

ultimately ends up 'paying the price' for her desire for company when she succumbs to Lennie's overpowering strength and he accidentally kills her.

*Unlike Crooks, nobody ever willingly converses with her or shows her any respect.

Key Quotes

'If I catch any one man, and he's alone, I get along fine with him. But just let two of the guys get together an' you won't talk. Jus' nothing but mad.' – page 110

'Listen Nigger,' she said, 'You know what I can do to you if you open your trap?' – page 113

'I'm glad you bust up Curley a little bit.' – page 114

Crooks

*The only black character in the book.

*Beaten and insulted by almost everybody

*Has the same dreams as everyone else but only dares to speak them at one point in the book when Lennie and Candy win his trust.

*As soon as his dream is met with any sort of challenge, he reverts back to his usual introverted self.

*Appears only to have an affinity with the horses and mules who 'rattle their chains' whenever anyone comes to visit Crooks, almost as a warning. Perhaps they have seen him become the victim of physical violence too often.

Key Quotes

'You got no right to come in my room. This here's my room, nobody got any right in here but me.' – page 100

'George can tell you screwy things, and it don't matter. It's just the talking. It's just bein' with another guy. That's all.' - page 103

Crooks had reduced himself to nothing. There was no personality, no ego – nothing to arouse either like or dislike. – page 114

Carlson

*A typical, self-centred American.

*Wants to kill Candy's dog because it smells.

*Kills the dog eventually

*Looks up to the more powerful, more eloquent, more popular Slim.

Other things to consider

Why does the novel start and end in the same place? I.e, the valley, surrounded by incredible