

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Friendship and Dreams: A Summary of 'Of Mice and Men'

### Short Answer Key

1. George and Lennie have a close and unique friendship. George serves as Lennie's protector and caregiver, while Lennie provides companionship and unwavering loyalty to George. Their bond is based on their shared dream of owning land and escaping the hardships of itinerant work.
2. Curley's wife is a lonely and isolated character who longs for attention and companionship. Her presence on the ranch creates tension and temptation, especially for Lennie. She becomes a symbol of the loneliness experienced by several characters in the story.
3. George's decision to take Lennie's life at the end of the novella is an act of love and mercy. He chooses to spare Lennie from the violent mob seeking revenge for Curley's wife's death. It reflects the depth of their friendship and George's commitment to protecting Lennie.
4. The dream of owning a piece of land represents hope, stability, and the pursuit of a better life for George and Lennie. It motivates them to work hard and persevere through challenges, providing a sense of purpose in their difficult lives.
5. The Great Depression had a profound impact on the characters in the story. It led to widespread unemployment, poverty, and instability. Many characters, including George and Lennie, were forced to travel in search of work, facing constant uncertainty and struggling to achieve their dreams.

