

THEMES Quotes

Friendship

“With us it ain’t like that... We got someone to talk to that gives a damn about us.” **George**

“Because I’ve got you to look after me, and you got me to look after you.” **Lennie**

“Funny how you an’ him string together” **Slim**

“I hardly ever seen two guys travel together.” **Slim**

“I seen the guys that go around on the ranches alone. They ain’t no good...After a long time they get mean.” **George**

“George can tell you screwy things and it don’t matter. It’s just the talking. It’s just being with another guy.” **Crooks**

“I get lonely. You can talk to people but I can’t talk to nobody but Curley.” **Curley’s wife**

“Curley ain’t a nice guy.” **Curley’s wife**

Loneliness

“Guys like us, that work on ranches are the loneliest guys in the world. They got no family. They don’t belong no place.” **George**

“With us it ain’t like that... We got someone to talk to that gives a damn about us.” **Lennie**

“Because I’ve got you to look after me, and you got me to look after you.” **Lennie**

“I seen the guys that go around on the ranches alone. They ain’t no good...After a long time they get mean.” **George**

“Cause I’m black...They say I stink.” **Crooks**

“I’ve seen it over an’ over—a guy talkin’ to another guy and it don’t make no difference...The thing is, they’re talkin’.” **Crooks**

“Books ain’t no good...A guy goes nuts if he ain’t near somebody.” **Crooks**

“I tell ya a guy gets too lonely an’ he gets sick.” **Crooks**

“Think I don’t like to talk to someone once in a while?” **Curley’s wife**

“Sure I gotta husband. You all seen him. Swell guy ain’t he?” **Curley’s wife**

“Why can’t I talk to you? I never get to talk to nobody. I get awful lonely.” **Curley’s wife**

“I get lonely. You can talk to people but I can’t talk to nobody but Curley.” **Curley’s wife**

“Curley ain’t a nice guy.” **Curley’s wife**

Cruelty/Hardship/Suffering/Brutality

“He ain’t no good to you Candy. An’ he ain’t no good to himself.” **Carlson**

“Why don’t you shoot him Candy?” **Carlson**

“Candy lay still staring at the ceiling” **Candy**

At the sound of the gunshot, “He rolled slowly over and faced the wall lay silent.” **Candy**

“You see what they done to my dog tonight? ...when they can me here, I wish’t someone would shoot me.” **Candy**

“Cause I’m black...They say I stink.” **Crooks**

“Well jus’ suppose he don’t come back...want me to tell ya’ what will happen? They’ll...tie you up with a collar like a dog.” **Crooks**

“Suppose you couldn’t go into the bunkhouse and play rummy ‘cause you’re black?” **Crooks**

“Listen nigger, you know what I could do to you if you open your trap” **Curley’s wife**

“You keep your place then, nigger.” **Curley’s wife**

“I could get you strung up on a tree so easy it ain’t even funny.” **Curley’s wife**

“What the hell are you laughing at...No big son-of-a-bitch is going to laugh at me. I’ll show you who’s yella.” **Curley**

“He smashed down his nose with a right. Lennie gave a cry of terror.” **Curley and Lennie fight**

“Make um’ stop, George.” **Lennie**

Strong vs. Weak

“His glance was at once calculating and pugnacious.” **Curley**

“His eyes flashed over George, took in his height.” **Curley**

“His hands closed into fists.” **Curley**

“He stiffened and went into a slight crouch.” **Curley**

“Curley lashed his body around.” **Curley**

“He smashed down his nose with a right.” **Curley**

“Crook’s face lighted with pleasure in his torture.” **Crooks**

“What if George don’t come back.” **Crooks**

“Listen nigger, you know what I could do to you if you open your trap” **Curley’s wife**
“You keep your place then, nigger.” **Curley’s wife**
“I could get you strung up on a tree so easy it ain’t even funny.” **Curley’s wife**
“A tall man stood in the doorway.” **Slim**
“He moved with a majesty only achieved by royalty and master craftsmen.” **Slim**
“He was a jerkline skinner. The prince of the ranch.” **Slim**
“His authority was so great, his word was taken on any subject, be it politics or love.” **Slim**
“It was his calm invitation to confidence.” **Slim**
“I can tell a mean guy a mile off.” **Slim**

American dream/Dreams

“We’re going to have a little house and a couple of acres an’ a cow and some pigs.” **George**
“We’ll have a big vegetable patch and a rabbit hutch and chickens.” **George**
“We’d just live there. We’d belong there.” **George**
There wouldn’t be no runnin’ ‘round the country.” **George**
“...an’ it’d be our own and nobody could can us.” **George**
“An’ live off the fatta the lan” **Lennie**
“...an’ have rabbits.” **Lennie**
“An’ rabbits...an’ I’d take care of them.” **Lennie**
“S’pose I went in with you guys. That’s three hundred bucks an’ fifty bucks I’d put in.” **Candy**
“Candy nodded and (he) was grinning in delight.” **Candy**
“Evrbody wants a piece of land...Nobody gets to heaven and nobody gets no land. It’s all in their heads.” **Crooks**
“You guys is kidding yourself...you won’t get no land.” **Crooks**
“If you...guys would want someone to work for nothing, just his keep, why I’d come an’ lend a hand.” **Crooks**
“I met a guy and he was in the pitchers...said I was a natural.” **Curley’s wife**
“He says he was gonna put me in the movies...he was gonna write to me.” **Curley’s wife**
“Coulda’ been in the movies an’ had nice clothes...an’ sat in them big hotels.” **Curley’s wife**
“I never got that letter. I always thought my old lady stole it.” **Curley’s wife**