

Crooks

Introduction: give a general response to the question set and outline what you will be covering in your essay.

<i>Crooks is the victim of racism and his dream is to be treated with respect as an equal.</i>	Racism is an accepted part of this place and time. “nigger”
<i>He obsesses over his civil rights – rights he should have but doesn’t.</i>	“mauled copy of the California civil code” “Nobody got any right in here but me”
<i>He is isolated from the other men because of their racism – he wants the company of others.</i>	“He kept his distance and demanded that other people kept theirs.” “I ain’t wanted” “They say I stink” He lives in a room attached to the barn – with the animals.
<i>George, Lennie and Candy’s dream of a place of their own is very appealing to Crooks – he asks to join them despite his cynicism.</i>	“I never seen a guy really do it” “I’d come an’ lend a hand.”
<i>BUT Crooks abandons this hope when Curley’s Wife reminds him of the harsh realities of life.</i>	“You guys comin’ in an’ settin’ made me forget”
<i>Crooks is lonely because of others’ racism.</i>	“Spose you couldn’t go into the bunk house... ‘cause you was black.”
<i>Crooks allows the writer to explore what loneliness can do to people.</i>	“A guy goes nuts if he ain’t got nobody.” “I seen things out here.”
<i>Loneliness makes him cynical and bitter.</i>	“Nobody never gets to heaven, and nobody gets no land.”
<i>There is a warmth and a hunger for friendship beneath this cynicism.</i>	“His tone was a little more friendly”
<i>Crooks physical disability (his crooked back) only adds to the our sympathy for him – but his pain is emotional as much as physical.</i>	“lined with pain”



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