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Ms. Shuff

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Sometimes working hard for your dreams can turn to tragedy. Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck is the story is two migrant workers who try to accomplish a dream but fail. “The Scarlet Ibis” is a short story by James Hurst about brothers who struggle to achieve their goals. These two stories have many similarities including dreams, death, and complicated relationships.

One distinct similarity that the novel Of Mice and Men and short story “The Scarlet Ibis” share is the complicated love- hate relationship between the two main characters. George and Lennie have a very strong relationship. They always stick together even when Lennie gets them in trouble. We see this in the story when Lennie is accused of rape in weed and George helps him escape. The narrator loves his brother and wants him to be normal but gets very upset when doodle fails. We see this in the story when doodle falls while trying to walk and the narrator yells at him to keep trying.

Another similarity between Of Mice and Men and “The Scarlet Ibis” is that they both involve goals and dreams. George and Lennie dream about having a better life. They said that they want to work for themselves on their own farm. In “The Scarlet Ibis” the narrator wants to have a normal brother. The narrator and doodle practice their activities everyday to get better at their goals. In both stories they don’t acheive their dreams and goals because the characters die.

The last example of how Of Mice and Men and “The Scarlet Ibis” are similar that they both end in death. Candy’s dog and Lennie were both put to death because the ranch would be better off without them. Doodle and the bird die because they were out their comfort zones. They were both similar because in both stories the animal’s death foreshadows the people’s death. In both stories the characters were killed by the one they loved and trusted.

Of Mice and Men and “The Scarlet Ibis” have many similarities including dream, death, and complicated relationships. The message of both stories is that dreams can keep you going and shatter easily. It is important to always have dreams, no matter what happens in life, they keep you motivated.