

Of Mice and Men – Notes

Key Quotations

- * George is described as – “every part of him was defined”.
- * George is caring and controlling – “you gonna be sick like you was last night”.
- * Lennie has mental problems – “red and blue and green rabbits”.
- * Lennie is clumsy so described as animals, “Lennie dabbled his big paw”.
- * Lennie lacks confidence – “Lennie asked timidly”.
- * Of Mice and Men is very descriptive – “rabbits sat as quietly as little gray, sculptured stones”.
- * Lennie described as animal – “snorting into the water like a horse”.
- * George is protective of Lennie – “Lennie, for god’ sakes don’t drink so much”.
- * Lennie sees George as a role model – “Lennie, who had been watching, imitated George exactly”.
- * Lennie likes petting small furry animals – “I could pet it”.
- * George helps Lennie and cares for him – “but you ain’t gonna say a word”.
- * George and Lennie can support but not always understand each other.
- * Lennie is described as a dog – “Like a terrier who doesn’t want to bring it’s ball to its master”.
- * George relies on Lennie’s physical strength – “you gonna get that wood?”
- * Lennie’s actions get George in trouble – “you keep me in hot water all the time”.
- * Lennie is told in chapter that if he is in trouble, he is to return to the brush – “hide in the brush till I come for you”.
- * The old swamper, Candy, has a “stick like wrist, but no hand”.
- * Candy’s dog is described as old and weak – “drag-footed sheep dog”.
- * People should be scared of Lennie – “Curley better not make no mistakes about Lennie”.
- * Curley’s wife has “full rouged lips and wide-spread eyes”. She also has the eye of other workers.
- * Slim is “the prince of the ranch”.
- * Lennie gets in trouble all the time – “Like what happened in Weed”.
- * Lennie acts as a child – “he’s jes’ like a kid”.
- * Candy’s dog is described, by Carlson, as “so god damn old”.
- * George admits to Slim that he nearly let Lennie drown – he damn near drowned before we could get him”.
- * Carlson hates Candy’s dog – “God awmighty, that dog stinks”.
- * Candy doesn’t want Carlson to shoot his dog – “I had ‘im too long”.
- * Lennie really wants a puppy – “he’s takin’ ‘em outta the nest and handlin’ them”.
- * George repeats their dream to Lennie, and Candy becomes involved in their dream.
- * Curley fights Lennie because he thinks Lennie laughs at him – “No big son-of-a-bitch is gonna laugh at me”.
- * As Lennie crushed his hand he was worried of what he’s just done – “Lennie watched in terror the flapping little man”.
- * Slim blackmails Curley into lying – “If you don’t tell nobody what happened, we aint going to”.
- * Lennie never meant any harm – “I didn’t mean no harm”.
- * Crooks’ living conditions are poor – “a little shed that leaned off the wall of the barn”.

- * Crooks is two-faced – “Nobody got any right in here”, “come on in and set”.
- * Weak characters stay in the barn when others go into town – “all the boys gone into town”.
- * Crooks is disliked and mistreated – “if I say something, why it’s just a nigger sayin’ it”.
- * Crooks tries to scare Lennie – “S’pose he gets killed or hurt”.
- * Weak characters are worried that Curley’s wife will turn them in – “S’pose you get us canned”.
- * Curley’s wife threatens Crooks – “I could get you tied up on a tree easy”.
- * Lennie killed a puppy – “looked at a little dead puppy”.
- * Curley’s wife is lonely – “ain’t I got a right to talk to nobody?”
- * Curley’s wife flirts with and stirs Lennie up – “mine is soft and fine”.
- * Lennie is scared so hurts Curley’s wife more – “Lennie began to cry with fright”.
- * Change of opinion by Steinbeck about Curley’s wife – “very pretty and simple, and her face was sweet and young”.
- * Candy helps George cover Lennie’s actions – “sure, George. Sure I’ll do that”.
- * Curley wants to shoot Lennie – “we’ll shoot ‘im”.
- * A metaphor is used to describe future happenings – “a silent head and beak lanced down and plucked it out by the head”.
- * Lennie speaks his fears to a rabbit with his mum’s voice – “the rabbit repeated softly over”.
- * George calms Lennie down by explaining their dream again – “we gonna get a little place”.
- * Life goes on – “come on with me”.