of mice and men text

of mice and men text is a celebrated classic in American literature that continues to resonate with readers and students worldwide. This article provides a comprehensive exploration of the full text, its origins, major themes, character analysis, historical context, and lasting cultural impact. Whether you are seeking an in-depth summary, preparing for exams, or simply interested in the literary significance of John Steinbeck's work, this guide covers all aspects of the novel. You'll discover key plot points, learn about the main characters, and gain insight into how the novel's language and setting contribute to its enduring popularity. With optimized content and a structured format, this article serves as a valuable resource for understanding, analyzing, and appreciating the "Of Mice and Men" text.

- Overview of Of Mice and Men Text
- Historical Background and Authorship
- Major Themes in Of Mice and Men
- Character Analysis
- Setting, Language, and Literary Style
- Plot Summary and Key Events
- Cultural Impact and Legacy
- Frequently Asked Questions

Overview of Of Mice and Men Text

"Of Mice and Men" is a novella written by John Steinbeck and first published in 1937. The text is renowned for its realistic portrayal of working-class life during the Great Depression. The story follows two displaced migrant ranch workers, George Milton and Lennie Small, as they strive for stability and a better future in California. The novel's accessible prose, memorable dialogue, and emotional depth have made the "Of Mice and Men" text a staple in schools and literary discussions. The novella's brevity and poignant themes contribute to its enduring relevance, making it a frequently assigned text in educational settings and a subject of ongoing literary analysis.

Historical Background and Authorship

John Steinbeck's Inspiration

John Steinbeck drew inspiration for the "Of Mice and Men" text from his own experiences working alongside migrant laborers on California's ranches. He witnessed firsthand the struggles faced by itinerant workers, and these observations informed the novel's realistic characters and setting. Steinbeck's deep empathy for the marginalized is evident throughout the text, shaping its authenticity.

The Great Depression Era

Set during the Great Depression, the "Of Mice and Men" text reflects the harsh economic realities of 1930s America. Unemployment, poverty, and the search for work define the characters' lives, capturing the broader social atmosphere of the time. This historical context is integral to understanding the motivations and decisions of George, Lennie, and other figures within the novel.

Major Themes in Of Mice and Men

Dreams and Aspirations

A central theme in the "Of Mice and Men" text is the pursuit of dreams. George and Lennie's shared vision of owning a piece of land symbolizes hope and the desire for independence. The text explores how dreams can both sustain and disappoint, serving as a coping mechanism against adversity but often remaining unattainable.

Friendship and Loneliness

The novel examines the deep bond between George and Lennie, contrasting their companionship with the pervasive loneliness experienced by other characters. The "Of Mice and Men" text highlights how isolation is a common plight among itinerant workers, and how genuine friendship can provide solace in a harsh world.

Power, Weakness, and Social Hierarchy

• The struggle for power and agency is evident in the interactions between characters.

- Physical and mental strength, as well as gender and racial differences, shape social dynamics on the ranch.
- Steinbeck uses characters like Curley, Crooks, and Candy to explore vulnerability and marginalization.

Character Analysis

George Milton

George is a practical, intelligent man who looks after Lennie and dreams of a better life. His protective nature and sense of responsibility drive the narrative, making him a compelling protagonist in the "Of Mice and Men" text.

Lennie Small

Lennie is physically strong but intellectually challenged, with a childlike innocence that often leads to trouble. His dependence on George and his love for soft things make him a sympathetic figure whose actions propel the plot.

Supporting Characters

- Candy: An aging ranch hand who clings to hope after befriending George and Lennie.
- Curley: The boss's aggressive son, representing power and insecurity.
- Curley's wife: A lonely woman seeking attention and connection, often misunderstood by others.
- **Crooks**: The isolated black stable-hand, highlighting racial discrimination and loneliness.

Setting, Language, and Literary Style

California Ranch Life

The "Of Mice and Men" text is set on a ranch near Soledad, California. This setting provides an authentic backdrop that reflects the economic struggle

and transient lifestyle of migrant workers. The landscape, bunkhouse, and barn are vividly described, grounding the story in a tangible reality.

Steinbeck's Use of Dialogue

Steinbeck employs simple, direct dialogue that reveals character motivations and relationships. The language in the "Of Mice and Men" text is colloquial and accessible, allowing readers to engage with the story's emotional nuances and underlying tensions.

Symbolism and Literary Devices

The text utilizes symbolism to reinforce key themes. For instance, Lennie's fascination with mice and rabbits represents innocence and unattainable dreams. The use of foreshadowing and motifs enhances the narrative's emotional impact and depth.

Plot Summary and Key Events

Arrival at the Ranch

George and Lennie arrive at the ranch seeking employment, introducing themselves to fellow workers and establishing their unique partnership. Their arrival sets the stage for the unfolding drama and the challenges they will face.

Conflicts and Relationships

Tensions arise between George, Lennie, and other ranch hands, particularly Curley and his wife. The "Of Mice and Men" text explores the fragile bonds and underlying animosities that shape daily life on the ranch.

Tragic Climax

1. Lenn

Of Mice And Men Text

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Of Mice and Men Text: A Deep Dive into Steinbeck's Classic

Introduction:

John Steinbeck's Of Mice and Men is more than just a novella; it's a poignant exploration of dreams, loneliness, and the harsh realities of the American Dream during the Great Depression. This post delves into the Of Mice and Men text, offering a comprehensive analysis of its key themes, characters, and literary devices. Whether you're a student tackling the text for the first time, a teacher preparing lesson plans, or simply a literature enthusiast eager to re-engage with this classic, this in-depth exploration will provide valuable insights and fresh perspectives on Steinbeck's masterpiece. We'll unpack the symbolism, explore the character relationships, and analyze the narrative structure to unlock the enduring power of this timeless story.

Exploring the Key Themes in Of Mice and Men Text

Of Mice and Men isn't merely a story; it's a tapestry woven with complex and interwoven themes. Understanding these themes is crucial to grasping the novella's lasting impact.

The Illusion of the American Dream:

Steinbeck masterfully portrays the unattainable nature of the American Dream for many during the Depression. George and Lennie's dream of owning a small farm represents a shared hope, a desperate yearning for independence and security. However, the harsh realities of their situation — their reliance on manual labor, the prejudice they face, and the constant threat of Lennie's unpredictable nature — constantly chip away at this dream, highlighting its elusive nature for marginalized individuals.

Loneliness and Isolation:

Loneliness pervades the novella, shaping the lives and fates of its characters. The ranch hands, isolated by their work and circumstances, crave companionship and connection. Candy's aging dog, foreshadowing Candy's own fate, emphasizes the vulnerability and disposability felt by those deemed unproductive. Crooks's isolation, driven by racism, underscores the societal forces that amplify feelings of loneliness.

The Power of Friendship:

Despite the pervasive loneliness, the bond between George and Lennie stands out as a powerful counterpoint. Their friendship, though fraught with tension and responsibility, offers a source of strength and hope. George's unwavering commitment to Lennie, despite the burden it places upon him, highlights the complexities and sacrifices inherent in genuine friendship. This bond, however, is ultimately tested and tragically broken.

The Brutality of Life:

Of Mice and Men doesn't shy away from the harsh realities of life. Violence, both physical and psychological, is a recurring motif. The death of Candy's dog foreshadows the tragic end of Lennie, emphasizing the fragility of life and the inevitability of loss. The novella's setting itself, the unforgiving landscape of the Salinas Valley, reflects the brutal conditions faced by the migrant workers.

Character Analysis: Unveiling the Depth of Of Mice and Men

The characters in Of Mice and Men are richly drawn and deeply flawed, making them both relatable and unforgettable.

George Milton: The Burden of Responsibility

George carries the weight of responsibility for Lennie, his intellectually disabled friend. This responsibility is both a source of frustration and a testament to their enduring bond. His constant struggle to balance care for Lennie with his own desires for independence reveals the complexities of human relationships.

Lennie Small: Innocence and Destruction

Lennie's childlike innocence and immense physical strength create a dangerous juxtaposition. His unintentional acts of violence underscore the tragic consequences of his disability and the societal prejudices he faces.

Curley's Wife: A Symbol of Loneliness and Frustration

Often reduced to "Curley's wife," this character represents the loneliness and desperation of women in a male-dominated society. Her flirtatious behavior and yearning for attention are born from a deep sense of isolation and unmet needs.

Literary Devices and Narrative Techniques in Of Mice and Men Text

Steinbeck's masterful use of literary devices enhances the emotional impact of the novella.

Symbolism: The Farm, the Rabbits, and Candy's Dog

Steinbeck employs potent symbolism throughout the text. The farm represents the unattainable dream, the rabbits symbolize Lennie's innocent desires, and Candy's dog serves as a powerful foreshadowing of Lennie's fate.

Foreshadowing: Hints of the Inevitable Tragedy

The novella is replete with foreshadowing, subtly hinting at the tragic conclusion. The death of Candy's dog, Lennie's accidental killings, and the recurring theme of loneliness all contribute to the sense of impending doom.

Setting: The Salinas Valley as a Character

The setting itself acts as a character, reflecting the harsh realities and unforgiving nature of life during the Great Depression. The desolate landscape mirrors the emotional landscape of the characters.

Conclusion:

Of Mice and Men remains a powerful and relevant work of literature because of its unflinching portrayal of the human condition. By exploring themes of friendship, loneliness, and the elusive American Dream, Steinbeck created a timeless story that continues to resonate with readers across generations. Understanding the text's complexities, through a careful analysis of its characters, themes, and literary devices, unlocks its profound impact and enduring significance.

FAQs:

- 1. What is the main conflict in Of Mice and Men? The main conflict is the struggle between George and Lennie's dream of owning a farm and the harsh realities of their lives, compounded by Lennie's intellectual disability and the prejudice they encounter.
- 2. What is the significance of the title, Of Mice and Men? The title alludes to Robert Burns' poem, "To a Mouse," highlighting the fragility of dreams and the unpredictable nature of life. Mice and men are both susceptible to the whims of fate.
- 3. How does Steinbeck use setting to enhance the themes of the novella? The desolate and unforgiving setting of the Salinas Valley mirrors the characters' emotional states, amplifying themes of loneliness and

despair.

- 4. What is the role of Curley's wife in the story? Curley's wife is a complex character symbolizing the loneliness and desperation of women in a patriarchal society. Her interactions with the ranch hands underscore the themes of loneliness and the unattainable nature of the American Dream.
- 5. What are some key literary devices used in Of Mice and Men? Steinbeck uses symbolism (the farm, rabbits, Candy's dog), foreshadowing (Candy's dog's death), and vivid imagery to create a powerful and emotionally resonant narrative.

of mice and men text: *Of Mice and Men* John Steinbeck, 2018-11 Of Mice and Men es una novela escrita por el autor John Steinbeck. Publicado en 1937, cuenta la historia de George Milton y Lennie Small, dos trabajadores desplazados del rancho migratorio, que se mudan de un lugar a otro en California en busca de nuevas oportunidades de trabajo durante la Gran Depresión en los Estados Unidos.

of mice and men text: Friendship in an Age of Economics Todd May, 2012-06-21 We live in an age of economics. We are encouraged not only to think of our work but also of our lives in economic terms. In many of our practices, we are told that we are consumers and entrepreneurs. What has come to be called neoliberalism is not only a theory of market relations; it is a theory of human relations. Friendship in an Age of Economics both describes and confronts this new reality. It confronts it on some familiar terrain: that of friendship. Friendship, particularly close or deep friendship, resists categorization into economic terms. In a sustained investigation of friendship, this book shows how friendship offers an alternative to neoliberal relationships and can help lay the groundwork for resistance to it.

of mice and men text: Of Mice and Men John Steinbeck, 2024-03-26 Of Mice and Men is a novella written by John Steinbeck, first published in 1937. Set during the Great Depression in California, it tells the story of two displaced migrant ranch workers, George Milton and Lennie Small, who are trying to make a living during tough economic times. George is a small, quick-witted man, while Lennie is a physically strong but mentally disabled man with a childlike innocence. The two have a close bond, with George serving as a protector and caretaker for Lennie. The story follows their journey as they seek employment and dream of owning their own piece of land, which they call a little farm where they can live off the fat of the land. However, their dreams are constantly threatened by the harsh realities of their circumstances and the cruelty of the world around them. The novella explores themes of friendship, loneliness, isolation, and the harshness of society, as well as the plight of marginalized individuals during the Great Depression. It is a poignant and timeless work that continues to resonate with readers due to its powerful portrayal of human relationships and the struggle for survival.

of mice and men text: Freedom Libraries Mike Selby, 2019-10-01 Freedom Libraries: The Untold Story of Libraries for African-Americans in the South. As the Civil Rights Movement exploded across the United States, the media of the time was able to show the rest of the world images of horrific racial violence. And while some of the bravest people of the 20th century risked their lives for the right to simply order a cheeseburger, ride a bus, or use a clean water fountain, there was another virtually unheard of struggle—this one for the right to read. Although illegal, racial segregation was strictly enforced in a number of American states, and public libraries were not immune. Numerous libraries were desegregated on paper only: there would be no cards given to African-Americans, no books for them read, and no

furniture for them to use. It was these exact conditions that helped create Freedom Libraries. Over eighty of these parallel libraries appeared in the Deep South, staffed by civil rights voter registration workers. While the grassroots nature of the libraries meant they varied in size and quality, all of them created the first encounter many African-Americans had with a library. Terror, bombings, and eventually murder would be visited on the Freedom Libraries—with people giving up their lives so others could read a library book. This book delves into how these libraries were the heart of the Civil Rights Movement, and the remarkable courage of the people who used them. They would forever change libraries and librarianship, even as they helped the greater movement change the society these libraries belonged to. Photographs of the libraries bring this little-known part of American history to life.

of mice and men text: The Incorrigible Children of Ashton Place: Book I Maryrose Wood, 2010-02-23 Found running wild in the forest of Ashton Place, the Incorrigibles are no ordinary children: Alexander, age ten or thereabouts, keeps his siblings in line with gentle nips; Cassiopeia, perhaps four or five, has a bark that is (usually) worse than her bite; and Beowulf, age somewhere-in-the-middle, is alarmingly adept at chasing squirrels. Luckily, Miss Penelope Lumley is no ordinary governess. Only fifteen years old and a recent graduate of the Swanburne Academy for Poor Bright Females, Penelope embraces the challenge of her new position. Though she is eager to instruct the children in Latin verbs and the proper use of globes, first she must help them overcome their canine tendencies. But mysteries abound at Ashton Place: Who are these three wild creatures, and how did they come to live in the vast forests of the estate? Why does Old Timothy, the coachman, lurk around every corner? Will Penelope be able to teach the Incorrigibles table manners and socially useful phrases in time for Lady Constance's holiday ball? And what on earth is a schottische?

of mice and men text: Fatal Secrets Allison Brennan, 2009-05-19 DEADLY QUEST When a top lieutenant in a notorious ring of human traffickers agrees to turn state's evidence, Immigration and Customs Enforcement senior agent Sonia Knight believes she'll finally take down the illegal operation's devilish mastermind, Xavier Jones. But when an FBI sting on Jones's criminal enterprise collides with an ICE stakeout, Sonia is enraged: Her informant's life and her evidence are in grave jeopardy. FBI agent Dean Hooper has been chasing Jones for years on money-laundering and tax-evasion charges and doesn't need or want a hot-headed ICE agent second-guessing his every move. When the Bureau is ordered to join forces with ICE, Sonia is just as livid: Her job is to save lives, not money. But their team effort pays off as fierce mutual resentment fades and passion flares-along with risk. For Jones is just one piece of a depraved puzzle, answering to an even more dangerous predator. Denied his expected prey, this pitiless fiend intends to make Sonia and Dean pay with their own blood.

of mice and men text: Let Us Now Praise Famous Men James Agee, Walker Evans, 1969 Agee's colleague at Time in the 1940s, John Hersey, writes a major evaluation of Agee's work and the Agee legend in a new introduction to this literary classic. 64 pages of photos.

of mice and men text: *Tears of a Tiger* Sharon M. Draper, 2013-07-23 The death of high school basketball star Rob Washington in an automobile accident affects the lives of his close friend Andy, who was driving the car, and many others in the school.

of mice and men text: *Of Mice and Men* Charlotte Cook Hadella, 1995 At the core of the story Steinbeck wrote as a play-novella are the well-known characters of Lenny and George, migrant workers, lifelong companions, the one hugely strong and mentally deficient, the other small, wiry, and quick-minded. Hadella offers a complete analysis of these characters and their relationship, bringing to bear both Jungian and biblical mythology and comparing them with figures in other Steinbeck works.

of mice and men text: The Incorrigible Children of Ashton Place: Book II Maryrose Wood, 2015-04-21 The second book in the Incorrigible Children of Ashton Place—the acclaimed and hilarious Victorian mystery series by Maryrose Wood, perfect for fans of Lemony Snicket and Trenton Lee Stewart—has a brand-new look. Thanks to their plucky

governess, Miss Penelope Lumley, Alexander, Beowulf, and Cassiopeia are much more like children than wolf cubs now. They are accustomed to wearing clothes. They hardly ever howl at the moon. And for the most part, they resist the urge to chase squirrels up trees. Yet the Incorrigibles are not entirely civilized, and still managed to ruin Lady Constance's Christmas ball, nearly destroying the grand house. So while Ashton Place is being restored, Penelope, the Ashtons, and the children take up residence in London. As they explore the city, Penelope and the Incorrigibles discover more about themselves as clues about the children's—and Penelope's own—mysterious past crop up in the most unexpected ways....

of mice and men text: Of Flies, Mice, and Men François Jacob, 1998 Tells the story of how the marvelous discoveries of molecular and developmental biology are transforming our understanding of who we are and where we came from. Jacob scrutinizes the place of the scientist in society. -- Jacket.

of mice and men text: Jane Eyre by Charlotte Brontë CGP Books, Lucy Loveluck, 2015-05

of mice and men text: The Essential Criticism of John Steinbeck's of Mice and Men Michael J. Meyer, 2009-04-23 First published in 1937, Of Mice and Men has been a staple of American literature ever since. Divided by decade, The Essential Criticism of John Steinbeck's Of Mice and Men provides an overview of criticism over the 70 years the book has been in print. Michael J. Meyer has assembled significant articles and book excerpts from critics and reviewers, citing the early book reviews and highlighting some of the most significant essays. While not all critical studies are included, those assessments not present in the text are evaluated by summaries and their bibliographic citations are given. The essays express various critical approaches, including those that criticize the book and examine what some consider the book's flaws. Ideal for research work at all levels, this volume collects in one place the most significant contributions to the study of the novel, making it a welcome addition to the canon of Steinbeck criticism.

of mice and men text: Mrs. Dalloway Virginia Woolf, 2023-12-16 Mrs Dalloway, Virginia Woolf's fourth novel, offers the reader an impression of a single June day in London in 1923. Clarissa Dalloway, the wife of a Conservative member of parliament, is preparing to give an evening party, while the shell-shocked Septimus Warren Smith hears the birds in Regent's Park chattering in Greek. There seems to be nothing, except perhaps London, to link Clarissa and Septimus. She is middle-aged and prosperous, with a sheltered happy life behind her; Smith is young, poor, and driven to hatred of himself and the whole human race. Yet both share a terror of existence, and sense the pull of death. The world of Mrs Dalloway is evoked in Woolf's famous stream of consciousness style, in a lyrical and haunting language which has made this, from its publication in 1925, one of her most popular novels.

of mice and men text: Skellig David Almond, 2001-11-13 David Almond's Printz Honor-winning novel celebrates its 10th anniversary! Ten-year-old Michael was looking forward to moving into a new house. But now his baby sister is ill, his parents are frantic, and Doctor Death has come to call. Michael feels helpless. Then he steps into the crumbling garage. . . . What is this thing beneath the spiders' webs and dead flies? A human being, or a strange kind of beast never before seen? The only person Michael can confide in is his new friend, Mina. Together, they carry the creature out into the light, and Michael's world changes forever. . . .

of mice and men text: The Lightness Emily Temple, 2020-06-11 'A psychologically smart debut that swathes teen desire and friendship in mystery and mirth' Observer 'Like a twisted Malory Towers or maybe a cosmic version of 'Heathers'' Daily Mail 'Funny, whip-smart and transcendently wise' Jenny Offill 'The love child of Donna Tartt and Tana French' Chloe Benjamin

of mice and men text: Of Mice and Men John Steinbeck, 1937 of mice and men text: In Dubious Battle John Steinbeck, 2006-05-30 A riveting novel of

labor strife and apocalyptic violence, now a major motion picture starring James Franco, Bryan Cranston, Selena Gomez, and Zach Braff A Penguin Classic At once a relentlessly fast-paced, admirably observed novel of social unrest and the story of a young man's struggle for identity, In Dubious Battle is set in the California apple country, where a strike by migrant workers against rapacious landowners spirals out of control, as a principled defiance metamorphoses into blind fanaticism. Caught in the upheaval is Jim Nolan, a once aimless man who find himself in the course of the strike, briefly becomes its leader, and is ultimately crushed in its service. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

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of mice and men text: The Crossing Cormac McCarthy, 1995-03-14 NATIONAL BESTSELLER • The second volume of the award-winning Border Trilogy—From the bestselling author of The Passenger and the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel The Road—fulfills the promise of All the Pretty Horses and at the same time give us a work that is darker and more visionary, a novel with the unstoppable momentum of a classic western and the elegaic power of a lost American myth. In the late 1930s, sixteen-year-old Billy Parham captures a she-wolf that has been marauding his family's ranch. But instead of killing it, he decides to take it back to the mountains of Mexico. With that crossing, he begins an arduous and often dreamlike journey into a country where men meet ghosts and violence strikes as suddenly as heat-lightning—a world where there is no order save that which death has put there. An essential novel by any measure, The Crossing is luminous and appalling, a book that touches, stops, and starts the heart and mind at once. Look for Cormac McCarthy's latest bestselling novels, The Passenger and Stella Maris.

of mice and men text: Of Mice and Men and Zombies Ryan Colley, 2018-04-16 Have you ever questioned how Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck would have went if there was a zombie apocalypse as opposed to the Great Depression? Well, I did. What started as a fun personal project quickly escalated into something bigger. This is a short novella, about half the length of an average book and does not fit into the Among the Dead series. Originally published in 1937 by John Steinbeck, reimagined and corrupted by Ryan Colley in 2018 for this satirical novella. George Milton, an intelligent and quick witted survivor, and Lennie Small, a physically strong but intellectually challenged childlike individual, are two displaced ranch workers fleeing the apocalypse. Forced to move from place to place, partially due to Lennie's misdeeds and mainly due to the undead roaming the land. They both search for work in a collapsing world in an attempt to buy their own corner of heaven where they will be safe together from the Sick Ones and live off the fatta the lan. For fans of the original novel, apocalypse fiction, or for those looking for something different.

of mice and men text: Cannery Row John Steinbeck, 2002-02-05 Steinbeck's tough yet charming portrait of people on the margins of society, dependant on one another for both physical and emotional survival Published in 1945, Cannery Row focuses on the acceptance of life as it is: both the exuberance of community and the loneliness of the individual. Drawing on his memories of the real inhabitants of Monterey, California, including longtime friend Ed Ricketts, Steinbeck interweaves the stories of Doc, Dora, Mack and his boys, Lee Chong, and the other characters in this world where only the fittest survive, to create a novel that is at once one of his most humorous and poignant works. In her introduction, Susan Shillinglaw shows how the novel expresses, both in style and theme, much that is essentially Steinbeck: "scientific detachment, empathy toward the lonely and depressed...and, at the darkest level...the terror of isolation and nothingness." For more than seventy years, Penguin has been

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of mice and men text: *Aesop's Fables* Aesop, 1994 A collection of animal fables told by the Greek slave Aesop.

of mice and men text: The Master and Margarita Mikhail Bulgakov, 2016-03-18 Satan comes to Soviet Moscow in this critically acclaimed translation of one of the most important and best-loved modern classics in world literature. The Master and Margarita has been captivating readers around the world ever since its first publication in 1967. Written during Stalin's time in power but suppressed in the Soviet Union for decades, Bulgakov's masterpiece is an ironic parable on power and its corruption, on good and evil, and on human frailty and the strength of love. In The Master and Margarita, the Devil himself pays a visit to Soviet Moscow. Accompanied by a retinue that includes the fast-talking, vodka-drinking, giant tomcat Behemoth, he sets about creating a whirlwind of chaos that soon involves the beautiful Margarita and her beloved, a distraught writer known only as the Master, and even Jesus Christ and Pontius Pilate. The Master and Margarita combines fable, fantasy, political satire, and slapstick comedy to create a wildly entertaining and unforgettable tale that is commonly considered the greatest novel to come out of the Soviet Union. It appears in this edition in a translation by Mirra Ginsburg that was judged "brilliant" by Publishers Weekly. Praise for The Master and Margarita "A wild surrealistic romp. . . . Brilliantly flamboyant and outrageous." —Joyce Carol Oates, The Detroit News "Fine, funny, imaginative. . . . The Master and Margarita stands squarely in the great Gogolesque tradition of satiric narrative." —Saul Maloff, Newsweek "A rich, funny, moving and bitter novel. . . . Vast and boisterous entertainment." —The New York Times "The book is by turns hilarious, mysterious, contemplative and poignant. . . . A great work." —Chicago Tribune "Funny, devilish, brilliant satire. . . . It's literature of the highest order and . . . it will deliver a full measure of enjoyment and enlightenment." —Publishers Weekly

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George and Lennie have a plan: to own an acre of land and a shack they can call their own. When they land jobs on a ranch in the Salinas Valley, the fulfillment of their dream seems to be within their grasp. But even George cannot guard Lennie from the provocations, nor predict the consequences of Lennie's unswerving obedience to the things George taught him. Of Mice and Men represents an experiment in form, which Steinbeck described as "a kind of playable novel, written in a novel form but so scened and set that it can be played as it stands." A rarity in American letters, it achieved remarkable success as a novel, a Broadway play, and three acclaimed films. This edition features an introduction by Susan Shillinglaw, one of today's leading Steinbeck scholars. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

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prohibited from holding jobs, reading, and forming friendships, Offred's persistent memories of life in the "time before" and her will to survive are acts of rebellion. Provocative, startling, prophetic, and with Margaret Atwood's devastating irony, wit, and acute perceptive powers in full force, The Handmaid's Tale is at once a mordant satire and a dire warning.

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own story begins to unfold—the story of a thirteen-year-old girl whose only wish is to be reunited with her missing mother.

of mice and men text: GCSE English and English Literature James Durran, Jim Stewart, 1999-01-01

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