

DAY 5

OLD MAN AND THE SEA



The Voyage Out

Day 5: Agenda

R417–Old Man and the Sea– Fall 2015

1. Announcements: Class Liaison
2. Announcements: Instructor
Doc Store: Day 3 & Day 4 Posted
3. Icebreaker: Exercise w/Modernist Art
Reflection of: Irony: The Voyage Cont'd
4. Teacher Notes on: The Voyage Cont'd
5. Discussion – Reading Selection #3
6. Viewing–Old Man and the Sea (1958)
7. Wrap-up - Discussion 'Questions to Consider'

Literary Technique: Irony

In literature irony is a contrast between what is stated and what is meant, or between what is expected to happen and what actually happens.

Verbal Irony: Julius Caesar

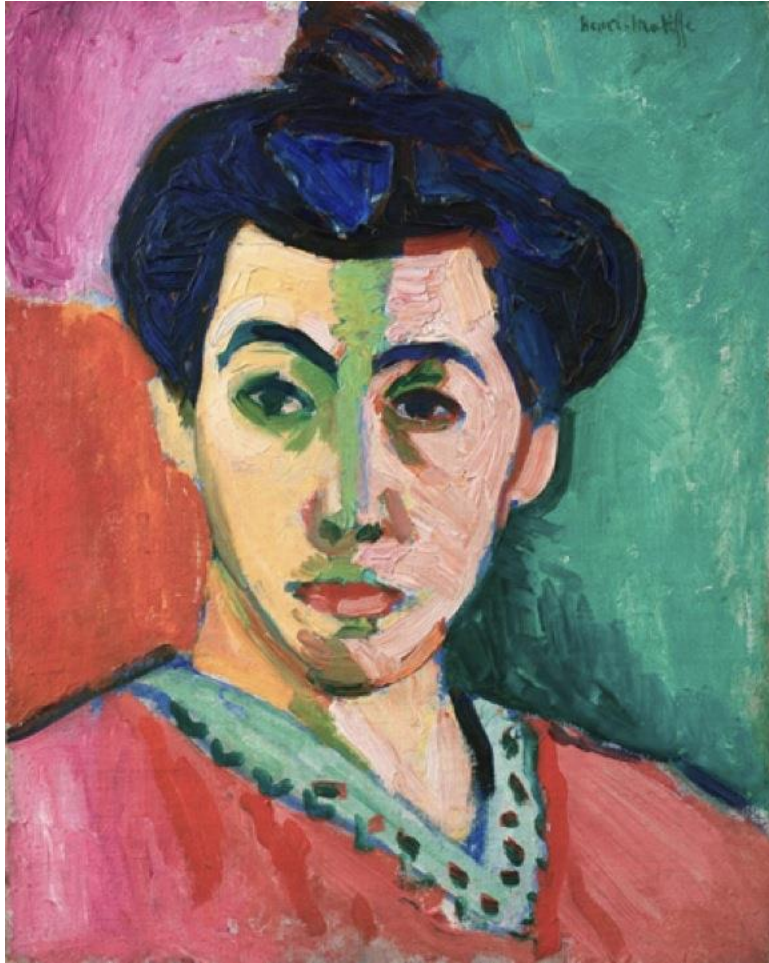
Example: "Yet Brutus says he was ambitious, and Brutus is an honorable man" (Marc Anthony)

Situational Irony: Romeo and Juliet

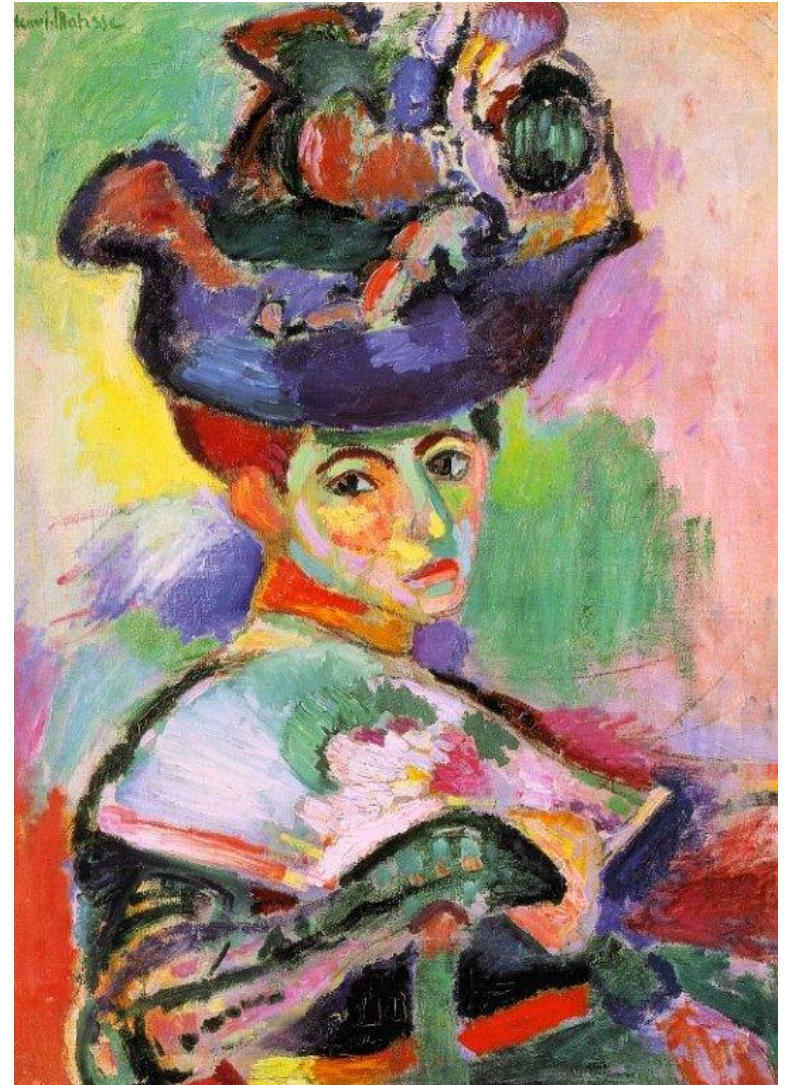
Example: "Indeed I never shall be satisfied with Romeo till I behold him - dead." (Juliet in a conversation w/her mother)

The ironic awareness by an author, a character, or a reader of a contrast and or a difference between the way things seem and the way they really are is also apparent in art.

Irony in Art: Madame Matisse



Green Stripe: Madame Matisse
1905



Woman with a Hat
1905

Response Questions

1. What strikes you w/regard to the painting?
2. What specific details in the painting catch your eye? Why?
3. What details in the painting contribute to the ironic affect i.e., what would you have expected to see w/regard to a painting of Madame Matisse as opposed to what is it that you see?
4. What overall tone with regard to the portrait does the painter suggest with regard to his use of color?

Notes: The Voyage Continued

Verbal Irony

SANTIAGO REFLECTS THE IRONY OF HIS STRUGGLE WITH THE MARLIN IN THE LIGHT OF HIS ESSENTIAL BROTHERHOOD WITH ALL SEA CREATURES:

“Fish,” he said, “I love you and respect you very much. But I will kill you before this day ends.” (54)

Conflict

• IN THIS SECTION OF THE NOVEL HEMINGWAY DESCRIBES HOW THE OLD MAN MISSES THE BOY, BOTH AS A WITNESS AND A HELPER:

“Then he said aloud. “I wish I had the boy. To help me and to see this.” (48)

Notes: The Voyage Continued

Symbolism

Arm wrestling incident symbolic of conflict in the story

“As the sun set he remembered to give himself more confidence, the time in the tavern at Casablanca when he had played the hand game with the great n...from Cienfuegos who was the strongest man on the docks. They had gone one day and one night with their elbows on a chalk line on the table”

Foreshadowing

Old man anticipating conflict that can change everything

“Still I would rather be that beast...If sharks come, God pity me.”

Notes: The Voyage Continued

Imagery is the collection of mental pictures or images in a literary work that appeal to the senses.

- “How do you feel hand?” he asked the cramped hand that was almost as stiff as rigor mortis...
- “I hate a cramp, he thought. It is a treachery of one’s own body...a cramp...humiliates oneself especially when one is alone.” (62)

• Hemingway also includes religious imagery

- “I am not religious,” he said. But I will say Our Fathers and ten Hail Marys' that I should catch this fish.”
- He commenced to say his prayers mechanically... “(65)

Notes: The Voyage Continued

Recurring Motif: Stoicism

Main Characteristics of Stoicism:

– Endurance

- “I’ll kill him though. Although it is unjust, he thought, But I will show him what a man can do and what a man endures.”

Self-Sufficiency

- Aloud he said: I wish I had the boy.” But you haven’t got the boy, he thought. You have only yourself and you had better work back to the last line now, in the dark or not in the dark, and cut it away and hook up the two reserve coils.” (52)

– Virtue i.e., suffering without complaint

- “But he cannot pull this skiff forever, no matter how great a fish he is...I can do it as long as he can.”

Notes: The Voyage Continued

Recurring Motif: Compassion/Love

Santiago's compassion and love for Manolin extend here to include all creatures of the sea:

“ He remembered the time he had hooked one of a pair of marlin...The male fish always let the female fish feed first and the hooked fish, the female made a wild, panic-stricken, despairing fight that soon exhausted her, and all the time the male stayed....” (49)

“Then while the old man was clearing the line...the male fish jumped high into the air beside the boat to see where the female was and then went down deep his lavender wings, that were his pectoral fins spread wide... He was beautiful”

Questions to Consider

1. Why does Santiago use the word 'strange' to describe both himself and the fish?
2. At what other point in the story does Santiago use the word 'strange' to describe himself?
3. What does this choice of words tell the reader about his feelings for the fish?
4. What two advantages over the fish does Santiago count upon?
5. If Santiago's intelligence is one advantage he has over the fish, why does Santiago advise himself not to think in this section?

Nautical Vocabulary

1. Bitt – post fixed on boat's deck to secure lines.
2. Sounds – dives down suddenly, used w/regard to a large fish or a whale.
3. Pectoral – two fins on fish that correspond to forelimbs of four legged animal.
4. Gunwhale – upper edge of boat's side.
5. Mast Head – top of a mast
6. Gills – fish's organ for getting oxygen from water
7. Cross –Trees – two horizontal crosspieces that help support a ship's mast

Special Words

1. Catalan – from the region of Catalonia in Spain
2. Brisa – Spanish word for breeze
3. Calambre – Spanish word for cramp
4. Fuegos – Spanish word for ‘games’
5. Un espuela de hueso – Spanish words for ‘bone spur’
6. Casablanca – city on the northern coast of Morocco
7. Cienfuegos – city on southern coast of Cuba
8. El Campeon – Spanish word for ‘the champion’
9. Dorado – Spanish word for ‘golden’
10. Rigel – a brighter star in the constellation of Orion

Resource: Mrs. Matisse



Henri and Amelie Matisse in Morocco, 1912.
Photo: Archives H. Matisse

