

CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS

In this chapter, the study tries to find out the answer of the statement of the problem mentioned in chapter I. This discussion includes several points: What are the characteristics of George and Lennie in Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*? What are George and Lennie's conflicts depicted in Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*? Why George does kills Lennie?

4.1 The Characteristics of George and Lennie.

4.1.1 George's Characteristics.

George is Lennie's childhood friend and after Lennie's aunt died he took over to takes care Lennie. This can be seen in the following cut:

"George said at last. "Him and me was both born in Auburn. I knowed his aunt Clara. She took him when he was a baby and raised him up. When his aunt Clara died, Lennie just come along with me out workin'. Got kinda used to each other after a littel while" (p.45).

George Milton is small, intelligent, dark of face, has restless eyes and sharp, strong features with every part of him defined. He love Lennie very much and always has to bail Lennie out of his trobles. It proven when Lennie undeliberate hurted a girl in weed George came to help Lennie, and when the boss arrives to register the men. George does all the talking, until the boss notices and directly addresses Lennie. George still does the talking answered their new boss's asks to Lennie, because of Lennie's mentally retarded would give him a trouble. This can be understood from the statements below:

"Dumb bastard like he is, he wants to touch ever'thing he likes. Just wants to feel it. So he reaches out to feel this red dress an' the girl lets out a squawk, and that gets Lennie all mixed up, and he holds on 'couse that's the only thing he can think to do. I heard all the yellin', so i comes running, an' by the time Lennie's so scared all he can do is jus' hold on. I socked him over the head with a fence picket to make him let go" (p.47).

"George said, "He's my cousin. He got kicked in the head by horse when he was kid. He's awright. Just ain't bright. But he can do anything you tell him" (p.25).

George protects Lennie, he does not want Lennie gets any trouble. He always guides in every step Lennie's action. It is proven when they just come at a unclean lake near by their future working place, Lennie dropped his blankets and flung himself down and drank from the surface of the green pool; drank with long gulps, snorting into the water like a horse George stepped nervously beside him and said sharply. As he told to Lennie:

"Lennie, for God' sakes don't drink so much,...Lennie. You gonna be sick like you was last night" (p.3).

George becomes angry when he knew Lennie brought a dead mouse and got along with it because he has an infatuation with anything soft and furry. It can be proved by the quotation below:

"George stood up and threw the mouse as far as he could into the darkening brush,... "you crazy fool, aw,... Lennie! "George put his hand on Lennie's sholder. "I ain't talkin' it away jus' for meanness,... that mouse ain't fresh" (p.10).

George also guides Lennie to hide into a brush that he had choosen. It can be proved by this quotation: "Look. Lennie□if you just' happen to get in trouble like you always done before; I want you to come right here an' hide in the brush till I come for you. Can you remember that?" (p.17).

When George met Curley (their boss's son), he knew that Curley with unclear reason did not like a big guy like Lennie and want to make a fight with him, George once again guided Lennie to avoid Curley and his truly coquettish wife. We can see this quotation bellow:

"George got up and went over to Lennie's bunk and sat down on it. "I hate that kinda bastard," he said. "I seen plenty of 'em. Like the old guy says, Curley don't take no chances. He always wins." He thought for a moment. "if he tangles with you, Lennie we're gonna get the can. Don't make nomistake about that. He's the boss's son. Look, Lennie. You try to keep away from him, and his wife will you? Don't never speak to

him. If he comes in here you move clear to the other side of the room. Will you do that, Lennie" (p.32-33).

Besides those kindnesses of George, he has bad temper like easily frustrated and angry, especially when he has to constantly explain the same things to Lennie over and over again. "So you forgot that already, did you? I gotta tell you again, do i? Jesus Christ, you're a crazy bastard!", and also after he helped Lennie to avoid him into trouble George always complains that he could get along much better if he did not have to care for Lennie. He uses the incident that got them chased out of Weed as a case in point. As George said to Lennie:

"If I was alone I could live so easy. I could get a job and work, and no trouble...." "An' whatta' you got," George went on furiously. "I got you! You can't keep a job and you lose me over' job I get. Jus' keep me shovin' all over the country all the time. An' that ain't the worst. You get in trouble. You do bad things and I got to get you out. You crazy son-of-a-bitch. You keep me in hot water all the time. She yells and we got to hide in irrigation ditch all day with guys lookin' for us, and we got to sneak out in the dark and get outta the country. All the time somethin' like that all the time" (p.12-13).

After he tells Lennie those words and Lennie knelt and looked over the fire at the angry George. And Lennie's face was drawn with terror with telling startled words and said: "George you want I should go away and leave you alone? Well, I could go off in the hills there. Some place I'd find a cave." (p.14). George feels sorry for him and showing compassion and said: "No look! I was jus' foolin', Lennie. 'cause I want you to stay with me." (p.14). Next this case will become George's conflict with his self that we will discuss in the next analysis, because in the other hand he wants to be free from Lennie but he can not do it because of Lennie can not live alone and need him very much.

Now we had analyzed George's characters, and related with the Forster's theory that has been completed by Roberts and Jacobs, we can make a conclusion that George Milton is Round character category. Because "round characters possess many individual and

unpredictable human traits they may be considered as dynamic; that is, they demonstrate their capacity to change or to grow". (Roberts and Jacobs, 2nd ed, 1989:145-146).

4.1.2 Lennie's Characteristics.

Lennie is an unnaturally large, childlike and simple man it can be proved by this quotation:

"George stood up and threw the mouse as far as he could and he heard Lennie's whimpering cry and wheeled about." "Blubberin' like a baby! Jesus Christ! A big guy like you." Lennie's lip quivered and tears started in his eyes." (p.10).

Lennie is often referred to as an animal through use of similes and similar devices, i.e. "He dropped his blankets and flung himself down and drank from the surface of the green pool, drank with long gulps, snorting into the water like a horse." (p.3). He is easily forgetful and it pushes George to remind him of the same thing for Lennie every time as the statement: "Lennie stared hopelessly at his hands. 'I forgot George.' 'yeah, you forgot. You always forget, an' i got to talk you out of it.'" (p.26).

Lennie likes to pet soft things, only focuses on one object, and dreams of tending some animals which have soft fur, this fact can be seen through George and Lennie's speech:

"O.K. someday we're gonna have a little house and a couple of acres an' a cow and some pigs and "An' live off the fatta lan', "Lennie shouted." "An' have rabbits." (p.16).

He is a large man who does not know his own strength or cannot control it well. He will be confused and freezes when in stressful situations. And because of it he could never comprehend or anticipate the consequences of his actions without the help of George, for example when he broke Curley's arm in one situation when Curley tried to find out his wife and undeliberately Lennie was smiling with delight at the memory of his dreaming ranch, this fact can be seen from the statement:

"Curley stepped over Lennie like a terrier. "What the hell you laughin' at?" Lennie looked blankly at him."Huh?" Then Curley's rage exploded. "Come on, ya big bastard. Get up on your feet. No big son-of-a-bitch is gonna laugh at me. I'll show ya who's yella. But Lennie watched in terror the flopping little man whom he held. George slapped him in the face again and again, and still Lennie held on to the closed fist. Curley was white and shrunken by now, and his struggling had become weak. He stood crying, his fist lost in Lennie's paw. George shouted over and over, "Leggo his hand, Lennie. Suddenly Lennie let go his hold. He crouched cowering against the wall. "You tol' me to, George," he said miserably." (p.72).

Lennie was George's best friend and he trusts him with his life. It is seen when Crooks tried to influence Lennie suppose George went into town and Lennie never heard of him no more. Suddenly Lennie's eyes centered and grew quiet, and mad. He stood up and walked dangerously toward Crooks, as Lennie said to Crooks: "George wun't go away and leave me. I know George wun't do that." (p.83). People get close to him because of his childlike nature but he is still physically a man and therefore is dangerous.

Although Lennie is among the principal in *Of Mice and Men*, he is same as George, the least dynamic. He undergoes no significant changes, development, or growth throughout the novel and remains exactly as the reader encounters him in the opening pages. Simply put, he loves to pet soft things, is blindly devoted to George and their vision of the farm, and possesses incredible physical strength. Nearly every scene in which Lennie appears confirms these and only these characteristics. Although Steinbeck's insistent repetition of these characteristics makes Lennie a rather flat character, Lennie's simplicity is central to Steinbeck's conception of the novel.

4.2 The Conflicts of George and Lennie.

The novel *Of Mice and Men* written by John Steinbeck has numerous conflicts that bring out the protagonist's innermost characteristic and kindheartedness. George Milton and Lennie Small are the main characters in this novel. Both of them have many conflicts, and

each of their conflicts has to be carried out without interruption. Because one the main character can involves one another's conflicts.

4.2.1 George's Conflict.

In Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men* says that George is a good friend to Lennie. George Milton is small, intelligent, dark of face, has restless eyes and sharp, strong features with every part of him defined. With those characteristics, George is the perfect person that can guides Lennie's life. And it must not be a trouble in George's life, because of his ability to look after Lennie and himself. Thus on the other hand George is impatient person and also easily angry and frustrated. John Steinbeck has boiled them to be some interesting conflicts on George's side. Based on the story of the novel, George's conflict can be clasified into four categories: George versus himself, George versus God (destiny), George versus person, and George versus society.

4.2.1.1 George versus Person.

4.2.1.1.1 George against the Boss of the Ranch.

There is little known about him, except that Curley is his son. He interviews Lennie and George when they first come to the farm. He becomes suspicious that George is trying to put one over him because he would not let Lennie talk. He thinks that George is going to take Lennie's pay, he warns them he has seen wise guys before. He says that nobody can get away with anything. They can't trick him. He isn't a trustworthy person, this fact can be seen from the statement:

"The boss deliberately put the little book in his pocket. He hooked his thumbs in his belt and squinted one eye nearly closed. "Say□what you sellin?" "I said what stake

you got in this guy? You takin' his pay away from him?"well, i never seen one guy take so much trouble for another guy. I just like to know what your interest is." (p.35).

The boss of the ranch is a fair man who is in charge of everything. Because George told Lennie to keep quiet, the boss seemed a little suspicious of the couple but still gave them a chance to prove themselves as workers.

4.2.1.1.2 George against Lennie.

In the beginning of the story, especially in chapter I of the novel George for some situations got very mad at Lennie for being such a big baby, such as: when George has to constantly explain the same things to Lennie over and over again; Lennie's hobby to pet soft animals, like mice and puppies, but he is very strong and often kills his delicate pets; when Lennie stops to drink from the river, and George warns him not to drink too much or he will get sick, as he did the night before; and when Lennie wanted to eat a can of bean with ketchup, but George actually did not have ketchup. They almost made George feel sorry for the Lennie's appearance in his life and said angrily, this is supported by the quotation below:

"All the time somethin' like that□all the time. I wish i could put you in a cage with about a million mice an' let you have fun." (p.12).

After this tirade, George feels sorry for losing his temper and apologizes by telling Lennie's favorite story, the plan for their future happiness that is they will have their own ranch and pet some rabbits.

4.2.1.2 George versus Himself.

George has taken care of Lennie and had done his thinking and talking for him. He was responsible for his well being and was supposed to look out for him. In previous situations George could easily get Lennie out of trouble by getting him away from the

problem. This time, when Lennie's big fingers felt to stroking Curley's wife hair, but she kept struggled until Lennie had broken her neck, and Lennie shouted: "Don't you yellin'," Lennie said, and he shook her. And her body flopped like a fish. And then she was still, for Lennie had broken her neck." (p.103), and angrily Curley tried to find Lennie and with sadistic face he wanted to kill him. This is supported by the quotation below:

"Curley carried a shotgun in his good hand. Curley was cold now. "All right, you guys," he said. "The nigger's got a shotgun. You take it, Carlson. When you see 'um, don't give 'im no chance. Shoot for his guts. That'll bouble 'im over." (p.110).

However, it was a very different, more complicated situation. George realized he could not get Lennie out of this, that they would never have their own farm which was their dream. Lennie would never be safe because he could not control himself and would constantly get them into trouble. George had to decide whether to kill Lennie before Curley did, or to let him run away. If he let him run away and hide, then he would just keep experiencing hardship after hardship. His mental disability which produced uncontrollable behavior would always be a hindering factor.

Lennie was George's best friend and he trusted him with his life. George did not want to see Lennie get killed by Curley and decided he had to do it himself. This internal conflict ripped George up inside, debating the "right" thing to do. He always wanted the best for him and this was the last resort, he had to put Lennie out of his own misery. He found Lennie and sat beside him, calming his nerves.

"Go on, George. When we gonna do it?"

"Gonna do it soon."

"Me an' you."

"You... an' me. Ever'body gonna be nice to you. Ain't gonna be no more trouble. Nobody gonna hurt nobody nor steal from 'em."

When Lennie was persuaded everything was going to be alright he was at ease. That was when George pulled out a gun and aimed it at the back of Lennie's head and pulled trigger, this is supported by the quotation below:

"And George raised the gun and steadied it, and he brought the muzzle of it close to the back of Lennie's head. The hand shook violently, but his face set and his hand steadied. He pulled the trigger. The crash of the shot rolled up the hills and rolled down again. Lennie jarred, and then settled slowly forward to the sand, and he lay without quivering." (p.120).

This decision was the hardest thing that George had to do in his life and there was much debate over it. In the end George realized their dream would never be a reality and Lennie would always be a burden, a torn in his side. There was nothing more he could do but to let him go in the only way he knew how, it can be proved by this quotation:

"George shivered and looked at the gun, and then he threw it from him, back up the on the bank , near the pile of old ashes. George sat on the bank and looked at his right hand thrown the gun away." (p.120).

4.2.1.3 George versus God (destiny).

In *Of Mice and Men*, George has to accept the fact that he was the only one people that Aunt Clara (Lennie's aunt) gave responsibility to look after Lennie after she died. It can be classified as conflict of George versus God who has given him destiny to be the guide man for Lennie. George could not deny it because he knew Aunt Clara very well and he love Lennie as a brother since they was child. George finally adopted Lennie and got along with him from ranch to ranch for work, as George said to Slim:

"George said at last."Him and me was both born in Auburn. I knowed his aunt Clara. She took him when he was a baby and raised him up when his aunt Clara died, Lennie just come along with me out workin'. Got kinda used to each other after a little while." (p.45).

From the beginning, the novel has explained that George always complains about his destiny, he shown his regrets to Lennie with blame his God whenever he make a trouble, this fact can be seen when George told with his God:

”God, you’re a lot of trouble,” said George. ”I could get along so easy and so nice if i didn’t have him on my tail. I could live so easy and maybe have a girl.” (p.8).

4.2.1.4 George versus Society.

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck is a story of two laborers during the great depression. According to Norton cs,

”During great depression American lost savings and jobs. Drought, foreclosure, clouds of hungry grasshoppers, and bank failures further plagued the American farmer. A Missouri man who could not pay his taxes or his mortgage, nor afford to truck his corn and barley to market.” (Norton, Katzman, Escott, Chudacoff, Paterson, Tuttle; 2nd ed; 1986:719).

So we can conclude that as the laborers George and Lennie must to make competition with the society because of rare the jobs and threatening the hungry. From the information from Norton cs above we can also imagine that there were a few ranches for George and Lennie to get a work. It seen they have to go from Weed to their new work place for more than ten miles and they had a bad experience from the bus driver, George reached into his pocket and produced the slips and handed them to the boss, as George said with his new Boss:

“It wasn’t Murray and Ready’s fault. Bus driver give us a bum steer,” he said. “We hadda walk ten miles. Says we was here when we wasn’t. We couldn’t get no rides in the morning.” (p.23).

The society also pushed George caught Lennie to run out of Weed to avoided angry people because of the incident Lennie wanted to feel a girl’s dress and she yells for help people in the town, as George said with Lennie:

"O.K.," said George. "An' you ain't gonna do no bad things like you done in Weed, neither." "Run us out, hell," said George disgustedly. "We run. They was lookin' for us, but they didn't catch us." (p.7).

4.2.2 Lennie's Conflicts.

Lennie also has conflicts. He is not so normal so can not control his strength right.

Because of them he always gets in a lot of trouble. Like George said on Slim:

"He ain't no cuckoo," said George. "He's dumb as hell, but he ain't crazy. He gets in trouble all the time because he's so god damn dumb. There ain't no more harm in him than a kid neither, except he's so strong." (p.49).

Lennie is totally defenseless. He cannot avoid the danger presented by Curley, Curley's wife, or the world at large. His innocence raises him to a standard of pure goodness that is more poetic and literary realistic.

From the story of the novel, we can conclude Lennie's conflict in his life on two categories, they are: person versus person, and man versus society.

4.2.2.1 Lennie versus Person.

4.2.2.1.1 Lennie against Curley.

One night after Curley goes on a rampage looking for wife he ends up in the bunk and is very frustrated because he cannot find her. He sees Lennie in the back and decides to pick a fight with him. Curley hits him in the nose and stomach. George ordered Lennie to fight back. Lennie grabbed a flaying fist and held tight, too scared to let go, crushing every bone in Curley's hand, we can see these quotations below:

"Curley's fist was swimming when Lennie reached for it. The minute Curley was flopping like a fish on a line, and his closed fist was lost in Lennie's big hand. George ran down the room. "Leggo of him, Lennie. Let go. But Lennie watched in terror the flopping little man whom he held." Curley was white and shrunken by now, and his struggling had become weak. He stood crying, his fist lost in Lennie's paw." (p.71-72).

Knowing Curley's condition George shouted over and over and asked Slim to help him, and said: "Leggo his hand, Lennie. Leggo. Slim, come help me while the guy got any hand left." suddenly Lennie let go his hold. He crushed cowering against the wall." (p.72).

4.2.2.1.2 Lennie's Conflict with Curley's Wife.

To the best of the writer's analysis, Lennie's conflict with Curley's wife is the major conflict in this novel. Because from this conflict the story will be expanded to be unpredictable reality, whether George kills Lennie. It begins when Lennie is in the barn, Curley's wife comes in and flirts with Lennie, then she tells him that her hair is really soft things, so Lennie starts to pet her hair like one would a puppy. Then he starts to pet too hard and she yells. Then because Lennie is scared he grabs hold of her hair and shakes her to get her to stop screaming because he does not know better. He ends up breaking her neck and kills her, this is supported by the quotation below:

"And then she cried angrily,"You stop it now, you'll mess it all up." She jerked her head sideways, and Lennie's fingers closed on her hair and hung on."Let go,"she cried. Lennie was in a panic. His face was contorted. And Lennie's other hand closed over her mouth and nose. "Don't you go yellin'," "He said, and he shook her; and her body flopped like a fish. And then she was still, for Lennie had broken her neck."(p.102-103).

4.2.2.2 Lennie versus Society.

Lennie had a problem with his self control. He couldn't control his actions and his fetis with soft things got him into serious trouble. He touched a women's dress once because of his obsession and she cried rape. The townspeople chased George and Lennie out of town because they believed what the girl had said. Lennie was nuisance to most people and George had to constantly get him out of trouble. He had to travel from town to town because of Lennie's compulsive behavior. When Curley and the other ranch hands found Curley's wife

dead, they soon came to the conclusion that Lennie was at fault. They set out to track him down and ultimately kill him.

4.3 The Killing of Lennie: related to the Characteristics and Conflicts of George and Lennie.

4.3.1 The Killing of Lennie Related to the Characteristics of George and Lennie.

Previous discussions have explained that Lennie is mentally retarded and needs George's constant attention and care. Lennie loves to pet soft things, and from his uncontrol strength he unintentionally often hurts them, Lennie possesses the greatest physical strength of any character, which should therefore establish a sense of respect as he is employed as a ranch hand. He will be confused and freezes when in stressful situations. And because of them Lennie constantly make troubles. He easily forgetful and it push George to remind something for Lennie everytime, "Lennie stared hopelessly at his hands. 'I forgot George.' 'yeah, you forgot. You always forget, an' i got to talk you out of it.'" (p.26).

Eventhough Lennie such a disaster for George, he loves Lennie very much and always has to bail Lennie out of his trobles. He protects Lennie, he does not want Lennie gets any trouble. He always guides in every step Lennie's action. But George must control his ego to guide Lennie because Lennie is totally defenseless, forgetful, and too innocence. He can not avoid the dangers because he truly childish and doesn't have disturber thinking, it is stated that:

"OK. I'll tell ya again. I ain't got nothing to do. Might just' as well spen' all my time tellin' you things and then you forget 'em, and i tell again."Geoege said." (p.5).

Besides those kindnesses of Goerge, he has bad temper like easily frustrated and angry. He can not drive his ego. From the troubles that Lennie has made, he always face them

with frustration way. As Freud says that frustration could occurs within the personality. Freud made it clear that there were no superego-id conflicts because the opposition of these two systems always involved the ego. Both systems tried to use the ego for their own advantage. The ego could try many things in order to deal with its frustrations and conflicts; it could attempt some realistic solution by overcoming, circumventing, escaping, or avoiding the frustration. Distort, the relationships between itself and the environment, making the frustrations and conflicts poorer. (Robert W. Lundin,1969:318).

From the theory above, it has a big possibility that frustration could cover George's realistic mind when he face a terrible situation. Because of these bad temper, George can not drive his ego by thinking that problems rationally, the frustration can take him in serious condition and then took George Failing in irrationally act. Like an article in wikipedia says that:

“Frustration can be a result of blocking motivated behavior. An individual may react in several different ways. He may respond with rational problem-solving methods to overcome the barrier. Failing in this, he may become irrationally.” (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/frustration>).

Therefore, based on the above quotation, it could be said that George's killing Lennie can be included irrationally act. Because this act is never be thought by George and also the readers. But frustration can guides George to fire a gun beside Lennie's head. Because being frustrated people always think the wrong things for the best things when they are in the frustrated or in comparable to anger and disappointment situation.

4.3.2 The killing of Lennie related to the Conflicts of George and Lennie.

Soon as George and Lennie arrived in their new work place, the boss of the ranch complained about their coming late, after that he becomes suspicious that George is trying to put one over him because he would not let Lennie talk. He thinks that George is going to take

Lennie's pay, he warns them he has seen wise guys before. The boss also says that nobody can get away with anything and they can't trick him because he isn't a trustworthy person. Even the boss seemed a little suspicious of the couple but still gave them a chance to prove themselves as workers. These situations have pushed George to give more attention for Lennie's behavior than before because their new boss loves a perfect thing. George's conflict with Lennie, Lennie's conflicts with Curley can be indicated George's stressful and make him sink into great frustration in George's life.

From the beginning, the novel has explained that George always complains about his destiny, he shows his regrets to Lennie with blame his God whenever Lennie makes a trouble, this fact can be seen in his speech with his God:

"God, you're a lot of trouble," said George. "I could get along so easy and so nice if I didn't have him on my tail. I could live so easy and maybe have a girl." (p.8).

From this statement we can conclude that George wants to have a normal life, having his own ranch and house, marry a girl. This is the more important goal or the satisfaction of the pleasure principle of George.

But they have a social conflict that at the great depression period as a laborer has a land is impossible. He must compete with other people to get a job. Because in that era the battle of work was rare, if he works alone, he would get difficult to have enough money to buy it. Yet George has Lennie, a big guy with a big power also. George needed Lennie very much and so Lennie. Lennie possesses the greatest physical strength of any character, which should therefore establish a sense of respect as he is employed as a ranch hand.

Even though Lennie is abnormal, he is such a perfect partner for George. He can enjoy being a partner with Lennie and will defend him if he gets trouble, it is stated that:

"Lennie stood over him." "What you supposed for? Ain't nobody going to suppose no hurt to George." (p.82).

Lennie broke Curley's wife's neck was the top of George's frustration, after some previous conflicts have made a mountain of frustration pain for George. He could not think the way to keep Lennie from the uncontrolled raging of Curley and the other ranch hand. George thought that this is such a big trouble for Lennie and him. When Curley understands that Lennie is the killer, Curley takes his shotgun and go out to find and kill Lennie. George waits until the men have left, because he knows where Lennie is. He now has three choices: He could find Lennie and run away with him, he could let the other men kill Lennie, or he could kill Lennie himself. George just learned about the situation therefore Candy let another man kill his old and limp dog. And Candy told George regretted it afterwards, as Candy said to George:

"I ought to of shoot that dog myself, George. I shouldn't ought to of let no stranger shoot my dog, said Candy." (p.68).

George finally chooses to kill Lennie himself. He thought that he was doing the right thing in helping a man that couldn't help himself. George, realizing he is doomed to a life of loneliness and despair like the rest of the migrant workers and wanting to spare Lennie a painful death at the hands of the vengeful and violent Curley, shoots Lennie in the back of the head before the mob can find him after they had recited their dreams of owning their own land. Beside the sadistic reaction of Curley always in his mind, he maybe afraid that if Curley will hire him with no money because of his sidedness for Lennie. It's mean that he will get suffer and could not continue his dream. So he desided to kill Lennie after he made Lennie happy with told the story of their dream, that is their own ranch and rabbits that Lennie will never have, this fact can be seen in their conversation below:

"We'll have a cow," said George. "An' we'll have maybe a pig an' chickens...an' down the flat we'll have a...little piece alfalfa"

"For the rabbits," Lennie shouted.

"For the rabbits," George repeated.

"And I get to tend the rabbits."

"An' you get to tend the rabbits."

Lennie giggled with happiness. "An' live on the fatta the lan'." (p.119).

George have did irrational thing. That was a hard time to George when he killed someone that he loves without suffering way, with Carlson's gun pointed at Lennie's back head, it can be proved by the quotation:

"And George raised the gun and steadied it, and he brought the muzzle of it close to the back of Lennie's head. The hand shook violently, but his face set and his hand steadied. He pulled the trigger. The crash of the shot rolled up the hills and rolled down again. Lennie jarred, and then settled slowly forward to the sand, and he lay without quivering." (p.120).

But actually if George could think more rational and did not kill Lennie, maybe there were some possibility that would happen in Lennie like the people would get Lennie and sent him in jail. Because Lennie is a human, he can not be compered with Candy's old and limp dog. Eventhough Lennie believes George with his life and George have a responsibility for existence of Lennie, to kill Lennie is irrational thing, and Lennie was the victim uncontrolled one's ego and let frustrated hold him when he can not get his important goal or the goal of the his id, was denied. So he can not back to the reality fact and can not think clearly.

From the discussion above George and Lennie's character can influence their conflicts of life, and the other hand of them. We can see that how frustration can guides George take an irrational decision. It can not be deeper if the conflicts that Lennie has never occure. And the conflicts did not appear if George is not frustrated and easily angry man, and Lennie is not mentally retarded.