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Of Mice and Men & “The Scarlet Ibis”

Having a dream in life is something everyone has. Everyone tries to for fill his or her dream. Sometimes the dream gets shut down and other times it changes to a different dream. Of Mice and Men by Steinbeck is a story about two close friends, George and Lennie, who travel around finding work to for fill their dream that does not come true. Similar to Steinbeck’s book, there is a short story “The Scarlet Ibis” by James Hurst that talks about two brothers who work hard to achieve a goal that they both share. These two books are two well known literary works that are similar, with dreams that don’t always come true.

One distinct similarity that the novel Of Mice and Men and short story “The Scarlet Ibis” share is the complicated love-hate relationship between two main characters. George and Lennie have a strong brother and sister like relationship where they take care of each other and stick together until the end. We see this in the story when George and Lennie both escape from weed when George could have stayed there and let Lennie get caught. Similar to George and Lennie’s relationship, the narrator and Doodle also have a brother and sister like relationship. We see this in the story when the narrator helps doodle by pushing him in a cart to the swamp.

Besides the similarity in relationship, they also have a similarity in their dream and outcome of the dream. George and Lennie have a dream of having a better life where they have their own land and they work hard to achieve this dream. They work from morning to dawn, bucking barley. “Each day is something new” was an inspirational quote by Dennis Brown. This quote is not always true because for these two men they work all day. The narrator and Doodle also have a similar dream of having a better life. The narrator wants Doodle to be able to work or basically become “normal” like every other kid. Despite their hard work they did not achieve their goal because one person died which breaks apart their dream.

Death is a scary part in one’s life. No one wants death but it’s always there. When Candy’s dog dies it triggered the foreshadowing of Lennie’s death. They both got shot in the back of the head. When the Scarlet Ibis died it also triggered the indication of another death, Doodles death. The two deaths both foreshadowed another death. In both cases, the death was murder because Lennie was shot and Doodle was left behind.

Life is as hard as a rock. To fulfill a dream in life is always hard with obstacles that may stop your dream. Of Mice and Men by Steinbeck and “The Scarlet Ibis” by Hurst are similar in which they both have dreams that are shattered. Everyone has a beautiful dream, weather it is bad or good; you must work hard to accelerate in life. You have to live the dream.