

Analyse the relationship between George and Lennie

The first man was small and quick, dark of face with restless eyes and sharp, strong features.

He walked heavily, dragging his feet a little, the way a bear drags his paws.

1. What do these quotations tell you about the characters of George and Lennie?
2. How does the language used to describe them differ?

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“Lennie!” he said sharply.
“Lennie for God’s sake
don’t drink so much.”

1. Look at what the characters say to each other. How is it different?
2. What does it tell you about their relationship?

“Look, George. Look what I
done.”

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George knelt beside the pool and drank from his hand with quick scoops.

Lennie, who had been watching, imitated George exactly.

1. Look at the actions of the characters. How is it different?
2. What does it tell you about their relationship?

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“So you forgot already did you?”

1. How do you think George feels at this point?

2. What does it tell you about their relationship?

“That’s all you ever can remember is them rabbits.”

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“I got you to look after me
and you got me to look
after you”

1. Why is this a significant quotation?
2. What does it explain about their relationship?

Extension: Skim read chapter 1 and underline all the orders/commands George gives to Lennie.

How does this reinforce your beliefs about their relationship?

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Homework:

Explain, using quotations, what the opening chapter reveals about the relationship between George and Lennie.