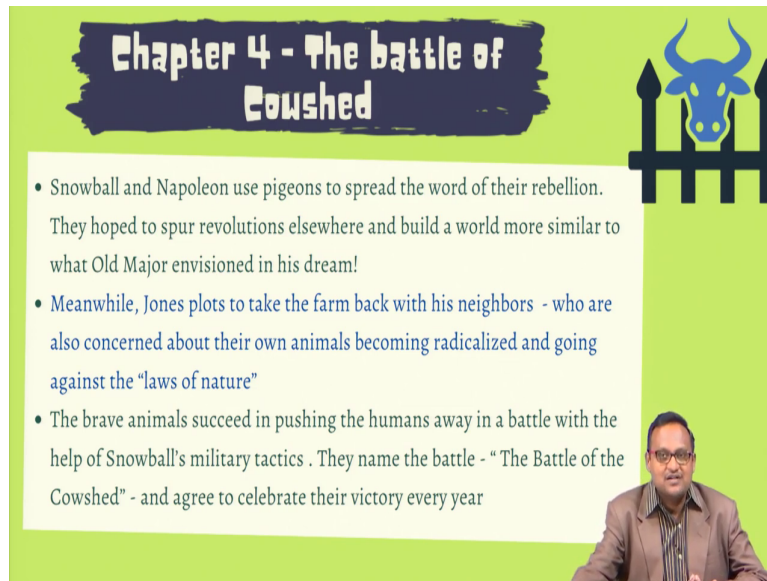


Elements of Literature and Creative Communication
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Lecture - 39
Animal Farm - 2

Hi, welcome again to our discussion of *Animal Farm*. Before we proceed with the novel, let us quickly recall what we did in the previous class. We began with an introduction to the writer George Orwell and how he has India connections and how his extensive travels in India and South Asia shaped the writer in him and his experiences as a police officer in Burma too shaped the writer in him. And, of course, we discussed his political ideologies and how he had a kind of pathological opposition to totalitarianism in principle and in practice and how his novels and how his essays and how he himself through his various journalistic ventures supports democratic systems. Because he believed in democracy as a political tool that when backed by the right political ideology had the capacity to treat all its citizens in an equal way - that was his political belief. And, we also understood the philosophical roots of *Animal Farm* and we discussed how some of the notable illustrious predecessors of George Orwell employed fables and allegories in some extraordinary ways to critique the society they lived in. And, how *Animal Farm* is shaped by the ethos of all the predecessors all his predecessors. In fact, one of the notable exceptions I mean in one of the notable contributions is also from Kipling's *Jungle Book* which played a major role in shaping this particular work. And we discussed the novel in terms of its political ideology, we also discussed the novel in terms of its critical reception and we introduced all the major characters that appear in the novel, of course, we had a detailed discussion of *Animal Farm*, especially the first three chapters. So, now in this class let us continue our discussion of the text from chapter 4 onwards. It has just 10 chapters. That is the reason why I have been asking you to read it you may be able to complete reading this novel in about let us say 2 hours it would not take even 2 hours. So, please read this novel in case you have not read it so far. Of course, it is never too late. Please read it. I am sure you will enjoy it all the more.

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Chapter 4 - The battle of Cowshed

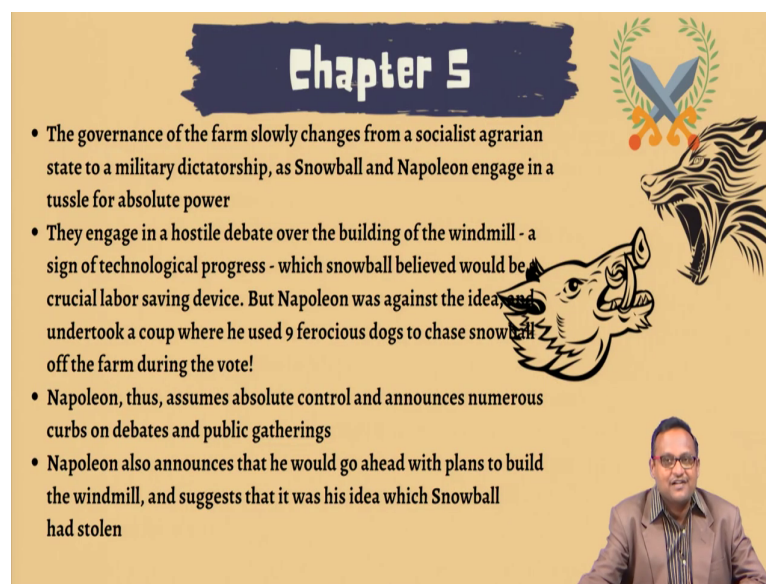
- Snowball and Napoleon use pigeons to spread the word of their rebellion. They hoped to spur revolutions elsewhere and build a world more similar to what Old Major envisioned in his dream!
- Meanwhile, Jones plots to take the farm back with his neighbors - who are also concerned about their own animals becoming radicalized and going against the "laws of nature"
- The brave animals succeed in pushing the humans away in a battle with the help of Snowball's military tactics. They name the battle - "The Battle of the Cowshed" - and agree to celebrate their victory every year

Yeah, let us resume our discussion of Animal Farm with chapter 4. Till chapter 3 what has happened is in chapter 1 there was a dream the Old Major dreamt of establishing an animal farm based on the principles of equality and freedom. And in chapter 2 without their actually realizing it revolution is already there, of course, they have been preparing for this revolution for quite some time after the death of the Major under the leadership of Snowball and Napoleon, all the farm animals are picking up literacy. They are trying to learn to read and write and they have been singing their anthem beasts of England and there is a kind of renewed camaraderie with each other. And, of course, in the meanwhile, they have also begun calling each other comrade in order to indicate that all of them are equal they begin calling each other comrade. And now with the expulsion of Mr Jones they set up their own farm now, now they turn it from earlier it was called the Manor farm and now they rename it to animal farm. And the doctrine that governed it comes to be called animalism, which is best exemplified in their seven commandments. Brilliant commandments, unfortunately, many animals find it difficult to learn all the seven commandments. Therefore, what Snowball does is he reduces the seven commandments into two and through the propaganda of squealer they come to say that the new abridged constitution is as good as the unabridged one and what is this abridged constitution. Now, it states "two legs bad four legs good", right? So, of course, many animals and especially birds protest because they think they are not represented whereas, squealer convinces them that even their wings are considered legs.

And of course, for any sensible reader here you can see a huge jump from the high ideals of the seven commandments to just this reduced commandment reduced new commandment. So, all the nuances are lost all the lofty ideals with which the seven commandments were crafted are diluted unfortunately they do not realize it and all the animals because now that Jones has been driven away now they want to work hard. Especially Boxer whose personal motto is to work hard I will work harder that is his personal motto. And, they work together and with the help of the pigs and with renewed camaraderie and companionship they are able to turn that particular season's harvest into a bumper harvest. So, they are very happy. So, now that the control of the animal farm is in the hands of these animals now what happens they are not just I mean they are not happy with the revolution in their on their particular farm. They also want this revolution to spread to the neighbouring farms. Therefore, Snowball and Napoleon employ pigeons to spread the word of their rebellion so that even the neighbouring farms even there many animals are still under the tyranny under the oppression of human beings. So, maybe taking the leaf out of this particular model they too can revolt against it. So, they want to now make it a new norm make a new norm. So, in order to realize the Old Major's dream of getting, I mean ridding the whole earth of humans beings and getting rid of the earth of all human beings because they represent tyranny and oppression they begin spreading the word. And, meanwhile, what has happened Jones has been driven out of his own farm he takes refuge in the neighbour's farm and now all of them are plotting. Now, they are worried because this may set a bad precedent because so for all the right reasons the farm owners of the neighbouring farmlands are absolutely worried. So, now, what concerns them is this kind of radicalizing. They call it radicalizing of the animals and they think it is against nature they consider it they are going against the laws of nature. They want now they want to take control. So, Mr Jones, takes the help of his fellow human beings and now comes back they come with all their weapons and now they come back to take control of the animal farm. And again pigeons and other birds help them caution them about an impending war. So, now even all the animals on the farm are also ready. In fact, Snowball and Napoleon have already, in fact, they have prepared the ground for a good batter right. So, now, when the human beings attack them of course, there are some casualties on both sides, but with the cooperation of all the animals and all the birds they succeed once again in driving all the human beings out of the animal farm, right. So, it is a battle that takes place between human beings and the animals with a lot of difficulties, of course, the animals succeed and they come to call this event the Battle of the Cowshed and agree to celebrate their victory every year. In fact, you can find a rich allusion to the October Revolution here

ok historically speaking. So, you can also of course, shades of historical fiction here you would not be wrong if you can spot shades of historical fiction here because of course, it has thick references to historical events, alright. So, this is chapter 4 and 5. So, therefore, every I mean it happens in October it is called October Revolution and that is why they want to celebrate it every year because it marks the beginning of their independence ok. So, this is the Battle of Cowshed.

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Chapter 5

- The governance of the farm slowly changes from a socialist agrarian state to a military dictatorship, as Snowball and Napoleon engage in a tussle for absolute power
- They engage in a hostile debate over the building of the windmill - a sign of technological progress - which snowball believed would be a crucial labor saving device. But Napoleon was against the idea and undertook a coup where he used 9 ferocious dogs to chase snowball off the farm during the vote!
- Napoleon, thus, assumes absolute control and announces numerous curbs on debates and public gatherings
- Napoleon also announces that he would go ahead with plans to build the windmill, and suggests that it was his idea which Snowball had stolen

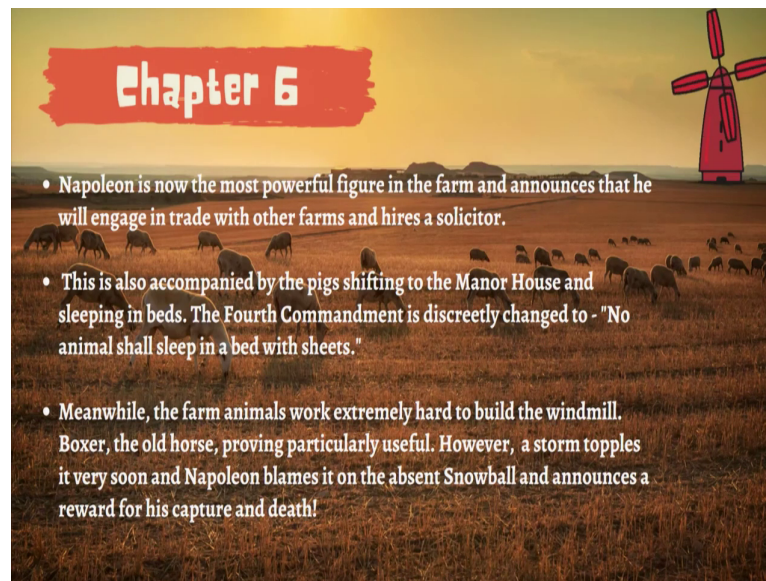
Now, chapter 5 is very very interesting for very many significant reasons because again if you look at the plot structure we studied Freytag's pyramid. So, you need a point of climax. So, chapter 5 in this particular novel achieves that purpose now the rising action in the novel reaches a pinnacle point in chapter 5. So, what happens here animals are not happy because they have realized that pigs in the name of doing all the hard work, in fact, are not doing hard work. What they are doing now they have begun consuming solely milk and apples, they are not distributing them to all the other animals. And, when somebody questions, so, squealer convinces them pigs have to do all the mental work and you do not know how difficult it is to think our intellection requires lot of milk and lot of apples, therefore, we have to eat it. And, obviously, you do not want Mr Jones to come back right. So, they use Mr. Jones as a kind of threat to scare animals and now they consolidate their position.

pigs have consolidated all the power and now almost begin exploiting animals. Some animals begin sensing it, but of course, now with the help of the propaganda leader in the pig,

they succeed in dousing the flame of a dissent among the animals. But, throughout there has been a tug of war between two major pigs two major leaders Napoleon and Snowball; of course, we have already identified that Snowball historically speaking represents Trotsky and Napoleon, of course, stands for Stalin. So, there was a tug of war tussle for power between the two of them after the demise of Lenin. So, here too there is a tug of war. There is always been a tug of war and Snowball comparatively is a visionary, in fact, he has some plans. So, actually, he has plans to set up a windmill on the animal farm because he believes that the windmill is capable of generating electricity. As a result of electricity of course, here windmill symbolises industrial revolution ok you can understand that, right. So, he believes that this windmill is capable of generating electricity, and as a result that they would be able to make all the hard work a bit easier. So, that is his vision. But, Napoleon senses that if Snowball is allowed to have his way, then he might take control of the entire animal farm. Therefore, what he is doing he is secretly grudging nursing a grudge against Snowball and in the meanwhile what has happened you have the dogs right you are introduced to dogs in the very beginning. So, now, they give birth to a couple of puppies 6 to 8 puppies. Now, very cleverly in one of the earlier chapters, you find Napoleon taking away those pups and now he is taking care of them in a separate place. So, he has an ulterior motive. So, now, as a result of that of course, nowhere does what happens in chapter 5, the tension in the conflict between Snowball and Napoleon intensifies. Now, there is a debate. Now, Snowball has as I said Snowball wants to set up a windmill on the farm whereas, Napoleon opposes it. Now, in order to consolidate his position Snowball has convened a meeting ok Snowball has convened a meeting and there he wants all the animals to vote according to their conscience. And, if all of them want the windmill to be set up he would set up the windmill with their cooperation and if they do not want it like Napoleon does not want it, then he would listen to it. That is the plan. But, now Napoleon is very wicked. He senses the upper hand that Snowball has already gained, and remember between the two of them Snowball is a visionary and he is gifted he has this gift of gab, he has extraordinary rhetoric skills and he can give wonderful speeches. And Napoleon senses that probably Snowball is going to win the majority. So, now when the votes are about to be cast Napoleon gives some kind of a call as a result of which before the first animal is about to cast his or her vote all of a sudden grown up, tall, well-built dogs come out and circle around Napoleon and stare menacingly at the animals, especially at Snowball. So, now you can find the connection, right. Now, what has happened while Snowball is busy chalking out his vision, delivering speeches, consolidating his base among the rest of the animals. Napoleon is shrewdly consolidating an army, a secret

army with the help of which he wants to snatch power away from Snowball. So, at his command, now they just jump on to Snowball and Snowball I mean just manages to save his kin and runs out of the farm as fast as he can. So, now, like Mr Jones, Snowball too has been evicted from the animal farm and with no opposition to Napoleon now Napoleon becomes the sole leader. And, now he also assumes the position and he calls his animal farm a republic and he almost announces himself as the leader of the republic. So, this is the plot line a brief I mean plotline. Now, of course, animals obviously, are not happy, especially Boxer. So, they tried to oh ask him questions and again with the help of his dogs Napoleon almost sheds them. Now, look what has happened all these animals fought against Jones and with a vision, with a dream that under the new regime they would be treated equally. Now, what has happened at least earlier they had freedom of expression because Jones was a careless neighbour he would not mind their talking among themselves. Now, Napoleon is begun imposing a lot of curbs. Now, he says from this point onwards there would be no more debates, there would be no more public gatherings and there would be no more votes. Then how are the decisions taken? The decisions from this point in time would be taken by the select few pigs right a select few pigs. So, now, consolidation of power has happened absolutely now it is in the hands of pigs not all of them, but Napoleon and his followers. Now, squealer plays a major role in convincing animals to remember squealer stands for the newspaper the powerful newspaper which also acted as a mouthpiece of the Stalinist regime. So, a now after having driven away from a Snowball in this chapter Napoleon famously does a double speak and says that he wants to establish the windmill on the farm. Now, everybody is confused because they thought Napoleon from the word go, did not want the windmill to be there. Now, why is it that all of a sudden there is a volt faze? Volt faze is an abrupt turn a quick turn 180 degree turn. And now, now Napoleon announces he is go going ahead he wants to go ahead with the plan of windmill and now all the animals have to work together in order for this windmill to happen. In fact, you remember right the windmill that was in the previous chapter 2, the windmill had begun they had begun building the windmill under the leadership of snowball. But, during this batter with the human beings, it was destroyed earlier, of course, the storm destroyed it I mean not storm the human beings destroyed it and now once again now he says you need to establish the windmill. So, these are you can already see the changed scenario you can already see the changed scenario in the animal farm ok.

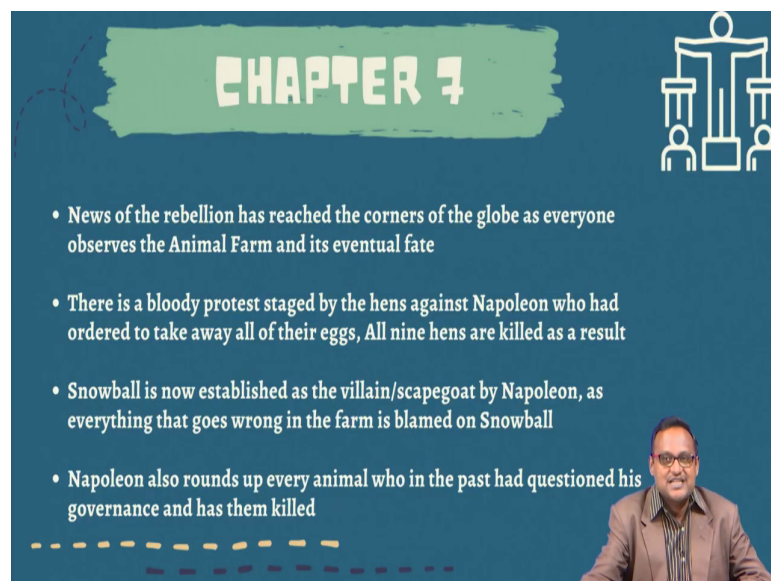
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Yeah, in chapter 6 again the work on the windmill begins in a full swing. Now, animals really find it very very difficult. Now, remember, earlier they just had to do whatever little bit they did because human beings too tilled the land though they assisted animals as assisted, of course, their load of work was not as much as it is now. Nevertheless, Boxer is oblivious to all this. He says I trust Napoleon. Napoleon is our great leader and I want to work harder. The indifference of again the working class towards the double-speak of their leaders and how misplaced trust leads to disastrous consequences there. Now, Napoleon has emerged as the most powerful figure and now what happens in chapter 6. Now, remember I mean all these chapters subsequently from chapter 5 onwards what you see all the noble seven commandments that you had read in chapter 2 now they are they go on undergoing transformations. They undergo transformations or what happens is there is an amendment to the constitution you can say. Now, these commandments undergo a radical change. Now, earlier they said they had nothing to do with human beings no truck with human beings, no business with human beings. Now, Napoleon famously declares that if they shut off human beings they will not be able to run the farm in a profitable way. Therefore, in order to sell some of their farm produce, he wants to engage a human being as a solicitor. Therefore, he hires a human being who coordinates a transaction between the neighbouring human beings and animals of this particular farm. and again some people try to oppose it again. So, anybody who tries to oppose he employs his trusted dogs and the dogs tear them to pieces. As a result of this many animals have been they die Napoleon kills the animals that even try to


differ from whatever he speaks. So, now imagine if dissent is disobedience in most of these totalitarian regimes for dictators dissent becomes disobedience. And that is why they are intolerant of the idea that a differing idea difference becomes disobedience dissent becomes disobedience. So, any act of disobedience they will treat him treat such things in a very merciless way. So, animals are being slaughtered here and gradually no animal shall kill other animals that particular you remember that commandment right then it is been amended as no animal shall kill other animals without a cause without a proper cause something like that.

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CHAPTER 7

- News of the rebellion has reached the corners of the globe as everyone observes the Animal Farm and its eventual fate
- There is a bloody protest staged by the hens against Napoleon who had ordered to take away all of their eggs, All nine hens are killed as a result
- Snowball is now established as the villain/scapegoat by Napoleon, as everything that goes wrong in the farm is blamed on Snowball
- Napoleon also rounds up every animal who in the past had questioned his governance and has them killed



So, all these things undergo radical transformation it is a sad state of affairs that has begun. So, now, from chapter 6 and 7 onwards the falling action begins. Now, there is a, in fact, there are some animals here in chapter 7 what happens there is a growing descent murmurs of unhappiness is growing because now animals are doing more work and getting less food. Why are they getting less food despite having a good harvest now, Napoleon is selling the harvest produce the farm produce to the neighbouring farms, getting money from there. So, as a result of it, animals here are not getting enough food. Unfortunately, how does Napoleon convinces them? Using squealer, using some statistics. Now, squealer convinces animals. Now, you do not remember now look at I have statistics here. According to our statistics you are getting more food now than you used to get. Of course, statistics can be manipulated. It is called alternating facts statistics famously, of course, George Orwell termed statistics as alternate facts. So, of course, this is a euphemistic term for lies, right. So, a gradual spread of lies takes place as a result of which anybody who opposes gets killed. Now, Napoleon rounds

up every other animal who he thinks has some kind of allegiance to Snowball and also murders all of them. Now, look at it from it is like you can say there is a proverb. You jump from pan to fire, right you jump from pan to fire. Now, this is precisely what has happened in their eagerness to escape that to tell it escape the tyranny of Mr Jones, now, all these animals have fallen under the dictatorship of Napoleon who proves to be more cruel and more insensitive than Mr Jones, right. So, that is a sad state of affair.

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CHAPTER 8

- The executions and sudden disappearances in the farm keep increasing as Napoleon changes the Sixth commandment to -
"No animal shall kill any other animal without cause"
- The new windmill is named 'Napoleon Windmill' as the farm brings in a lot of harvest, but the animals still starve.
- Napoleon's trade with the humans turns sour and end up in a bloody battle where the farm suffers a lot of casualties. But the humans are driven out yet again, and Napoleon takes all the credit and promises to commemorate this day every year
- Napoleon also discovers Jones' whisky cellar and develops a liking for alcohol. The fifth commandment is then changed to -
"No animal shall drink alcohol to excess."

So, let us go ahead and discuss chapter 8 and again as I said the commandments undergo a radical change, now the new commandment reads or the amended constitution of animal farm reads no animal shall kill any other animal without cause that is how he justifies his killing. And, in the meanwhile what has happened? Remember, they had in fact, out of the seven commandments, four dealt with not doing anything with human beings. No wearing clothes, no drinking alcohol, no sleeping in the bed, no business with human beings and all that.

Now, animals the rest of the animals find out that now pigs which represent the ruling elite now they have begun sleeping on the mattresses, the beds and when somebody questions squealer takes them to where the amended rule says that no animal shall use a bed with bedsheet something like that. he said of course, we can use beds, especially for our intellectual work we pigs need to use them, otherwise, we become weak and when we become weak Jones will come back.

More than Jones, now they are whipping up snow Snowball. In fact, now Snowball has become a traitor. So, they want to use Snowball now Snowball has been turned into a traitor. Now, look Snowball played a major role in the revolution. Now, under the propaganda regime, now they have turned it they have tuned the past into saying that know actually Snowball was a traitor all along he fought along with Jones and therefore, nobody should even think of Snowball. So, this is how all commandments get changed. Now, when somebody says that pigs are drinking alcohol and it is against the constitutionzand again you find the constitution amended no animal shall drink alcohol to excess. That means alcohol consumption is allowed especially that is required for pigs to survive and sustain something like that.

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COMRADE NAPOLEON

A new anthem is adopted ..



Friend of fatherless!	Thou art the giver of
Fountain of happiness!	All that thy creatures love,
Lord of the swill-bucket!	Full belly twice a day, clean
Oh, how my soul is on	straw to roll upon;
Fire when I gaze at thy	Every beast big and small
Calm and commanding eye,	Sleeps at peace in his stall,
Like the sun in the sky,	Thou watchest over all,
Comrade Napoleon!	Comrade Napoleon! [...]

So, look how gradually all of them and in the meanwhile when some animals want to sing the old anthem Beasts of England, it says that Napoleon has banned that old anthem because now that anthem talked of revolution. Now, what is the need for revolution? Now, that we have set up our own regime, there is no need for revolution. Therefore, that anthem is replaced with comrade Napoleon extolling the virtues of Napoleon and all that . So, this is total destruction of the ideal what more how worse can it get.

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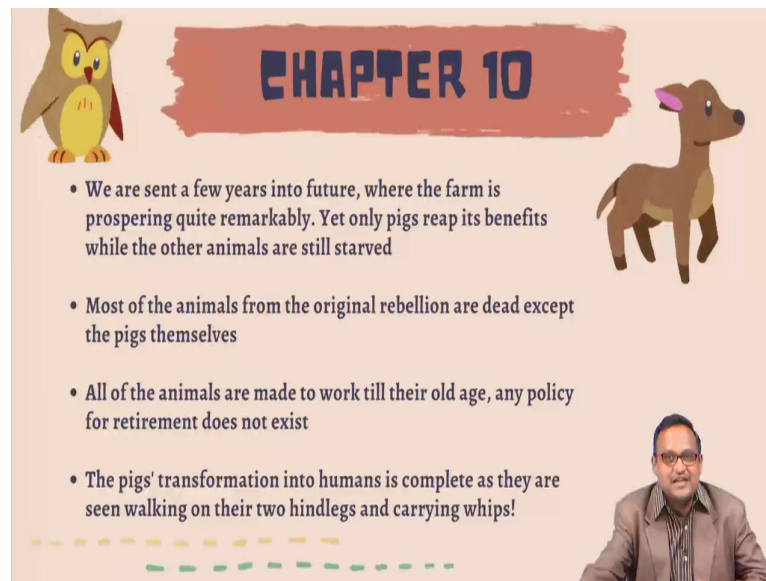
CHAPTER 9

- Animal Farm is now a 'Republic' and Napoleon is self-elected president!
- This coincides with Napoleon fathering 31 piglets. He orders to have a school built for their education while the rest of the animals in the farm are kept starving
- Boxer, the tireless horse, now takes charge of building the new windmill but eventually collapses out of exhaustion and other ailments. However, Napoleon sends him to be slaughtered and not to a retirement home that Boxer was naively expecting
- Squealer uses manipulation and rhetoric to convince the other animals that Boxer is safe and at the vet recovering from his ailments



Now, in chapter 9 of course, the final nail to the coffin has been hit because here is what happens. Napoleon announces himself as the president self-elected president. Of course, there is nobody to contest against him that and Boxer all along who had supported Napoleon, now he is he grows weak and some I mean one day while working he falls sick. And, Napoleon announces that he would be taken to a hospital and taken good care of. Now, what happens when the van comes to pick up Boxer who is no longer there the animals discover especially Benjamin the donkey, and other animals discover that the van bears the name it is a slaughterhouse that is a van that belongs to the slaughterhouse. Now, all animals now look at it Boxer if there was one animal who was sincere who was dedicated honest and loyal towards Napoleon, you could not find anybody better than Boxer. Now, even Boxer during his old age is not taken care of rather than helping him with retirement benefits which all of them had agreed, now he is being sent to a glue house or a slaughter house. But, again squealer has been sent and squealer manipulates the whole thing in such a way that now the hospital actually had bought the vehicle that belonged to the slaughterhouse. They forgot to repaint it, that is all. Otherwise he was taken to a hospital. Unfortunately, he could not recover doctors tried a lot to revive him, but he succumbed to injuries or he dies I mean he was no longer. But, he keeps praising he kept praising Napoleon even towards the end that is how squealer uses even the memory of the hard working guy Boxer to tame the other animals. So, this is the story.

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CHAPTER 10

- We are sent a few years into future, where the farm is prospering quite remarkably. Yet only pigs reap its benefits while the other animals are still starved
- Most of the animals from the original rebellion are dead except the pigs themselves
- All of the animals are made to work till their old age, any policy for retirement does not exist
- The pigs' transformation into humans is complete as they are seen walking on their two hindlegs and carrying whips!

Now, this oppression continues in chapter 10 of course, it is the conclusion of what happens here. In chapter 10 of course, we are sent to the future it is been a few years now and unfortunately, the oppression has continued, but nobody now recalls even their earlier revolution. Now, the surrender they are they have totally surrendered to the new regime, new doctrine which is more authoritarian, which is more cruel which is more dictatorial and which is worse than the administration governance they had at one point in time. And, now the final as I said the last nail in the coffin comes when Napoleon famously declares that he is inviting some human beings to his farm and now they are trying to become friends. , now all the animals are aghast because they thought now human beings are at least not allowed. Now, they realize that human beings have been allowed inside the animal farm. And now, a bouquet I sorry a banquet has been hosted in their honour and pigs and human beings are sitting on a table and are eating and drinking, merrymaking and all that. Now, other animals are really aghast and they are at a loss in the meanwhile the pigs they have learnt to walk on just two legs. So, and now accordingly the last amendment says now earlier it said that four legs good, two legs bad. Now, the revised amendment says four legs good two legs better. now, this is very very unfortunate.

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Lilies that fester smell far worse than weeds!

And How it All Ends!

- The narrative ends with the perplexing sight of the pigs, now owners of a highly profitable enterprise, wining and dining with their 'fellow' humans as the animals look on through the window -

"The creatures outside looked from pig to man, and from man to pig, and from pig to man again; but already it was impossible to say which was which."

- The initial motto of the rebellion is changed to :-
"Four Legs Good, Two Legs Better!"



And, there is one final thing which is “all animals are equal”, right now the final amendment to that also happened. Now, it says “All animals are equal, but a few animals are more equal than the others.” What a fall from the great ideal what a fall from the great ideal. Well, you have heard of Shakespeare who in one of his sonnets remarks, Lilies that fester smell far worse than weeds, right. Lilies are beautiful flowers they smell so beautifully too they look so beautiful, but when they fester when they start decaying they smell far worse than weeds. So, a great ideal an extraordinary vision, a noble dream when it turns sore, becomes more oppressive, crueller and more despotic more despotic. So, this is the final picture. This is how it happens. So, these things should give you an idea about what an animal farm is all about. Of course, we highlighted important things for a better understanding of these things you need to read the novel. Nothing can replace reading a novel ok. So, in the next class, we take up how it can be critically read, how we can apply some of the elements of fiction, some of the techniques, and narrative techniques we learnt in the previous class to this novel and see how we can analyze it alright. Thank you see you in the next class.