

Chapter 1

Notes from the Reading: what happened, characters, etc.	Reactions, Questions, Connections
Mr. Jones--owns Manor farm; drunk; careless	
Old Major--old boar; highly respected by the other animals; had a dream; 12 y.o.; --p. 12: he "was already <u>ensconced</u> on his bed of straw"	--I love that word, ensconced --He's like the elder--the old wise man on the farm --Old Major--army reference?
Dogs: Bluebell, Jessie, Pincher	
Clover: cart-horse, middle life, four foals --p. 12: "who had never quite got her figure back after her fourth foal" p. 13--protected the ducklings	I totally see a middle-aged mom who's kind of chunky, but still full of life and super nice to everyone
Boxer: cart-horse; nearly 18 hands high; as strong as two ordinary horses; looked stupid--was pretty stupid --p. 13: "he was universally respected for his steadiness of character and tremendous powers of work"	--Usually the dumb characters aren't looked up to so much, he must be a "good guy" --Boxer--name--strong, maybe not smart
Muriel--goat	
Benjamin--donkey; oldest; worst tempered; seldom talked; cynical; never laughed--p. 13: "if asked why, he would have say that he saw nothing to laugh at" really close friends with Boxer	He and Boxer seem an unlikely pair; there must be some good in Benjamin
Mollie: p. 14: "foolish, pretty white mare...came mincing daintily in, chewing at a lump of sugar....began flirting her white mane, hoping to draw attention to the red ribbons"	She sounds like the type of person I would want to smack--I'm already annoyed. Bet she would put a heart over that i
cat--found a warm place and didn't listen to a word	Exactly what I would expect from a cat
Moses--tame raven--only animal not there	Moses--allusion to the Bible?
Old Major's Speech: Comrades; doesn't think he'll be with them long--wants to pass on things; p. 15: "our lives are miserable, laborious, and short. We are born, we are given just so much food as will keep the breath in our bodies...and the very instant that our usefulness has come to an end we are slaughtered...No animal in England knows the meaning of happiness or leisure after he is a year old. No animal is free. The life of an animal is misery and slavery: this is the plain truth."	--Comrades--makes me think about communism and war --He really starts off strong--he wants big reactions from them--make them angry and wake up to the truth of their lives --If their lives really are this bad, why does he even need to tell them? POWER--Man has complete power over the animals and he abuses it.
p. 16: "Why then do we continue in this miserable condition? Because nearly the whole of the produce of our labour is stolen from us by human beings. There, comrades, is the answer to all our problems. It is summed up in a single word--Man. Man is the only real enemy we have." --man consumes without producing --also, he is either taking it away from their young or preventing them from having more young	--Used a rhetorical question--get them thinking--answer the question in their minds before he tells them that they need to get rid of humans --So, if this book is really about people, what does he want us to think about/be reminded of?
p. 17: You young porkers...will scream your lives out at the	He isn't holding anything back--really

block....You, Boxer,...Jones will sell you to the knacker...the dogs...a brick around their necks and drowns them"	painting some vivid images in their minds (and ours)
the solution--p, 18: "Only get rid of Man, and the produce of our labour would be our own...What then must we do?...Rebellion!"	He's presented a classic problem-solution persuasive argument
p. 18: "All men are enemies. All animals are comrades." --immediately they have to decide if wild animals are comrades	Absolutes are trouble.
p. 19: 2 legs = enemy; 4 legs or wings = friend; can't become like Man--no house, no bed, no clothes, no alcohol, no tobacco, no money, no trade. p. 20: "And, above all, no animal must ever tyrannise over his own kind. Weak or strong, clever or simple, we are all brothers. No animal must ever kill any other animal. All animals are equal."	Sounds good--but hard
Dream-- <i>Beasts of England</i> --the tune is something between <i>Clementine</i> and <i>La Cucaracha</i> .	That sounds like a crazy tune allusion
Singing wakes up Jones--fires shots and they all take off.	

Chapter 2

Notes from the Reading: what happened, characters, etc.	Reactions, Questions, Connections
Old Major dies 3 days later	
p. 24: "The work of teaching and organising the others fell naturally upon the pigs, who were generally recognized as being the cleverest of the animals."	--Clever and intelligent are not necessarily the same thing; definitely not the only requirement for leadership. LEADER --Is it ok to have one kind of animal have so much power? POWER
Napoleon: large, fierce-looking, only Berkshire, "not much of a talker, but with a reputation for getting his own way." p.24	--So if you don't get what you want by talking, how do you get it? --Napoleon--allusion to Napoleon Bonaparte?
Snowball--vivacious, "quicker in speech and more inventive, but was not considered to have the same depth of character." p. 25	--Snowball--makes me think of the kind of name a kid uses for a pet dog or cat --The depth of character part confuses me--is it comparing his depth of character to Napoleon's or simply not as much character as inventiveness
Squealer--small, fat, "with very round cheeks, twinkling eyes, nimble movements, and a shrill voice. He was a brilliant talker, and when he was arguing some difficult point he had a way of skipping from side to side and whisking his tail which was somehow very persuasive. The others said of Squealer that he could turn black into white." p.25	--Squealer--good name for a talker --To me it seems that all of that skipping and such would just show how hard he was working at it--how it wasn't sincere, but I suppose tactics work all of the time--otherwise they wouldn't be used.
Animalism--name of the their political/philosophical beliefs	
--Reactions of other animals: we have a duty to Jones, he feeds us, why should we care what happens after we die --Mollie--p. 26: "Will there still be sugar after the Rebellion?...And	--Pretty typical questions when there's a possible change in the status quo --Mollie--materialism--someone who has

shall I still be allowed to wear ribbons in my mane?"	more to lose than gain by the change
Moses--p. 26: "spy and a tale-bearer...clever talker"; Sugarcandy Mountain	Sugarcandy Mountain = Heaven
Boxer and Clover "most faithful disciples"	--Interesting word use--I usually associate disciples with religion --They would be very successful at convincing others because they're so well-liked and so nice
Mr. Jones used to be a good farmer--lost money in a lawsuit and started drinking a lot	Not by nature bad--bad things happened that he couldn't deal with
Rebellion--happened all of a sudden--animals hadn't been fed; they broke into the shed; Jones woke up and tried to stop them with whips--the animals just reacted--animals scared and surprised them and they ran away. Mrs. Jones woke up and saw what was happening--she took off and Moses followed her.	It's interesting that it was spontaneous and not planned. It's something they all wanted and will therefore work for. POWER isn't forever
After the men are gone--got rid of all of the things that Jones used that they hated--bits, nose-rings, dog-chains, knives, reins, halters, whips,	
Next morning they check out the house--Mollie wants ribbon--bury hams and break barrel of beer. p. 32: "A unanimous resolution was passed on the spot that the farmhouse should be preserved as a museum. All were agreed that no animal must ever live there."	So much for everyone really wanting this--looks like Mollie will always want her old life
--p. 33--"pigs now revealed that during the past three months they had taught themselves to read and write" --Change the name to Animal Farm	Why didn't they tell the other animals sooner? Why didn't they teach anyone else? POWER--literacy gives the pigs more power over the other animals
Seven Commandments--written on the wall, "unalterable law" 1. Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy. 2. Whatever goes upon four legs, or has wings, is a friend. 3. No animal shall wear clothes. 4. No animal shall sleep in a bed. 5. No animal shall drink alcohol. 6. No animal shall kill any other animal. 7. All animals are equal.	--Commandments--again, more of a religious connection than a political one --So this is kind of their Bill of Rights/Constitution? --"Unalterable law"--haven't all "laws" of all societies changed somewhat? What makes them think these will last? --Why these laws? What's left out?
--Cows hasn't been milked for 24 hours --p. 35: "Never mind the milk, comrades! cried Napoleon, ...That will be attended to. The harvest is more important. Comrade Snowball will lead the way. I shall follow in a few minutes.....when they came back in the evening it was noticed that the milk had disappeared."	--It is hard to imagine pigs milking cows--this is one of those times I have to remind myself that it isn't about animals --Well, Napoleon was the last one seen with the milk--it's not too hard to figure out what happened to it. POWER--abuse of power

Chapter 3

Notes from the Reading: what happened, characters, etc.	Reactions, Questions, Connections
--	--

p. 37: "The pigs were so clever that they could think of a way round every difficulty...The pigs did not actually work, but directed and supervised the others. With their superior knowledge it was natural that they should assume the leadership."	LEADER: Are these the qualities of a good leader? The tone seems to be kind of sarcastic. It's like Orwell is already trying to let us know that the pigs are not good leaders.
harvest finished 2 days earlier than normal and was the biggest	RESPONSIBILITY: every animal does their share; no one steals
everyone happy--more food, leisure time	
p. 39: "Boxer was the admiration of everybody." work of 3 horses; motto: "I will work harder!"; "But everyone worked according to his capacity."	Boxer takes the RESPONSIBILITY of doing the most he possibly can
Mollie shirks her RESPONSIBILITIES--last up, leaves early Cat disappears	
Benjamin--unchanged; p. 40: "Donkeys live a long time. None of you has ever seen a dead donkey."	What does he mean?
Flag--green with white hoof and horn--green = green fields of England; hoof and horn = future Republic of the Animals	
Meeting--Sundays, work for week planned, resolutions debated and voted on--Beasts of England sung	
Snowball and Napoleon debated the most--didn't agree on anything	LEADERS/POWER--trying to gain the upper hand--have more power
Harness room = pigs headquarters	
Animal Committees--Snowball's idea--overall failed except for reading and writing classes	