

Film Title and Release Date: *Of Mice and Men* (1992)

Length of Film in Minute: 111 minutes

Film Genre: Drama

Reviewer's Name and Grade: Benjamin W., 10th Grade

Date Reviewed: January 2, 2022

This film starts with George sitting in a boxcar, looking back at the recent events that just happened. Through his thoughts, we are told the story of him and his companion, Lennie, in a flashback. Set during the Great Depression, we follow these two men as they travel the American West looking for work.

The flashback starts with George and Lennie fleeing from the town of Weed, California, where Lennie had just been accused of rape for touching the red dress of a woman. Lennie is big, strong, and mentally disabled. He has a love for touching soft things, like mice. The two of them barely escape and head to Soledad, where George has found them work on a ranch. Just before arriving on the ranch, George and Lennie camp in some brush. George warns Lennie to keep silent and to hide his mental disability from the boss. He also tells Lennie that if he ever gets in trouble, he should run and hide in this brush until he can find him. The following day, the two of them arrive at the ranch. The boss isn't happy that they arrived late and gets suspicious of Lennie's condition when Lennie forgets that he isn't supposed to talk. However, they still get the job. They meet an old and crippled ranch-hand named Candy. Not long after, they meet the boss's son, Curley, who they quickly form a disliking to. Curley is a boxer and tries to pick a fight with Lennie, simply because Lennie was big and he didn't like big people. Soon after that, Curley's wife comes into the bunkhouse and tries to flirt with them. When she leaves, George warns Lennie to stay away and not look at her, saying all she will do is bring trouble. Things look good for George and Lennie until Curley picks a fight with Lennie. At first, Lennie doesn't fight back, but when he does, he crushes Curley's hand. George tells Curley that if he tries to get Lennie fired, he will ruin his reputation by telling everyone how his hand really got injured. One day, Curley's wife finds Lennie alone in the barn and tries to talk to him. When she finds out that he likes to pet soft things, she offers to let him touch her hair. However, Lennie starts pulling too hard and panics when Curley's wife tells him to let go. Lennie tries to keep her quiet because he doesn't want to get in trouble but accidentally breaks her neck. Realizing that he has done something bad, Lennie runs to the brush where he was told to wait. George, realizing what Lennie has done, goes to find Lennie and kills him, concluding that it is too dangerous to have a man like Lennie alive.

Now, I will answer some questions about the film:

How did you find the film on Kanopy (by title search, subject search, casual browsing, etc.)? - I found this film through casual browsing. It was in the Newly Added Movies section.

Did the plot keep you interested? - This plot mostly kept me interested. The characters, especially Lennie, were all pretty interesting to follow. I think the film would be more interesting if you read the book first.

Was the pace of the film too fast, too slow, or just right? - I think the pace of this film was just right. If it was any faster, the story wouldn't have been told with the same intensity.

What grade level(s) is this film appropriate for? - I think this film is appropriate for kids in grades 8-12. There are some racial and sexual slurs that would be only appropriate for older kids.

I would rate this film *4 stars*. The plot was decent and well paced. The actors and actresses did a great job in portraying their characters.