

## Window of Truth-Animal Farm

Without the rights to directly protest against dictatorship, George Orwell wrote the book Animal Farm, a satirical novel speaking against totalitarianism, revealing the truth of the government during the Bolshevik Revolution. In the novel, the stereotypes of each animal metaphorically describes his or her position in society. At the end of the novel, the animals peer into a window of the pigs playing poker with their neighbor, human, farmers, going against all the amendments they have set in the government earlier in the story. By replacing the roles of each people with specific farm animals, Orwell communicates a clear message to readers that when the political situation is greatly influenced by the negative nature of human, it's the responsibility of the suppressed to rebel the corrupted government.

Obvious exaggerations, but accurate, examples of human nature show through the animals on the farm (mostly the pigs), however, the epitome of greed and manipulation was revealed at the very last scene of the story. Poker, one of the greatest known games of gambling, is the final game the pigs play at the end of the story, in which they play with the humans, known to be greedy to the farm animals. At last, as the animals look in the window once more to see the meeting of the two species, they realize during an argument (even though the pigs and humans had just been giving a friendly toast to one another) caused during the gambling, that they could no longer tell pig apart from human. Although in the story, it means that the animals have had been brought back into the ultimate dictation, for the *reader*, it's meant to show that humans have become pigs, stereotyped as greedy and lazy.

Adding on the rotten nature of the pigs (humans), Orwell's goal was to additionally show how human nature often turned government corrupt. The toast that was given by both the neighboring farmers and the pigs educated the animals, and readers, about the real political power that the pigs possessed throughout the entire novel, in which their true goals became clear. Although the pigs, in the beginning of the novel, created the seven Amendments to make the farm equal, because they were never questioned, or power was never withheld from them, these amendments had no real meaning. Unless, power is divided cautiously in government, the authority has all control, including making the public believe they live under democracy. By including this insight into the novel, Orwell enlightened the readers who were citizens of that time of the type of government that controlled them. Despite the common animals' effort for a utopia in the beginning, the final poker scene revealed how the nature of the pigs led them to gain all power, in which the pigs were confident the situation was deemed too late for the farm animals to peacefully protest against such.

After the whole story bringing out the truth of corruption, propaganda, and trickery of government, Orwell simply ends with the pigs playing poker, rather ending it with a rebellion of the animals, leaving the reader on a sort of cliff hanger that guides their questions. Once the scene at last ends, a question is meant to reverberate through the reader's head: "What will the animals do?" Because the story had been written in a time period where Orwell lived under dictation, by the end of the story, the readers are meant

to become the animals peering through the window at the “poker” game, meaning the answer to the question is their own decision. Orwell had written the story in such a way that he hoped the reader’s answer would be “I will rebel” or “I will work to change the government.” (Something along the lines of that.) However, because the ending seemed to almost be like the middle of the story, the real answer pondered becomes determined through reality. So although the answer to the question “Will the common animals rebel after peering into the mirror of truth?” let’s the reader decided the next event, the story is meant to make the answer “yes.”

Orwell had written this book for the corrupted time he lived in, but such stories still, and will always, have purpose, for they force someone to question whether their government has gone into corruption. While some may find negative themes to the story, its honesty allows reflection and resolve. Novels like this not only warn about politics, but situations in everyday life in which power and control are at stake. Even though Orwell had written basically exactly what had happened to the system of control, citizens couldn’t realize the ridiculousness of it until hearing in the form of animals, a common theme for children’s tales. Animal Farm was not meant to please the reader, but rather to make them think a little.