



Book Club in a Bag

Discussion Questions

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck

1. George and Lennie are introduced in the opening chapter. Discuss what you learn about each man. What is the dream of the two men? What obstacles might stand in the way of their dream?
2. At times George is tender and protective of Lennie and at other times he is angry and frustrated. Lennie both loves and fears George. Given this complex relationship, explain what keeps them together. What does each offer the other?
3. Why does the boss seem to be irritated with George? And what do you think about George's reaction to the boss's criticism of him?
4. Literary critics have speculated widely why Steinbeck did not give Curley's wife a name. Why do you think Steinbeck did not give her a name?
5. For awhile, Lennie and Curley's wife are talking comfortably. What critical errors does Curley's wife make, and do you think her actions caused her death? Discuss Lennie's reaction to what he has done. Are you surprised? Why or why not?
6. Will George continue to dream of having a home of his own and "living off the fat of the land" after Lennie's death? Was this dream ever possible, with or without Lennie?
7. Discuss the factors that lead to George killing Lennie. Did George have any other choice?
8. Describe Slim's role in the community of the ranch. What sets him apart from the others? At the end of the novel, why does he alone understand what George has done?
9. Discuss the relationship of Curly and his wife to that of George and Lennie. Why do both relationships end so tragically?

The above questions were taken from
https://images.penguinrandomhouse.com/promo_image/9780140177398_8081.pdf
to enhance your discussion of the book.

Author Biography

John Steinbeck was a prominent American novelist, born on February 27, 1902, in Salinas, California. Throughout his illustrious career, he authored several critically acclaimed works, including *Of Mice and Men*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, and *East of Eden*. Steinbeck's writings often explored profound social and economic issues, reflecting the struggles of the marginalized during the Great Depression. His exploration of human experiences and the American landscape not only resonated with readers but also earned him numerous accolades, including the Pulitzer Prize in 1940 for *The Grapes of Wrath* and the prestigious Nobel Prize for Literature in 1962.

<https://biographyhost.com/p/john-steinbeck-biography.html>

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