

Animal Farm

By George Orwell

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[Read by Ralph Cosham]

This astonishing allegory, one of the most scathing satires in literary history, remains as fresh and relevant as the day it was published. -- George Orwell's classic satire of the Russian Revolution has become an intimate part of our contemporary culture, with its treatment of democratic, fascist, and socialist ideals through an animal fable. The animals of Mr. Jones' Manor Farm are overworked, mistreated, and desperately seeking a reprieve. In their quest to create an idyllic society where justice and equality reign, the animals of Manor Farm revolt against their human rulers, establishing the democratic Animal Farm under the credo, "All Animals Are Created Equal." Out of their cleverness, the pigs -- Napoleon, Squealer, and Snowball -- emerge as leaders of the new community. In a development of insidious familiarity, the pigs begin to assume ever greater amounts of power, while other animals, especially the faithful horse Boxer, assume more of the work. The climax of the story is the brutal betrayal of Boxer, when totalitarian rule is reestablished with the bloodstained postscript to the founding slogan: "But Some Animals Are More Equal than Others."

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Animal Farm By George Orwell Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Since its publication in 1946, George Orwell's fable of a workers' revolution gone wrong has rivaled Hemingway's The Old Man and the Sea as the Shortest Serious Novel It's OK to Write a Book Report About. (The latter is three pages longer and less fun to read.) Fueled by Orwell's intense disillusionment with Soviet Communism, Animal Farm is a nearly perfect piece of writing, both an engaging story and an allegory that actually works. When the downtrodden beasts of Manor Farm oust their drunken human master and take over management of the land, all are awash in collectivist zeal. Everyone willingly works overtime, productivity soars, and for one brief, glorious season, every belly is full. The animals' Seven Commandment credo is painted in big white letters on the barn. All animals are equal. No animal shall drink alcohol, wear clothes, sleep in a bed, or kill a fellow four-footed creature. Those that go upon four legs or wings are friends and the two-legged are, by definition, the enemy. Too soon, however, the pigs, who have styled themselves leaders by virtue of their intelligence, succumb to the temptations of privilege and power. "We pigs are brainworkers. The whole management and organisation of the farm depend on us. Day and night, we are watching over your welfare. It is for your sake that we drink that milk and eat those apples." While this swinish brotherhood sells out the revolution, cynically editing the Seven Commandments to excuse their violence and greed, the common animals are once again left hungry and exhausted, no better off than in the days when humans ran the farm. Satire Animal Farm may be, but it's a stony reader who remains unmoved when the stalwart workhorse, Boxer, having given his all to his comrades, is sold to the glue factory to buy booze for the pigs. Orwell's view of Communism is bleak indeed, but given the history of the Russian people since 1917, his pessimism has an air of prophecy. -- Joyce Thompson

From Library Journal

This 50th-anniversary commemorative edition of Orwell's masterpiece is lavishly illustrated by Ralph Steadman. In addition, it contains Orwell's proposed introduction to the English-language version as well as his preface to the Ukrainian text. Though all editions of Animal Farm are equal, this one is more equal than others.

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Review

"A wise, compassionate, and illuminating fable of our times . . . The steadiness and lucidity of Orwell's merciless wit are reminiscent of Anatole France and even of Swift." --*New York Times Book Review*

"*Animal Farm* is a nearly perfect piece of writing, both an engaging story and an allegory that actually works." --Amazon.com, editorial review

"A modern day fable, with modern implications in a deceiving simplicity . . . Orwell's animals exist in their own right, with a narrative as individual as it is apt in political parody." --*Kirkus Reviews*

"Absolutely first-rate . . . comparable to Voltaire and Swift." -- New Yorker

"There is a timeless, even transcendent quality to this little story." -- Christopher Hitchens, *New York Times* bestselling author

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Terry Tyrrell:

Book is to be different for every grade. Book for children until adult are different content. As it is known to us that book is very important normally. The book Animal Farm was making you to know about other information and of course you can take more information. It is very advantages for you. The reserve Animal Farm is not only giving you far more new information but also for being your friend when you really feel bored. You can spend your personal spend time to read your reserve. Try to make relationship using the book Animal Farm. You never sense lose out for everything in the event you read some books.

Erik Garcia:

Your reading sixth sense will not betray an individual, why because this Animal Farm publication written by well-known writer who knows well how to make book which can be understand by anyone who have read the book. Written inside good manner for you, dripping every ideas and creating skill only for eliminate your own personal hunger then you still skepticism Animal Farm as good book not simply by the cover but also by the content. This is one publication that can break don't evaluate book by its handle, so do you still needing another sixth sense to pick this specific!? Oh come on your looking at sixth sense already told you so why you have to listening to yet another sixth sense.

Alisa Gordon:

Is it an individual who having spare time and then spend it whole day simply by watching television programs or just lying on the bed? Do you need something new? This Animal Farm can be the response, oh how comes? The new book you know. You are and so out of date, spending your free time by reading in this new era is common not a nerd activity. So what these publications have than the others?

Julie Gibson:

What is your hobby? Have you heard which question when you got college students? We believe that that concern was given by teacher on their students. Many kinds of hobby, Everyone has different hobby. Therefore you know that little person like reading or as looking at become their hobby. You need to know that reading is very important as well as book as to be the point. Book is important thing to provide you knowledge, except your teacher or lecturer. You get good news or update about something by book. Amount types of books that can you choose to use be your object. One of them is actually Animal Farm.

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