

Chapter Nine



Animal Farm by George Orwell

Chapter Preview



- ❧ Boxer's hoof split during the battle with the humans, and even though it took a long time to heal, he didn't stop working. Rations are reduced for everyone but the pigs and the dogs. There are a lot of mouths to feed because four pigs all litter at once giving birth to thirty one piglets. The farm is pretty successful but still has to increase the egg contract to pay for things for the pigs. Rations are reduced yet again, but the pigs are comfortable, gaining weight and brewing beer for themselves. In April, Animal Farm is declared a Republic and they hold an election, with the only candidate, Napoleon, who is elected unanimously. In the middle of the summer, Moses the raven appears and starts talking about Sugarcandy Mountain again.

Chapter Preview



- ❧ Boxer looks less healthy than he used to but still works hard and is looking forward to his retirement. One day he falls down and can't get up and tells Clover it's his lung. Napoleon acts concerned and says he's going to send him to the vet, and when the van comes to pick him up, Benjamin runs to warn the animals that on the side of the van is written "Horse Slaughterer." They all run to the van but it drives off with him. Three days later, Squealer tells them that Boxer has died. He says that the van was just a purchased and had not been painted over yet. He gives a lot of details of Boxer in his bed and says his last words were "Long live Comrade Napoleon! Napoleon is always right!" The pigs hold a memorial and a crate of whiskey is delivered to the farm and they all get drunk again.

Items/Ideas to Know



❧ Principles of Animalism

- ❧ Squealer explains that the pigs and dogs haven't had their rations reduced because that would be "contrary to the principles of Animalism."

❧ Propaganda

- ❧ Squealer overwhelms the animals with "facts" that they cannot disprove because they're total nonsense.
- ❧ Napoleon makes sure all of the animals are patriotic and revises his story of Battle of the Cowshed to keep Snowball a villain. They remember seeing the wounds on Snowball's back but are told that these were inflicted by Napoleon's teeth.
- ❧ Although the pigs declare everything that Moses says is a lie, they like having the ideas spread around the farm because they don't do work. Moses tells the animals that after they die they will have a happy easy life in a better world and this makes them accept that they're hungry right now.

Items/Ideas to Know



☞ Greed

- ☞ Napoleon buys sugar for himself but doesn't let the other pigs eat it. He fathers thirty one piglets. The pigs are hungry for more status and make a rule that if a pig and another animal meet on a path, the other animal must stand aside. There's also a rule that they will be allowed to wear a green ribbons on their tails on Sundays
- ☞ The pigs cook up barley and instead of using it to feed the hungry animals, they use it to brew beer. They give each pig an allowance of a pint of beer a day with a half gallon for Napoleon.
- ☞ The pigs sell boxer to be slaughtered because he is old, even though he could've lived another three years. They just wanted the money to buy whiskey.

Quotes



- ❧ "Reading out the figures in a shrill, rapid voice, he proved to them in detail that they had more oats, more hay, more turnips than they had had in Jones's day, that they worked shorter hours, that their drinking water was of better quality, that they lived longer, that a larger proportion of their young ones survived infancy, and that they had more straw in their stalls and suffered less from fleas." Chapter 9, pg. 93/83
- ❧ "Besides, in those days they had been slaves and now they were free, and that made all the difference, as Squealer did not fail to point out." Chapter 9, pg. 94/84

Chapter Ten



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Chapter Preview



- ❧ Many years pass and the only animals from before the rebellion that are left are Clover, Benjamin, Moses, and a few pigs. The rest have passed away. The farm is doing much better now, and the windmill is finished. It isn't used for electricity, but for milling corn which is sold at a profit. The animals are building another windmill. Although the farm is richer, the animals' lives are hard. Squealer tells them things are constantly getting better, and the animals still have no way to dispute this. The animals, even ones brought from other farms, still feel pride in knowing that everything is special and run by them selves and that they are equal...One day, Squealer takes the sheep somewhere for a week and says he's teaching them a new song. Soon after they come back, the pigs suddenly come out of the farm walking on their hind legs. Before the animals can protest, the sheep start bleating "four legs good, two legs better!"

Chapter Preview



- ☞ Clover takes Benjamin to the barn and asks him to read the Seven Commandments and there is only one left: “All animals are equal, but some are more equal than others.” The pigs start to carry whips and wear clothes. The pigs hang out in the farm house with other farmer, laughing and singing. Pilkington is overheard complimenting Napoleon for making his animals work harder on less food than any other animals in the county. Then they talk about how they’re changing the farm’s name back to “The Manor Farm” and treats the humans like friends and calls them Comrade. They toast, and Clover sees that the pigs faces are melting and changing and Napoleon and Mr. Pilkington have both cheated on a card game.

Items/Ideas to Know



☞ Greed

- ☞ Napoleon, after many years, and Squealer, both become so fat that it's even difficult to see out of their eyes
- ☞ Clearly, the human farmers make a profit and care as little about their animals as the pigs do. The humans compliment the pigs on their methods.

☞ Principles of Animalism

- ☞ Napoleon now argues his ideas like putting up electrical lights by saying they are “contrary to the spirit of animalism.”
- ☞ The pigs disobey the essence of Animalism - four legs good, two legs bad. In the end, the Seven Commandments are all obliterated and replaced with one. Right after this, the pigs become eerily human.
- ☞ After subverting the principles of Animalism, the pigs actually turn into humans.

Quotes



- ❧ "Napoleon had denounced such ideas as contrary to the spirit of Animalism. The truest happiness, he said, lay in working hard and living frugally." Chapter 10, pg. 107/97
- ❧ "Only old Benjamin professed to remember every detail of his long life and to know that things never had been, nor ever could be much better or much worse - hunger, hardship and disappointment being, so he said, the unalterable law of life." Chapter 10, pg. 109/99
- ❧ "ALL ANIMALS ARE EQUAL, BUT SOME ARE MORE EQUAL THAN OTHERS" Chapter 10, pg. 112/102
- ❧ "No question now, what had happened to the faces of the pigs. The creatures outside looked from pig to man, and from man to pig, and from pig to man again; but already it was impossible to say which was which." Chapter 10, pg. 118/108