGTHENS SANTIAGO'S CONFIDENCE

Since one's struggle does not always bring him into success, sometimes one can feel down when he fails. This also happens to Santiago, and only Manolin pays attention to him. Manolin always encourages Santiago, who has gone eighty-four days without catching any fish in his work. Once Manolin says to him:

"But remember how you went eighty-seven days without fish and then we caught big ones every day for three weeks."²⁰

From this we know that Manolin strengthens Santiago's confidence. He insists to go fishing with Santiago although his parrents do not allow him. This might make Santiago firmer on fishing.

Besides bringing food and drink for Santiago, Manolin also consoles him. By praising him as the best one among other fishermen, Manolin makes him more confident that he is still able to fish. He regards Santiago as his master and respects him greatly. He knows that the old man has done to his best although he fails. Since one's struggle is far more important than his success or his failure, Manolin can understand and appreciate Santiago more.

"Don't sit up," the boy said. "Drink this." He poured some of the coffee in a glass. The old man took it and drank it. "They beat me, Manolin," he said. "They truly beat me." "He didn't beat you. Not the fish." "No. Truly. It was afterwards."²¹

²⁰Ernest Hemingway, The Old Man And The Sea, Batam ed. (New York, 1965), p. 2.

²¹Ibid., p. 115.

Here we see that Manolin loves Santiago much. While giving Santiago a glass of coffee, Manolin strengthens his confidence by saying that he is not beaten. Although only the giant skeleton of the fish is left, Manolin understands that Santiago has already proved himself a great fisherman.

Manolin is a true companion of Santiago. He takes care of Santiago not only in good time but also in bad time. He strengthens Santiago's confidence when he feels down. By sharing in the work, pleasures or misfortunes of Santiago, Manolin has proved his good character.

D. HE LOOKS AFTER HIM PHYSICALLY

As a disciple to Santiago, Manolin also looks after him physically besides learning. He always prepares for Santiago's need. Besides meal and drink, he makes ready water, soap and a good towel, so that Santiago can wash his hands after having eaten. He adores him. "I must get him another shirt and a jacket for the winter and some sort of shoes and another blanket."²² He is prepared to supply the goods Santiago needs. Manolin is fond of serving Santiago.

Manolin pays much attention to Santiago. As a child, he treats him genuinely and loyally. He often reminds Santiago of taking care for his own health. In serving him, Manolin never pretends to be kind. The following quotation shows how much Manolin's attention toward Santiago is.

When the boy came back the old man was asleep in the chair and the sun was down. The boy took the old army blanket off the bed and spread it over the back of the chair and over the old man's shoulder.²³

Here we see that Manolin is really devoted to Santiago. He covers Santiago with a blanket while he is sleeping. How patient he treats the old man can arouse one's emotion.

Being worried about Santiago's wound as he has returned from fishing for three days, Manolin carefully cures for him. He asks him to take a rest while he fetches the food and the papers. Besides those, he will also bring stuff from the drugstore for the wounded hands of Santiago.

²²Ernest Hemingway, The Old Man And The Sea, Batam ed. (New York, 1965), p. 12, 13.

²³Ibid., p. 10.

Judging from his affection toward Santiago, Manolin certainly deserves to be admired.