Name

Professor name

Subject

Date

Mice and men

Steinbeck in “Mice and Men” and Maupassant in “Was it a Dream” portray the themes of dreams and its significance in one’s life. Steinbeck has focused on the American dream which is exhibited in desires of freedom and better work. Dream in Maupassant’s story is linked to the personal lives of people. The man dreams for going back to the place in Paris where he spent time with his wife before her death.

Steinbeck expresses the dream of common people such as those living on ranches. The author states, “guys like us that work on ranches, are the loneliest guys in the world” (Steinbeck). The feelings of the author reveal that every person has a desire of getting a better life with the hope of finding good work (Topham). Such feelings are connected to the themes of the American dream. Maupassant’s dream is reflected as the longing of a man for connecting to his dead wife. The author mentions, “my heart contracted as the foreboding of some essential truth touched me with fight fingers” (Maupassant).

Themes of dreams are visible throughout the stories as different characters share their desires. Wife of Curley in the story exhibits the dream for becoming a star. Her dream acts, for her, as a hope in life. Dream is apparent as the author says, “gonna get a little place an' live on the fatta the lan” (Steinbeck). Maupassant used similar themes of dream for expressing the grievances of the characters. He mentions, “of all the gods ever put on the crucifix, this was the most ravishing” (Maupassant).

The analysis of “Mice and Men” depicts that even the simple dreams are unachievable. The dreams of George for improving his life seems to become unrealistic by the end of novel. Maupassant in “Was it a Dream” also uses dreams as an escape for overcoming grief and loss. Dreams in both stories are unattainable.

**Works Cited**

Lombardi, Esther. 'The Necklace' Study Guide . 2019. 22 01 2020 <https://www.thoughtco.com/the-necklace-short-story-740855>.

Topham, James. Review of John Steinbeck's 'Of Mice and Men' . 2019. 22 01 2020 <https://www.thoughtco.com/of-mice-and-men-review-740940>.