

John Steinbeck: Of Mice And Men (1992, Regie: Gary Sinise; 106 min.) Szenen- bzw. Kapitelübersicht der DVD (insgesamt 16)			
Die Seitenzahlen in der rechten Spalte beziehen sich auf die ungekürzte Textausgabe des Klett-Verlages, Bestell Nr. ISBN 3-12-578500-6 (Hrsg. K.D.Gross). <i>Kursiv gedruckte Sätze</i> kennzeichnen wörtliche Übernahmen des Romantextes im Film.		DVD-Zählwerk	Buchseite (Klett-Ausgabe)
1	Credits.	0:00:00	
The film begins inside a moving boxcar, in which the flickering light dimly reveals a man hunched over. (It is only at the end of the film that we realize that what we are seeing is George travelling alone after killing Lennie). The credits are shown on the interior boxcar walls.			
	On the run: Escape from Weed		
The camera cuts to a screaming woman in a torn red dress. She is running over a field towards a group of working men. With guns in their hands and on horseback the men start chasing somebody. Evidently they are trying to get hold of Lennie and George who are running away in a different direction. The two jump into a brook, walk upstream, so that the dogs cannot trace them, hide in the undergrowth in the water and watch their pursuers disappear. Then they hear a train in the distance; they start running again and catch the passing freight train. [So far, apart from some shouts like „Come on!“ hardly any words have been spoken]. They are exhausted. It is night, the moon is in the sky and the train disappears in the distance. George: <i>Lay down, get some rest.</i>			p.11
2	In Town and on the bus	07:52	p. 9
George and Lennie walk down main street and board a Greyhound bus that is supposed to take them to a ranch near Soledad. The bus driver makes them get off in Soledad. Bus driver: <i>The ranch is down the road just a stretch.</i>			[9, 19]
	The walk to the ranch		p.10
The bus driver has told them a lie: it is a very long walk to the ranch. He passes them on the road but does not stop. George starts swearing: <i>You son-of-a-bitch!</i> Lennie has a dead mouse in his pocket, they have an argument about it, and George throws it away, whereupon Lennie starts crying. George comforts him: <i>I'll get you a puppy ... You can pet him harder.</i>			p.10, 19-38 pp.12, 30-13,25

	The overnight stop by the river		pp.7-15
	The two men come to a clearing on a wooded riverbank where a path ends up at a deep, green pool. Lennie drinks thirstily from it and George warns him that the water may not be fresh. George suggests that they stay at this place for one night. Then there is an argument about the evening meal. They have canned beans only, but Lennie wants ketchup with the beans. George: <i>Whatever we ain't got that's what you want.</i> He accuses Lennie of being a burden on him and always getting him in trouble. <i>If I was alone I could live so easy ... You get in trouble and do bad things.</i> Lennie offers to go away, alone: <i>I could go find a cave in them hills;</i> but George tells him that he wants him to stay.		p.7 p.12 p.14, 18 p.14, 29 p.15, 24
3	At the campfire	17:18	pp.16-18
	Lennie fetches some wood and they light a campfire. Then he asks George to tell him about the rabbits. <i>Tell me like you done before ...</i> Telling what is clearly a familiar story, George describes to Lennie how one day, unlike other ranch hands, the two of them will have a little place of their own. <i>Guys like us that work on ranches are the loneliest guys in the world ...</i> George then tells Lennie to come back to the clearing if he gets in trouble again and to use this place as a hideaway. They lie down to sleep under the open sky.		pp.12+14 p.16,5 p.16,12 p.17,28 p.17,28 p.18
4	On the road again and arrival at Tyler ranch	21:20	pp.21-22
	The next morning they walk another couple of miles and arrive at the ranch to which they have been sent by an employment agency. Candy, the swamper, an old farmhand, takes them to the boss and tells them that the latter is angry because they didn't turn up for work that morning. George offers an excuse for this. The boss, who continues with his meal while talking to George and Lennie, becomes suspicious of the fact that George is doing all the talking. <i>What you selling?</i> George tells him that Lennie is not bright and therefore not much of a talker, but that he is a <i>damn good worker, and strong as a bull.</i>		p.19 p.21,10 p.22,12f. p.21,34
5	At the bunk-house	25:36	pp.25-28
	Candy shows Lennie and George which bunks to take in the bunkhouse, the sleeping quarter at the ranch. George complains that the bunk-house is not clean but Candy denies it. Curly, the son of the boss, enters: <i>See my old man?</i> Catching sight of Lennie, he becomes aggressive and tries to make him talk. <i>Curley is like a lot of little guys, he hates big guys.</i> Lennie informs the two newcomers that Curley is an experienced boxer. George tells Lennie to try to avoid him; but if he gets into any kind of trouble, to go back to the clearing by the river.		p.19,12-31 p.24,6 p.25,5f p.25,1f p.28,12
	The first encounter with Curley's Wife	30:42	pp.28-29

	Curley's Wife appears in the bunk-house, saying that she is looking for her husband. Lennie thinks that she is pretty but George does not like the way she talks to them. After she has gone he gives Lennie a fierce warning to stay away from her. <i>She is a rat-trap.</i>		p.28,24 p.29,30
6	Lunch in front of the farm house	31:20	pp.30-32
	During lunch, which is taking place at long tables outside the farm house, George and Lennie meet Slim, the jerkline skinner. He is the leader of one of the work teams, and he is very friendly. When another man, Carlson, joins them, it comes out in conversation that Slim's bitch has just had puppies. Lennie, who loves puppies, gets very excited about that. Carlson complains about the smell from Candy's old dog and suggests that the old man should shoot his dog and take one of Slim's puppies.		[p.30,15] introduced in different context [p.31,21ff] p.31,29 p.32,3
	Work in the fields and a puppy for Lennie		p.33
	With horses and wagons the men leave for the fields. Slim and George watch Lennie <i>who is working like a bull</i> . He can carry a sack of wheat easily by himself, whereas others have problems doing that job in pairs. Later the men return to the farm again [A scene without words, just background music]. George asks Slim for a puppy for Lennie and then the two watch him petting it in the barn. When the men are working in the fields again , Curley asks Slim whether Lennie is a good worker.		p.33,26-29
7	The second encounter with Curley's Wife	37:09	
	Slim says he is and then tells George to take a mule with a sore foot back to the farm. While all the men are in the fields and George is in the barn just with the mule, Curley's Wife comes in and tries to draw him into a conversation. She is obviously very much interested in the handsome young man. <i>Can I help? . . I could take a nap right here ... Are you from far away? ... Did you ever have a sweetheart?</i> Suddenly Curley bursts in, and a little bit later the black ranch-hand. Curley is jealous and mad at George. Furiously, he sends his wife back to the house. Curley's Wife: <i>You don't own me Curley!</i>		
	Night on the farm		p.36
	There is a full moon over the farm house. George and Slim are sitting in the bunk-house, and Lennie passes by trying to hide a white puppy under his overall. Undeceived, George sends him to the barn to take the puppy back to its mother. Slim: <i>Jesus, he is just like a kid, ain't he?</i>		p.36,14-26 p.36,34
8	The killing of Candy's dog	43:17	pp.37-39
	In the bunk-house, Carlson, Slim and George are relaxing and playing cards when Candy comes in with his old dog.		

<p>Carlson starts complaining about the smell from the dog again. He claims that it would be kinder to the dog to shoot it now rather than let it linger on. But Candy is reluctant to take this decision. <i>I couldn't do that, I had him too long: I herded sheep with him.</i> The discussion is interrupted by the entrance of another ranch hand who is anxious to show them a letter to the editor in a magazine. Carlson presses Candy to agree to the shooting of the dog and produces his Luger pistol in readiness. <i>If you want me to I'll put that old dog out of his misery right now.</i> Eventually, Candy agrees, miserably. Slim tries to comfort Candy: <i>You can have any of them pups you want.</i> Carlson leaves the room with the dog and after a while a shot is heard. Candy, who is lying on his bunk bed, starts sobbing silently when he hears the shot. [background music]</p>		<p>p.37,13</p> <p>p.37,35f</p> <p>pp.38,16-39,9</p> <p>p.38,7 p.40,26 p.40,29</p>
---	--	---

9	The life story of George and Lennie	49:08	pp.34-36
	<p>[Hard cut] In the field, Lennie is working like a bull again. Others, though they admire that, complain: <i>I cannot keep up with that guy, he'll kill me</i> . Slim assigns another man to team up with Lennie for a while. Then, in a private conversation, George tells Slim why he and Lennie are together. He started taking care of him after Lennie's Aunt Clara died. At first George used to play jokes on him. <i>He was too dumb even to know he had a joke played on him He'd do any damn thing I told him.</i> Lennie nearly drowned after George had told him to jump into the Sacramento River . When Lennie even thanked him for pulling him out, George stopped playing jokes on him. Slim and George agree <i>Lennie is a nice fella and he ain't mean.</i> George also tells Slim why he and Lennie had to run away from their previous working place at Weed. Their private conversation is interrupted by the boss who sends them back to work.</p>		<p>[p.34,1-22] introduced in different context</p> <p>p.34,27-29</p> <p>pp.35,1+36,6</p>
10	Curley the boxer	53:15	pp.43-44
	<p>In a short scene Curley can be seen hitting a punching ball in front of the house like a madman. Then he goes into the bunk-house trying to find his wife. He suspects she might be in the barn together with Slim and rushes out again.</p>		<p>p.43,27</p>
	At the bunk-house: The little place and the rabbits		pp.45-49

<p>While playing cards in the bunk-house Lennie asks George why both ends on the cards are the same. George, tired of Lennies's stupid questions, wishes he had nothing to do with him and would rather do something else: <i>Give me a good whorehouse ...</i> When, however, Lennie asks him to tell him about their little place (<i>How long's it gonna be till we get that little place and live on the fatta the land?</i>) he describes in detail the farm they hope to get someday. Lennie wants to know exactly how he, Lennie, will care for the rabbits they will keep. When Candy joins the conversation (<i>You know a place like this?</i>) George is suspicious at first but listens quietly to Candy's proposal that he should contribute his savings and join in the scheme. After doing some calculations, George realizes that their dream may now be within their grasp. Greatly excited the three decide to leave the ranch after a month; but George cautions them against telling anyone of their plans. Candy adds sadly that he should have shot the dog himself.</p>		<p>p.45,19-20</p> <p>p.47,7f</p> <p>p.49,3</p>
<p>The fight: Curley - Lennie</p>		<p>pp.49-51</p>
<p>Slim returns to the bunk-house, accompanied by Curley and Carlson and another ranch hand. When Slim warns Curley to leave him alone, Curley looks around for someone to vent his rage on. He picks on Lennie who is reluctant to fight back. But, urged on by George, he seizes Curley's hand and crushes it, which finishes the fight. Before Curley is taken away to a doctor, Slim makes him promise not to tell anyone that it was Lennie who hurt his hand: <i>You got your hand caught in a machine.</i> George reassures Lennie (<i>Do I still get to tend them rabbits?</i>) that he is not in trouble this time: <i>You ain't done nothing wrong.</i> George carefully cleans Lennie's bleeding face.</p>		<p>p.49,5</p> <p>p.51,2f</p> <p>p.51,28</p> <p>p.51,29</p>
<p>After the fight</p>		<p>p.60</p>
<p>Back in the field, Lennie and George are approached by Curley's Wife who asks what happened to her husband's hand. Lennie keeps saying: <i>He got his hand caught in the machine.</i> Inconvinced, she notices the bruises on Lennie's face and works out that it was he who hurt Curley. The men return to the farm and George leaves Lennie in the barn where he starts petting his puppy. Then George goes to town with the other men.</p>		
<p>11 Lennie and Crooks</p>	<p>1:08:12</p>	<p>pp.51-57</p>

<p>Crooks, the stable buck, has his living quarter in the back of the harness room. While George and all the others are in town on Saturday night, Lennie comes to this room and, unsuccessfully at first, tries to make friends with Crooks. After explaining that the others have gone into town and that he, Lennie, has been looking at the pups in the stable, Crooks softens a little and tells his visitor to sit down. In conversation, Lennie lets slip the secret of their little place . Crooks reacts by mocking Lennie's friendship with George. When, however, he mentions the possibility of George's not coming back, Lennie advances threateningly on him. He is slightly placated by Crook's explanation that loneliness lies behind his mockery: <i>A guy gets nuts if he ain't got nobody</i>. Crooks continues to cast scorn on Lennie's and George's dream of land of their own. Then George appears and takes Lennie out of Crooks' room.</p>		p.56,15
The third encounter with Curley's Wife		
<p>On their way back to the bunk-house, Lennie and George are approached by Curley's Wife. <i>Did you see Curley in town?</i> She tells them that Curley got mad at her and broke all her records. She also says that she knows how Curley got his hand busted and how Lennie got the bruises in his face. When the two avoid talking to her she has a nervous breakdown and starts crying: <i>Some day I am going into town and no one is ever going to see me again, not Curley, not his old man, not a damn one of you bindle-stiffs</i>. She runs back into the house and leaves the two wondering why she is crying. [hard cut] It is a sunny and peaceful Sunday afternoon and most of the ranch hands are playing horseshoes in front of the farmhouse. Meanwhile, in the bunk-house, George tells Candy that he has finished the letter to the old couple that own their dream farm. Candy suggests to send the money right away. In the barn,</p>		
12 The horseshoe tournament	1:17:38	pp.63-64
<p>Lennie is looking sorrowfully at the white puppy, which he has just killed by accident.</p>		p.63 p.64,6-34

	The fatal encounter in the barn: Lennie and Curley's Wife		pp.63-69
	<p>While, in a pleasant and happy atmosphere, the horseshoe tournament is still in progress outside and Lennie, in the barn, is worried that George will punish him because of the dead puppy, Curley's Wife all of a sudden appears beside him and tries to draw him into a conversation. Although Lennie attempts to avoid talking to her, she wins him over by sympathizing about the puppy's death: <i>Don't you worry none, you can get another one easy.</i> Going on to talk about her earlier life, she expresses resentment over lost hopes and opportunities. <i>He said he was gonna put me in the movies. Says I was a natural ...</i> She also confesses that she does not like Curley: <i>He ain't a nice fellow.</i> The conversation turns to Lennie's dream farm and rabbits. Lennie explains that he likes rabbits because they are soft to touch. Curley's Wife then invites him to feel her hair but, when his hand is heavy on her head, she gets angry and screams, <i>Let go, let go!</i> In a panic, Lennie tries to silence her but, when she continues to scream, he shakes her angrily. This breaks her neck. Frightened at what he has done (<i>I done a really bad thing!</i>), Lennie remembers what George said about going back to the clearing. A pigeon that all of a sudden starts flying around in the barn scares him.</p>		<p>p.64,6-34 p.64,35</p> <p>p.66,26f</p> <p>p.68,14</p> <p>p.68,38 p.69,6</p>
13	The disclosure of the death of Curley's Wife	1:27:06	pp.69-73
	<p>Lennie leaves the barn and runs away to that hiding place. When Candy comes into the barn he discovers the dead body. He leaves again, quickly, and - in a communication without words, just by looks - he informs George who is outside with the other men. Then he returns to the barn with George, who immediately realizes how Curley's Wife has met her death. The two men discuss what is to be done. George decides that the other men must be told what has happened; but he asks Candy to give him a few minutes' start before the news is broken. <i>I ain't let them hurt Lennie.</i></p>		p.69,31
	The man hunt		pp.72-73

<p>Candy fetches the other men and Curley, after finding a cap next to the dead body, immediately identifies Lennie as the killer. He and the other men run to get their shotguns. Carlson finds out that his Luger pistol has been stolen and assumes that Lennie has taken it. Curley vows that he <i>will kill that son-of-a-bitch himself</i>. George who has meanwhile returned, watches the scene, full of sorrow. When, secretly, Slim asks him whether Lennie could have done that, George nods. Slim says that it would not be good for Lennie if they locked him up, indicating by his words that death might be a better solution. Led by Curley and Slim, and accompanied by blood-hounds, the man-hunting party splits up in two groups. They are on horseback and there is shouting and barking and yelling all over the place when they hurry away. Candy asks George what he is planning to do. <i>Find Lennie before they do</i>, is his answer. In great haste he runs in the direction of the clearing where he thinks Lennie will be hiding.</p>		71,39
--	--	-------

15	George's and Lennie's final meeting	1:37:08	pp.73-78
<p><i>George, ain't you going to give me hell like you done before? - No, I ain't mad, I ain't never been mad at you.</i> Puzzled that George does not seem angry with him, Lennie encourages him to tell the familiar stories about the two of them. <i>Tell me like you done before 'bout them other guys and 'bout us.</i> George asks Lennie to turn his head and look across the river while he tells him how things will be. <i>We gonna get a little place ... we'll have a cow ... a little piece alfalfa for the rabbits ...</i> Lennie, who knows George's story by heart, joins him in telling the end. When he says <i>I get to tend the rabbits</i> George takes Carlson's Luger pistol out of his pocket, shoots him in the back of the head. While the distant voices come nearer and nearer he kneels down by the side of his dead friend, sobbing silently.</p>			<p>p.78,6f</p> <p>p.77,25-28</p> <p>p.77,30</p>
Leaving on a train			
<p>The noise of an approaching train can be heard and the picture of George and Lennie fades out while a new picture - George, in sorrowful thoughts, leaving on a train - fades in.</p>			
Days gone by		1:43:00	
<p>In a flashback, George sees pictures of the past: He is working in the fields with Lennie and then the two of them walk out of the picture, side by side, and Lennie, affectionately, touches George.</p>			
16	Credits	1:43:43	