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Language Arts Essay

In life everyone has a least one dream, but sometimes they don’t always come true. *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck is a story about two best friends George and Lennie that come upon a dream and try to succeed this idea for happiness. “The Scarlet Ibis” by James Hurst is about two brothers that attempt to reach a goal but end up failing. *Of Mice and Men* and the “Scarlet Ibis” are both similar in many ways.

One distinct similarity that the novel *Of Mice and Men* and the short story “The Scarlet Ibis” share is the complicated love-hate relationship between the two characters. George and Lennie’s relationship is based on the power of friendship. We see this in the story when George helps Lennie escape for *“Weed”.* The relationship between the narrator and Doodle is a brotherly love. We see this in the story when the narrator pulls Doodle around in the go-cart everywhere no matter the stress.

Another example of how Of *Mice and Men* and “The Scarlet Ibis” is that they both had dreams and were unsuccessful in completing it. George and Lennie’s goals and dreams was to earn six hundred dollars to buy animals, plants, a farm and once completed they were suppose to live off the land and not work on another farm again except theirs. George and Lennie roam from ranch to ranch getting their money and another step closer to get their dream. The narrator wanted to have his brother Doodle to have the abilities to have a normal life and be able to run, row boats and climb trees just like everyone else. During the middle of the story the narrator brought Doodle to different places to teach him different abilities. The outcomes of these dreams were disastrous and never accomplished.

These stories both included many tragedies in them such as death. Candy’s dog’s death foreshadowed Lennie’s death because they both got shot in the back of the neck because they both had the same similarity that they were becoming too useless and too dangerous for society. The death of the Scarlet Ibis for shadowed the death of Doodle when it fell out of the tree with some sort of problem or illness, they were both dying and it was a matter of time when one of them finally perished from their problems. Both stories included the death of a best friend because of their own mistakes. In my opinion both stories included death not murder because they both had a friend that was dying inside. It was carless mistakes that lead them to their best friend’s death. It would be murder if they purposely tried to kill them.

Sometimes dreams don’t come true in life, for different reasons. *Of Mice and Men* by Steinbeck and “The Scarlet Ibis” by Hurst have similarities in shattered dreams, similar plots and themes. All and all, I consider both stories as shattered dreams and shattered friendships.