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Mrs Jordan

English 3

23 February 2024

Animal Farm

A book I chose to read was the animal farm by George Orwell published on August 17, 1945. The story is about a group of farm animals who rebel against their human farmer, hoping to create a society where the animals can be equal, free, and happy.

The story begins with the animals of the Manor Farm gathering and listening to Old Major, a pig, give a speech about how the humans are oppressing the animals. He tells the other animals that he hopes for freedom, and he teaches them the song "Beasts of England." This inspires the animals on the farm to plan a rebellion. Old Major is a prize-winning boar. Old Major tells them of a dream he has in which all animals live together with no human beings to control them. He tells the animals that they must work for their happy future. The animals reacted happy and excited to Major's vision. Three nights later after the meeting Major dies. Three younger pigs, Snowball, Napoleon, and Squealer formulate his main point into a philosophy called animalism. Late one night the animals battle the farmer Mr. Jones and they manage to defeat him. Mr. Jones no longer owns the land and the animals rename the property Animal Farm and dedicate themselves to achieving Major's dream. The cart horse Boxer devotes himself to the cause with particular zeal, committing his great strength to the prosperity of the farm and adopting as a personal maxim the affirmation "I will work harder." At first the farm prospers, Snowball works at teaching the animals to read, and Napoleon takes a group of young puppies to educate them on animalism. When Mr. Jones comes back to reclaim the farm. And yet again the animals win the battle.

As time passes, Napoleon and Snowball increasingly criticize over the future of the and they begin to struggle with each other for power among the other animals. The farm has a meeting and

vote if they should build an electricity generating windmill, but Napoleon opposes the plan. At the meeting to vote on whether to take on the project, Snowball gives a speech. Napoleon assumes leadership of the animal farm and declares there are no more meetings. From that point on he asserts, the pigs alone will make all of the decisions for the good of every animal. At this point Napoleon quickly changes his mind about the windmill and the animals, especially the boxer, put an effort into completing it. Later on Mr Frederick, a neighboring farmer, cheats Napoleon in the purchase of some timber and then attacks the farm and dynamites of the windmill. This causes a battle which leaves the boxer with many wounds. When the animals rout the farmers out, Boxer barely survives but is still left very weak from the wounds. One day Boxer is nowhere to be found. Squealer claims Boxer has died in peace after being taken to the hospital. In actuality Napoleon has sold his most loyal and long suffering worker to a glue maker in order to get money for whiskey.

Years pass on animal farms, and the pigs become more and more like human beings walking upright, carrying whips, and wearing clothes. All the principles of animalism became reduced to one principle, all animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others." Napoleon entertains a human farmer named Mr. Pilkington at a dinner and declares his intent to ally himself with the human farmers against the laboring classes of both human and animal communities. He also changes the name of the animal farm back to the Manor Farm. Looking in at the party of the elites through the farmhouse window, the common animals can no longer tell which are the pigs and which are the human beings.

Overall, this story has an economic meaning. Under Mr. Jones ruled, Manor Farms' economic system most closely resembles capitalism. Animalism in animal farms is symbolic of communism. It was written as an allegory, or a symbolic story, to the Russian revolution which began in 1917 and resulted in a communist government and dictatorship.