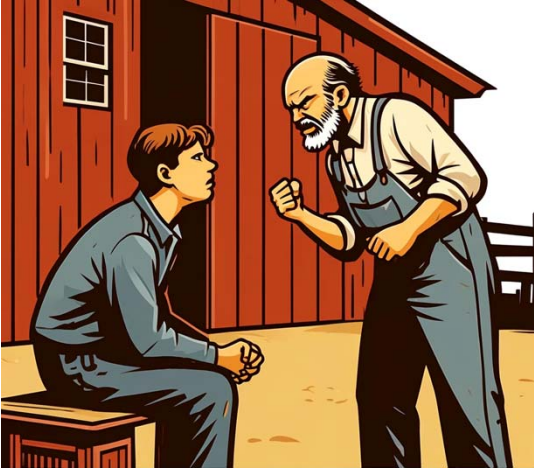


Name _____



Challenges and Consequences: Scenes 4 and 5 of 'Of Mice and Men'

In Scenes 4 and 5 of John Steinbeck's novella, "Of Mice and Men," the story takes a darker turn as conflicts and consequences arise. The characters face challenges that test their friendships and dreams, leading to pivotal moments in the narrative.

Scene 4: The Conflict with Curley

Scene 4 unfolds in the bunkhouse as tensions escalate between Curley, the boss's son, and the other ranch workers. Curley, known for his aggressive nature, becomes suspicious of his wife's interactions with the ranch hands. He confronts them, specifically targeting Lennie, who doesn't fully understand the situation.

The confrontation exposes the strained relationships among the characters and foreshadows future conflicts. It also highlights the theme of loneliness and the lack of fulfillment in the characters' lives.

Scene 5: A Tragic Turn of Events

Scene 5 takes place in the barn, where the characters gather for various reasons. Lennie, who is fond of soft things, goes to the barn to visit a puppy he accidentally killed. Curley's wife, seeking companionship, joins Lennie in the barn.

Tragedy strikes when Lennie becomes frightened and unintentionally harms Curley's wife, leading to her accidental death. This event has significant repercussions for all the characters, and it marks a turning point in the story.