A symbolism analysis on John Steinbeck work “Of Mice and Men”

Background

John Steinbeck was born in Salinas, California on February 27th. He is a famous writer who always takes Salinas as the setting of his work. It is happened because Steinbeck lives in condition which claim people to survive. Salinas Valley can be said as an agriculture places. It becomes a plantation for American people and sometimes become a place for labors. In his literary works he tries to criticize life in America. As we know there was a bad moment for America when Great Depression occured. Of Mice and Man is one of popular works of Jonh Steinbeck which open our eyes to come back into the past time and see how people fight their own life to be survive. ((From Nobel Lectures, Literature 1901-1967, Editor Horst Frenz, Elsevier Publishing Company, Amsterdam, 1969

Steinbeck is an expert in Symbolism. He uses symbol to criticize and express the reality in his life through the society. If we learn about Steinbeck’s symbols we can find the real life and the society which happened in that condition. His symbols in his works symbolize himself as a socialist who concern in society. Through the novel Of Mice and Men, we can find many symbols such as George and Lennie’s Farm symbolize American dream. In the Great Depression situation, there must be hard situation for many people to have a better life. This symbol represents almost all people in America. Then in his work Of Mice and Men, he also symbolized migrant worker as Lenny and George. The name Lennie Small itself also symbolize something inside of the character. The character has no match name with the Lennie’s body because he has huge body while the name is Lennie Small. Those are some symbols which illustrated by John Steinbeck in his works which has a deal to criticize the society in the time. (http://litcharts.com/lit/ofmiceandmen/symbols)