point

context

quotation

Slim

introduction

jerkline skinner

in control of a team of horses

leading worker in the bunk house

He was capable … without touching the mule

skilled

appearance

like the others, Slim wears blue jeans and a short denim jacket

thinks of himself as equal to others

poverty

looks after himself; takes pride in appearance

comb

heroic

A tall man stood in the doorway

His hands … a temple dancer

can control movements, suggests subtle authority

role

black people were not considered worthy of conversation

"Hello, Crooks."

lack of racism

women were treated as just possessions

"If you don't tell…"

lack of sexism

"Hi, good-lookin'"

authority /strength

trustworthy

no trust after Black Tuesday

confidence without demanding it

alpha-male of 1930s patriarchal society; desirable

"wouldn't feed that many"

combines youthful vigour with mature authority

has practical understanding

themes

power

natural authority

God-like

in theory, Curley should have power

"Well, I guess we got to get him…"

justice

not Curley's sense of justice

mystery

ageless

conceals emotions

relationships

'protagonist/antagonist' relationship;

Curley

bad aspect of dog-eat-dog world

tries to get Slim's authority

Curley's wife

"Don't you think you should stay with your wife?"

gives attention

doesn't stop killing of dog

Carlson

respect for all

shovel

George

similar intellect

admiration; respect

"sometimes you gotta"

distances himself from racism

Crooks

"Nobody been here but Slim."

importance

represents hope in 1930s

reflective, thoughtful, balanced

detached figure of stability

the American Dream is pointless

having no dreams is better

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