

Of mice and men



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

The sky flicker beat and mild wind whiffs around, but for George tonight is one of the longest nights in his life. He was sitting in front of the card table and had already shuffled the deck of cards many times. He wasn't really thinking about the cards as much as he was about what he had done. He thought about things he would miss, and things he wouldn't. The death of Curley's wife, the chase after Lennie and finally he was pulling the trigger. " Why did I do it? " George asked himself. You had to; otherwise, there would have been no end" he replied to himself. Few minutes later after he and Slim arrived at the bunkhouse, the ranch hands returned, and they decided to talk. " At least we don't need to listen to Curley asking, where his wife is! " Carlson said solemnly. There was no reply, only the silence. As George was sleeping, he had a vivid dream: " George, why did you do that to me? Didn't you love me? At least I have rabbits up here and Aunt Clara takes care of me. " Lennie was floating around in George's sub-consciousness.

It was Saturday morning, the weather was cloudy and with sign of sadness and disturbance, it was time to rise and go to work on the ranch, George tugged along quietly. He spoke to nobody, and nobody spoke to him. They bucked barley's bag all day, until the accident. George was on the gig and helped the other farm hands; suddenly he lost his balance and fell from top to bottom with barley bags. George got up almost as soon as it happened. " George! Are you ok! You should be hurt! " Slim said worriedly. " I'm fine" George replied.

That day and days after that runs away fast like wind crossing the desert. It is almost three months and in these three months, he had received three stakes; every time it had gone to bars. He was drinking to forget, only to

have his one permanent thought be of Lennie. The clocks being against him meant that George had to leave the bar now. After three months of working in the ranch, he decided to leave there and bring his dream and Lennie to forth. " Are you still talking on your existence and want to buy the farm in fact share? ' He asked Candy. Yes, George, this is my dream in my life" Candy replied.

" Ok, I received the letter 2 weeks ago, and they asked for full payment of land" George said, " Full payment! What about a down payment? " Candy asked. " I sent them the down payment that Lennie and I had been saving about a month ago, after I received response from them about first writing, they sent me the contract to sign, but I kept it for long time, I had a hard time to think about it and finally, I decided to get the land and bring our dreams true. " " I am so happy George, when we can move" Candy asked. After we send the full payment, we can leave; by the way, I want to call our ranch, Lennie Ranch, do you agree" George asked. " Yes, I will be happy, it was his dream too, and we can tend to some rabbits as well. " Candy replied. " Yes of course, this is my plan too. " Then George looked at him and said sadly, " Lennie will be happy for it; he will see how much I love him, and there was no reason to do it. " It's about a months after they paid the full price of the land, George was sitting in front of the card table and play with the others ranch hands.

In the corner of the room sat Slim, Candy huddled together and whispering softly. Suddenly, the door swung open with a loud slam and the boss, walked right up to the card table and thought soft, " Now I tell you what - I found myself to be retired, I'm going to leave and Curley will charge here. I don't

want any trouble! Are you all listening? If I hear, you guys are messing around, you all be taking a nice hike! ” He swiveled around on his heels and stormed out of the room, promptly slamming the door behind him.

Before the guys had time to react, the door opened slightly, and the boss’s head stuck back into the room. “ Oh, and Candy,” he said with sarcastic politeness, “ you’re free to go” He licked his fat lips, “ You’re too old and I need to find somebody else for my ranch. ” The door shut and the footsteps echoed away. Everyone in the room looked at each other, and Candy had such an expression of helplessness and glory slowly spreading on his eyes, that he rose to his feet, and said softly, “ How dare he? But it is ok, it’s time to leave. Then he walked up to George and look at him smiling. He walked out of the room, and through the doorway, in the opposite direction the boss had taken. Everybody was kind of confused, except Slim. “ Why is he happy? What is wrong with him? ” asked Whit, “ He is in shock, he cannot accept it,” Slim replied. For a few minutes after that everything was back to normal, and everyone did his work. It was evening, and George was the only person in the bunkhouse. Candy packed his bags and waited for George to leave the ranch.

Their destination was “ Lennie Ranch”; George turned his face toward Candy and said, “ I need to say thanks Slim for all” and he left the bunkhouse. Slim was in the barn stroking one of the horses and the sadness on his face made the barn even gloomier than it already was. George walked in the barn, “ thanks Slim for everything; my ranch is your own, if you change your mind I will be happy to work with you” said George. “ Thanks, I will be here; I will

get married soon, and I need to stay here for that reason. ” Slim replied. Then both men hugged each other, and George left the barn.

Finally, after traveling for a day, they came to LA, then by bus to the farm and moved to their permanent residence. Both had happiness and joy engraved on their faces. Looking at them together and with their silence that was full of enthusiasm, they expressed happiness. A few minutes later both were in their ranch, and both happily hugging each other; it was the best time in their lives’. After all that calamity and tragedy, they talked about their plans and thoughts for their future with a better life. Few months later, George and Candy lived on their own ranch, Lennie ranch, and in their own house.

Spring had come through the ranch; the rivers and waters that whisper from the middle of a particular farm were rejected with a gentle voice and with the sound of birds, and ineffable feelings were expressed. The wild and domestic animals woke up from their winter sleep and moved around. The big and small rabbits with different colors were moving around, all carrying the memories of Lennie and kept them alive. George and Candy were sitting in their own rockers, looking at each other and around. They sat in long silence in Lennie’s memory and kept it in their hearts with fondness remembered their friend.