

## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSION

From all that we have discussed in the previous chapter, the idea of solidarity in *Of Mice and Men*, actually is not only exposed by the main characters of the story, although there is no doubt that the role of the main characters is very prominent. Through some events that occur along the story, the writer finds that there are some characters who can also support the analysis in exposing the idea of solidarity in this story.

In the relationship between the main characters, we can see how someone like George shows his solidarity for his retarded friend, Lennie Small. It is told that Lennie who is described physically as a big and strong man, is actually a very dependent person, since he is also a retarded one. Lennie, with all of his characteristics, is described as someone who often makes his friend, George, in troubles. Fortunately, Lennie has someone like George besides him, someone who is willing to look after him, someone who is willing to sacrifice most of his own interests for his beloved friend. With all of his unlucky conditions, Lennie is very lucky to have George, although he has to end in a very tragic way.

Besides Lennie, there are also some characters who have unlucky conditions like Lennie. These people also need

someone who is willing help them to reduce their suffering. The first one is Candy, a lonely old crippled man who has nothing and no one for his old days. Since his dog is killed by Carlson, Candy feels that he will soon be useless and dumped by his society. It is told that Candy is so happy when he is accepted to join the plan, for Candy it means that he may have a hope to have a better life. The second one is Crooks, a very apathetic man. He is so disappointed with his society. He feels that his society ignores him since he has a black skin. He judges that all of the white men will never really care for him. When Lennie and Candy visiting him in his room, we can see that there is a change in Crooks. It is seen that Crooks is not really an apathetic man if only he can find someone who is willing to make a friend with him sincerely. The third one is Curley's wife, the one who is described as a naughty girl. She likes to tease the farmhands with her wild appearance. Actually Curley's wife is a very lonely and frustrated woman, she acts like that only to make people to pay attention to her. With all of her dreams that have gone away, she really needs someone who can give her love and affection, the things that she needs and that she can not get in the farm where there are only harsh men.

In the above paragraph, we can see that there are some people who have unlucky conditions in this story. Just like Lennie, they also need someone who can understand them, who

is willing to hear them, who is willing to care for them and who is willing to give his solidarity to them as the same human being. Because, actually people need each other, and no one can live alone. The weak needs the strong and the strong needs the weak. Lennie needs George doesn't mean, George doesn't need Lennie. George will be nothing if he does not have Lennie besides him. With Lennie beside him, there is someone who will admire him, who will be proud of him, who is willing to take orders from him, who can make him as a strong man the thing that makes him forget that he is only a small and common man. If George does not have Lennie besides him, it is very probable that George will act like Curley. He is as small as Curley, he may also try to prove his existence by challenging the big guys or the other things that Curley used to do to prove his existence. It might be almost the same with Slim. Slim might be only a common man when he lives among the people who have the same quality as he is. Or, he might be nothing when he lives among the people who have better quality than he is. Moreover, if Slim is regarded as a leader, what is a leader when there is no one to be lead?

Finally, the writer concludes that through all that we have discussed above, it is seen that the characters and the events in *Of Mice and Men* play a very important roll to expose idea of solidarity. Through the events which occur along the story the writer find that some of the characters

represents the oppressed people, the ones who really need the solidarity of their brothers, the same human being. In this story, solidarity is told as the human need, the need of the oppressed ones, the ones who are needed by the lucky one.

