

## The Old Man And The Sea: From A Gerotranscendence Perspective

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**Abstract :** The Old Man and The Sea is a novella written by Ernest Hemingway that depicts an old fisherman's journey out into the deep sea in his pursuit to catch a big fish. Through this novella, Hemingway creates a world for his protagonist, Santiago who is portrayed as an old man who has gone eighty-four days without catching a fish, at last hooks an eighteen-foot marlin, the largest he ever known. The old man endures pain and struggles to bring back to shore. Looking through the lens of gerotranscendence, we can see that the old man has his dreams, and goals in life. In his pursuit for happiness, he has fought tirelessly to ward off the shark attacks and finally he won even though only half of his fish is left. Hemingway has portrayed Santiago as an old man as a transcendent self leaping from the dimension of "The Self" to the cosmic dimension with the personal and social relationship dimension in tow. The Old Man and The Sea offers a glimpse of the struggles of an old man, who is old and gaunt but spiritually undefeated in his battle out in the sea. He is surprisingly strong and powerful despite his old age, he respects the sea, the birds, the turtles, the sharks and the fish. He can endure suffering and is focussed on achieving his goals. This is what Hemingway has portrayed Santiago to be a gerotranscendent in the eyes of the gerotranscendental approach in respect of the changes and development as seen in Santiago, the protagonist in this novella.

**Keywords :** gerotranscendence, gerotranscendental, old man, the sea, hemingway

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