

APPENDIX I

BIOGRAPHY OF THE AUTHOR

George Orwell, pen name of Eric Blair. He was born on June 25, 1903 in Bengal region, Eastern India. the father's name is Richard Walmesley Blair and his mother, Ida Mabel Blair. His father works in the Opium Department of the Indian Civil Service. He had two sisters, that is Marjorie, five years older, and Avril, five years younger. When Eric was one year old, his mother took him and his older sister to England. He attended a small school in Henley before attending Eton, where it is recorded that some of his teachers thoroughly disliked him because he had little time for those in authority. The reports of his achievements at school vary: some say that he was a poor student, other disagree with this. It was clear that Orwell would not be able to attend university due to the inability to pay the fees.

Orwell joined the police in Burma, where he had family connections. In 1924 he was promoted. In 1927 he contracted Dengue fever: in light of this he was allowed to return to England. It was at this time that he resigned from the police force with the intention of focusing on writing. It was this time in Burma that provided the inspiration for Orwell's first novel, *Burmese Days*, published in 1934. After leaving the India Imperial Force, Orwell struggled to get his writing career off the ground. His first major work, *Down and Out in Paris and London*, (1933) explored his time eking out a living in these two cities. Orwell took all sorts of jobs to make ends meet, including being a dishwasher. The book

provided a brutal look at the lives of the working poor and of those living a transient existence. Not wishing to embarrass his family, the author published the book under the pseudonym George Orwell. Sometimes called the conscience of a generation, Orwell next explored his overseas experiences in *Burmese Days*, published in 1934. The novel offered a dark look at British colonialism in Burma, then part of the country's Indian empire. Orwell's interest in political matters grew rapidly after this novel was published. Also around this time, he met Eileen O'Shaughnessy. The pair married in 1936, and Eileen supported and assisted Orwell in his career.

In 1937, Orwell traveled to Spain, where he joined one of the groups fighting against General Francisco Franco in the Spanish Civil War. Orwell was badly injured during his time with a militia, getting shot in the throat and arm. For several weeks, he was unable to speak. Orwell and his wife, Eileen, were indicted on treason charges in Spain. Fortunately, the charges were brought after the couple had left the country. Other health problems plagued the talented writer not long after his return to England. For years, Orwell had periods of sickness, and he was officially diagnosed with tuberculosis in 1938. He spent several months at the Preston Hall Sanatorium trying to recover, but he would continue to battle with tuberculosis for the rest of his life. At the time he was initially diagnosed, there was no effective treatment for the disease.

To support himself, Orwell took on all sorts of writing work. He wrote numerous essays and reviews over the years, developing a reputation for producing well-crafted literary criticism. In 1941, Orwell landed a job with the BBC as a producer. He developed news commentary and shows for audiences in

the eastern part of the British Empire. Orwell enticed such literary greats as T. S. Eliot and E. M. Forster to appear on his programs. With World War II raging on, Orwell found himself acting as a propagandist to advance the country's side. He loathed this part of his job and resigned in 1943. Around this time, Orwell became the literary editor for a socialist newspaper.

Orwell is best known for two novels, *Animal Farm* and *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, both of which were published toward the end of his life. *Animal Farm* (1945) was an anti-Soviet satire in a pastoral setting featuring two pigs as its main protagonists. These pigs were said to represent Josef Stalin and Leon Trotsky. The novel brought Orwell great acclaim and financial rewards.

In 1949, Orwell published another masterwork, *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (or *1984* in later editions). This bleak vision of the world divided into three oppressive nations stirred up controversy among reviewers, who found this fictional future too despairing. In the novel, Orwell gave readers a glimpse into what would happen if the government controlled every detail of a person's life, down to their own private thoughts.

Nineteen Eighty-Four proved to be another huge success for the author, but he had little time to enjoy it. By this time, Orwell was in the late stages of his battle with tuberculosis. He died on January 21, 1950, in a London hospital. He may have passed away all too soon, but his ideas and opinions have lived on through his work. Both *Animal Farm* and *Nineteen Eighty-Four* have been turned into films and have enjoyed tremendous popularity over the years.

source: Gale Contextual Encyclopedia of World Literature,2009:1180

APPENDIX 2

SYNOPSIS

Summary of Animal Farm Story

Chapter 1

Old Major calls a meeting of all the animals. We meet all the main characters as they enter the barn. The pigs rush to the front. Clover and Boxer are careful not to tread on smaller animals. Benjamin doesn't believe anything he hears but says little. Mollie is vain. So some of the personalities are established immediately. Old Major, in his speech, points out that no animal knows the meaning of happiness and that all their hard work and produce goes to benefit man. If man was removed the animals would not have to work so hard and would have more to eat. He ends the meeting by assuring them that the revolution to remove man would come eventually and teaches them the song "Beasts of England" which becomes their national anthem.

Chapter 2

Old Major dies in his sleep in early March. The pigs are recognized as being the cleverest animals – particularly Snowball, Napoleon and Squealer. Snowball is a lively, appealing pig, Napoleon is quieter and thought to be more of a thinker and Squealer is a brilliant talker. We also meet Moses, the tame raven, who says he knows the existence of a place called Sugar candy Mountain (heaven). The revolution happened more quickly than expected. One night Jones the farmer got drunk in the Red Lion and forgot to feed the animals. One cow broke into the store shed and all the animals started to help themselves. When Jones and 4 of his farmhands started whipping the animals to get them under

control, they turned and butted and kicked, driving Jones off his farm. His wife packed her bags quickly and followed. The animals destroy everything that reminds them of human domination. They celebrate and the pigs, who have learned to read and write, paint the 7 commandments on the wall of the barn. The pigs manage to milk the cows, who are rather uncomfortable by this time, and Napoleon guards it while they all go off to survey their farm. When they return the milk has disappeared.

Chapter 3

The pigs have taken charge of the farm which is now called Animal Farm rather than Manor Farm. The harvest is good and everyone works hard knowing that the produce is theirs. Boxer works harder than anyone. They fly a flag over the farm - green with a hoof and a horn to symbolize their ownership. Meetings are held every week where the pigs outline their ideas and hold debates. Snowball and Napoleon never agree on what should be done. Snowball organizes lots of committees to make everyone feel involved in the running of the farm but really the pigs are in control. 9 puppies are born and Napoleon takes them aside to rear them himself. It is announced that the milk and apples are to be reserved for the pigs alone. Squealer is sent to explain that the reason for this is because the pigs do all the brain work, without which Jones would probably return. This terrifies the animals and is used frequently to keep them from complaining about the preferential treatment for the pigs

Chapter 4

Pigeons start to spread the word about the rebellion to other farms. We meet the owners of the two neighboring farms—Foxwood owned by Mr.

Pilkington and Pinchfield owned by Mr. Frederick. They fear that rebellion will spread to their farms so join with Jones to mount an attack on Animal Farm to regain control. The animals unite to defeat them in the Battle of the Cowshed. All the animals fight except for Mollie who hides. They later make medals to be presented for bravery. Snowball and Boxer receive Animal Hero 1st Class medals and a sheep who was killed is posthumously awarded an Animal Hero 2nd Class medal. Nobody seems to notice the irony of dividing animals into classes when they are all supposed to be equal.

Chapter 5

Mollie disappears. She cannot bear to live without her ribbons and sugar which the other animals regard as being the sweeteners used by man to control them. The winter is a hard one. Snowball puts forward the idea of a windmill to provide electricity to heat their stalls and ease their workload. Napoleon disagrees and trains the sheep to bleat “4 legs good, 2 legs bad.” Every time Snowball tries to speak. These two pigs are obviously competing for leadership of the farm and Snowball is certainly the more popular. When he appears to be losing the argument, Napoleon calls up the 9 puppies he had taken away some months earlier. They chase Snowball off the farm and Napoleon assumes complete control. Squealer convinces the animals that Snowball has always been a traitor, that he was not brave in the Battle of the Cowshed and that he stole the idea of the windmill from Napoleon himself.

Chapter 6

The animals work hard to build the windmill, Boxer being the one who did most of the heavy work. His two slogans are introduced—“I will work

harder” and “Napoleon is always right.” Napoleon decides to start trading with the neighboring farms, Foxwood and Pinchfield. He uses a middleman Whymper to conduct business with them. When the animals see Napoleon ordering Whymper around, it makes them forget that they are not supposed to deal with humans. The pigs move into the farmhouse and start to sleep in beds. The other animals never learned to read properly, they believe Squealer and agree that the pigs must have more comforts than they do if they are to prevent Jones coming back. A violent storm destroys the windmill. Napoleon blames Snowball and tells the animals to rebuild it with stronger walls.

Chapter 7

There is a severe food shortage but to convince the outside world that all is well, the food bins are filled with sand and merely topped up with grain. The hens are ordered to give up their eggs for the pigs to sell. When they stage a small protest by dropping their eggs from the rafters, Napoleon starves them until they give in. Napoleon is rarely seen in public anymore and announcements are always made by Squealer. The animals are told that Snowball was always in league with Jones and that even now Snowball is plotting with Jones to overthrow the farm. To prove his point, he makes four pigs confess to having secret meetings with Snowball. They are immediately slaughtered. Then three hens, a goose and three sheep also confess to similar crimes and receive a similar fate. “Beasts of England” is banned and composed another song in praise of Napoleon to replace it. Napoleon awards himself medals.

Chapter 8

The animals work harder than ever for less food though the pigs and dogs always have plenty. Napoleon decides to sell timber to Pilkington. The windmill is finished and called Napoleon Mill. When Napoleon discovers that Pilkington has paid for the timber with forged notes, he becomes friendly with Frederick instead. Pilkington then attacks the farm one night and blows up the windmill with dynamite. When Napoleon is seen in public, he always has a black cockerel walking in front of him like a trumpeter. A gun is fired on his birthday and he eats from the best china dinner service with a food taster to try his food to make sure it is not poisoned. He no behaves like a king or emperor.

Chapter 9

Rations are reduced once again and work on the windmill starts for a third time. Boxer's ambition is to finish it before he retires so he works even harder than usual. A school is built for the piglets and they are encouraged to avoid the other animals who now have to step aside to let them pass. Despite the food shortage, produce is sold to provide machinery for the windmill and whisky for Napoleon's table. The barley is reserved to brew beer for the pigs. Moses returns to the farm with tales of Sugar candy Mountain. The animals, now starving and desperate, are more inclined to listen - there may be a better world after death. The pigs view him as dangerous. Boxer collapses through overwork. Napoleon assures the other animals that he is being taken to a hospital to be cared for but he sells him to a glue manufacturer in return for whisky. When Benjamin points out that the van in which he was taken away said "Horse Slaughterer" on the side,

Squealer replies that it used to belong to the horse slaughterer but now belongs to the vet.

Chapter 10

Years later few of the animals are alive who remember the days before the rebellion. The windmill is finished but is used for milling corn to be sold at a profit rather than for electricity to make the animals lives easier. Then, they bleat “Four legs good, Two legs better” as the pigs appear walking on their back legs and carrying whips. The pigs start to wear clothes and the farm is called Manor Farm once again. One evening the animals look in the farmhouse window where the pigs and local farmers are drinking. As they look from pig to man and back, it becomes hard to tell which is which (ann,2013).