

Perception of Women

The following words come from the old man's memory about catching a female marlin on a previous fishing trip.

wild	stayed	panic-stricken	sharp as a scythe
jumped high	circling	despairing	exhausted
beautiful	like the backing of mirrors	clubbed	butchered
afraid	remembered	preparing the harpoon	went down deep

- Place the words under the following headings:
 - The male marlin
 - The female marlin
 - The old man
- What connections can you see between the words? Are there any that surprise you?
- Look at what the old man says about the sea. What is being suggested about women in these situations?

“She is kind and beautiful. But she can be so cruel.”

“But the old man always thought of her as feminine and as something that gave or withheld great favours and if she did wild or wicked things it was because she could not help them.”

“The moon affects her as it does a woman.”