

The extract is from the middle of the book in section 3.
It is found in Crooks' cameo.

1a) The first line of the extract shows that Crooks "laughed" which suggests that talking to Lennie has made him forget that he is poorly treated even only for a moment. He continuously says phrases such as "sure you won't go blabbin'" to almost convince himself, as well as remind the reader, that Crooks can freely talk to Lennie without fearing him telling anyone else. He is reserved so would never tell anyone else what he is about to tell Lennie. Crooks "leaned forward excitedly" showing that the idea of being able to talk to someone rather than having to just "read books" is rare and thrilling. He uses derogatory terms when referring to himself: "just a nigger" as he is so used to the ranch workers calling him a ~~"busted-back nigger"~~ "busted-back nigger" that he has come to terms and accepted it; ~~it~~ could also suggest that Crooks is just reinforcing the difference between the pair.

Crooks' "excitement had increased" which once again shows the reader how thrilled Crooks is to have someone to talk to without being ~~judged~~ judged; he "pounded his knee with his hand" showing he is a relatively dramatic character. The fact that Steinbeck goes on to describe his voice as "soft and persuasive" shows that Crooks probably knows that what he is about to do and say is cruel. When telling Lennie about what could happen if "George don't come back", he repeatedly asks Lennie what he'd

do if he "never heard of him no more". Crooks does this to either be cruel to Lennie which is suggested when he takes "pleasure in his torture" or just to see what it's like to be the dominating one in the room as he is always the inferior who gets dominated by the other ranch workers. The idea of Lennie's torture being a "private victory" ~~and~~ shows that Crooks wanted that to happen.

Crooks threatens Lennie when he says that they'll take him "to the booby hatch" which is an obvious reversal of roles as Lennie is the white and strong man who would stereotypically be threatening Crooks. Crooks' mood changes when Lennie becomes defensive as he "edged back" and claims that he was "just supposin'". When Crooks removes his glasses, the reader knows that Crooks is no longer the one dominating the conversation as his gold rimmed spectacles represent power.

The end of the extract shows Crooks becoming defensive and more withdrawn. He tries to get Lennie to feel sympathetic saying that he's "tried bad 'cause he was black". He says that "books aint no good" and repeats that he "needs somebody". This proves how lonely Crooks is. He claims that a man "goes nuts" on his own and "gets too lonely an' he gets sick" making the reader sympathetic.

- 1b) Plan: - sexism, only woman on ranch, no name
- 'tart' no respect
 - broken dreams, want to be actress
 - bottom of hierarchy
 - lonely
 - cheated on

The character of Curley's wife is used to highlight how unjust and sexist American society in the 1930s was as it shows how low on the social hierarchy Curley's wife was.

Steinbeck purposefully makes Curley's wife the only woman on the ranch to show the reader that in the 1930s it was only men who worked and that women were supposed to stay at home and play the expressive role. Curley's wife "blocks the light" when she enters the bunk house and is immediately labelled a "tart". This highlights the fact that women had very little respect in the 1930s and were often labelled by men by the way they looked and as Curley's wife wears "ostrich feathers" and has "red lips" George immediately assumes that she is "no good" and ~~says~~ tells Lennie to stay away or she'll "get them into trouble".

Curley's wife can also be used ~~to~~ to highlight the American Dream; she ~~dreamt~~ ^{had} the dream of being an actress: "I was gonna be an actress", but her dream was broken. The theme of broken dreams

runs throughout the novella and links to how hard it really was to get by in 1930s America.

Curley has a "glove full of vaseline" which he says "keeps his hand soft" for his wife. However, there are suggestions to the reader that Curley often visits "Clark's cat house" which shows that he is unfaithful. This re-instates how lowly women were looked at during the 1930s. Steinbeck uses Curley's wife to show that men thought of women as more of a possession than a person. Curley's wife is constantly seen moving round the ranch asking if anyone has "seen my husband" though when you read and look at the subtext, she does not really want to find him, she is just lonely like many women ^{living} ~~during~~ in America at this time.

The fact that Curley's wife is never given a name shows ~~that~~ how sexist American society was. She is looked down on so much that Steinbeck ~~thought~~ didn't even give her a name. This is because women were right at the bottom of the social hierarchy along with blacks and disabled people. When she is left at the ranch with Hennie, Candy and Crooks, she makes the point of saying that they left all the "weak ones behind" and although she doesn't intend to be, she ~~is~~ is included as one of the characters.

at the bottom of society. Although, she does have some authority which she shows when saying she could have Crooks "strung up and ~~lynched~~ lynched" although this power is only given because she is married to Curley; if she was not married to him then she would have no power at all.

At the end of the novella when Curley's wife is killed, her death is very quick and barely talked about. She "flopped like a fish" and then "she was dead" but although she had just been killed, when her body is found by ^{Candy} ~~the men~~ and George, the first thing Candy does is shout abuse at the body saying it was "all her fault." In addition, when Curley sees the body, he goes relatively unfazed that his wife is dead which shows how little he actually cared and how low she was to him and society. Instead, he is determined to get revenge on Lennie, not because he killed his wife, but because he wants to show who ~~he~~ was in charge and also because Lennie "crushed his hand."

Curley's wife is the main reason as to why George must shoot Lennie in the ~~final~~ final scenes of the book. ~~This~~ Steinbeck does this to show the reader just how destructive women were ~~seen as~~ seen as. The foreboding tone of ~~the~~ George when he first meets Curley's wife and

Warrs Lennie to "stay away" shows that he always knew that she would be bad for them. This shows that men were very stereotypical when it came to women ~~in~~ in 1930s America.

~~Steinbeck uses the character~~

In conclusion, Steinbeck uses the ^{character} ~~character~~ of Curley's wife to demonstrate the sexist way it was in America during the 1930s. He highlights the fact that women were at the bottom of the social hierarchy and very looked down upon.

6) Both poems have the main theme of death. The first poem (All is Well) is written in 1st person from the perspective of someone who has passed away ^{talking to a loved one} whereas the second poem (04/01/07) is from the perspective of someone who has lost ~~someone~~ ^{their mother} although is still in 1st person.

The poem 'All is Well' suggests that death is unimportant and that it should not matter; death is merely something which happens and nothing can be done about it so don't be sad about it. The line "Death is nothing" highlights the fact that the writer believes that death is not anything to fear or worry about. Holland brushes the death off as simply "slipping" into the next room" so never really leaving. He says that nothing changes with death: "I am I" and that ~~a~~ everything stays the same "you are you".

This poem has a positive outlook on death and says that life will and should just carry on the same way as before saying that things should stay "familiar". They ask that they are still spoken to in the "easy way" which was always used. This makes the reader that although they are gone, nothing must change and life should go on the way it would ~~with~~ with them.

Holland asks for "no forced sorrow" meaning that ~~he~~ he doesn't want the loved one to

feel too solemn and sad about his passing but to "laugh as we always laughed". This makes the reader feel better about the loss. He asks for his name to be spoken "without the trace of shadow" which suggests that he wishes to only be thought and spoken about positively; ~~only~~ ^{he} only wants the good things to be remembered rather than the bad.

The poet says that "it is the same" which suggests either that he wishes for them to continue acting the same way as they ~~are~~ normally would or that in death, the dead is still happy as he was in life. The line "I am waiting for you" highlights the love between the alive and the dead.

The final line, and the name of the poem, "all is well" finalises the idea that even through death everything is okay. It shows that he ~~is okay~~ ^{is well}, that he wants his loved ones to be ~~okay~~ ^{well} and that everything around them is well.

The poem '04/07/07' differs from the first as it shows a far more negative and almost sinister look on death. Whereas the first poem is calm, Ian McMillan says that "the telephone shatters" the night's dark glass" meaning that from the very beginning of the poem, the reader is on edge as the calm silence is already broken. The second poem says it "takes a life to pass" which is the opposite to the "somewhere

very near" described in the first poem. The line creates tension for the reader as it seems as if the poet has had to wait for a long time. Similarly to the first poem, the line "I feel you there" suggests that the dead are still with us and remain very close to the living.

McMillan refrains from saying what has actually happened until the last few lines; he says "gives me the news" but does not actually give any ~~det~~ detail as to what the news is. This leaves the reader in suspense as they want to know what has happened. This is different to the first poem which immediately tells the reader that the poem is about death: "death is nothing". The way McMillan refrains from saying that someone has died is very effective as it makes the reader think and wonder. The idea that just outside the window there is a "milk float" suggests that although the writer has been given this awful news, there is still a sense of ~~no~~ normality.

The third stanza of the poem describes how broken the death of their mother has made the writer. The "tears" which slap on the writer's "torn face" shows the reader to what extent the bad news is. This description of how upset the writer is differs from the first poem where Holland

continuously says that they should not feel "solemnity or sorrow". The line "I rub my eyes" could mean that McMillan is rubbing his eyes to wipe away his tears or that he is rubbing his eyes in an attempt to rid himself of ~~the~~ what has just happened as if he could just wake up from the bad dream.

Death is shown to be extremely destructive in the second poem as the poet is "trapped inside that empty space". This is a clear difference from the first poem which tries to convince the reader that "death is nothing" and that it shouldn't change anything. ~~The~~ Being "trapped" in an "empty space" could also suggest that the writer feels very alone which creates sympathy from the reader. The reader finally finds out what the news is when McMillan says "when your mother dies" which prove that the poem is about someone's death.

The line "the story ends just here" suggests that ^{the} death ~~is the end~~ of a mother is the end and that nothing will ever be the same again. This contrasts with the first poem which says "it is ~~still~~ ^{the} same" and suggests that death is not the end and does not change anything. The idea of the story ending makes the reader feel sympathetic for the ~~poet~~ writer. "The stream dried up" suggests that the writer has cried so much that they can not cry anymore.

for the loss of their mother. The final ^{phrase} ~~sentence~~ of "the smashed glass clear" links back to the opening line of the telephone shattering the "night's dark glass". This cyclical structure suggests to the reader that the moment that the phone call was taken everything stopped and a constant cycle of that night will continue to play on inside the poet's head.

The poem 'All Is Well' shows death in a positive light. It says that death is not the end and that life should continue even after the loss of a loved one. ^{Holland says} ~~throughout~~ that "it is the same" and that nothing changes. The second poem '04/01/07' contrasts with this and shows death as the end. It says that after ~~the~~ losing someone nothing is the same. ~~after that~~.