

## Eleventh Lecture

### Chapter Four

*Every day Snowball and Napoleon sent out flights of pigeons whose instructions were to mingle with the animals on neighbouring farms, tell them the story of the Rebellion, and teach them the tune of 'Beasts of England'.*

who was interested in exporting the revolution to other nations?

A- all animals

B- Boxer and Clover

C- Snowball and Napoleon

Snowball and Napoleon are sending pigeons (symbol of peace) to neighbouring farms and beyond, to tell the animals about the rebellion. News of the rebellion has spread to the surrounding countries. The farmers at first pretend not to be troubled about the rebellion, believing that the animals cannot possibly make a success of the farm. But as time passes the farmers become more and more troubled, and their animals become more and more emboldened. The tune of Beasts of England is now known by nearly every animal in the county. Nevertheless, they were both thoroughly frightened by the rebellion on Animal Farm, and very anxious to prevent their own animals from learning too much about it. At first they pretended to laugh to scorn the idea of animals managing a farm for themselves. The whole thing would be over in a fortnight, they said. They put it about that the animals on the Manor Farm (they insisted on calling it the Manor Farm; they would not tolerate the name "Animal Farm") were perpetually fighting among themselves and were also rapidly starving to death.

Mr. Pilkington - Owner of Foxwood (Leader of England). He doesn't represent one person in particular, but rather is a composite of all of the leaders of England.

Mr. Frederick - Owner of Pinchfield (Leader of Germany). Frederick is a composite of the leaders of Germany. However, throughout most of the book, Frederick is a representation of Hitler.

### Question

♣ *Foxwood and Pinchfield are the two farms affected by the revolution on Animal Farm.*

*Foxwood stands for*

(England- Germany- Russia)

♣ *Pinchfield stands for*

(England- Germany- Russia)

♣ How do leaders of neighbouring farms first deal with the Revolution on Animal Farm?

- They pretend to laugh to scorn the idea of animals managing a farm for themselves
- They begin fighting those animals at once
- They do nothing
- We have no idea from the novel.

♣ The same thing happened in Russia. Leaders of the Revolution sent messengers to some European countries to motivate people there towards revolutions.

♣ This of course troubled the governments of those countries a lot.

♣ Communism spread all over the world in this way. It reached George Orwell's England in this manner.

♣ It was not a welcome movement at first, and that is why Orwell could not publish *Animal Farm* until 1945.

♣ *Have all animals agreed to exporting the revolution to other countries?*

• No

• Only pigs decided that. They have never consulted with animals on this issue.

• They wanted to achieve glory for themselves only.

• Again this is a sign that the revolution will not last long.

The farmers try to spread lies about torture and slavery on Animal Farm, but the animals of the county do not believe them. They whistle the tune and sing the words of Beasts of England, though they risk terrible beatings by doing so. More and more stories are heard of individual animals disobeying and in some cases attacking their human masters.

*The word farmers here means:*

♣ Neighboring governments

♣ Real farmers everywhere

♣ Farmers who worked on Animal Farm

♣ Farmers in Africa

One day in October, Jones, all his men, and half a dozen others from the neighbouring farms, attack Animal Farm. They walk up the laneway through the main gate. They are all armed with sticks except for Jones, who carries a gun. The animals, however, are well prepared. After an initial skirmish where the pigeons and geese attack the humans, Snowball attacks them, supported by Benjamin, Muriel and all the sheep. The men repulse this attack with their sticks, and Snowball sounds the retreat. They fall back to the farmyard, pursued by the men, who think that they have triumphed. However, they have walked into a trap.

As soon as the men are in the farmyard, a number of the larger animals emerge from the shed behind them, and cut off their retreat. Snowball's group now attacks again. Snowball charges at Jones. Jones fires a shot at Snowball and wounds him, but this is not enough to prevent Snowball from crashing into him and sending him tumbling to the ground, the gun flying out of his hand in the process. Now Boxer joins the attack, rearing up on his hind legs and striking viciously with his hooved forelegs. Boxer strikes one of the men on the skull, apparently killing him. At the sight of this, the other men run for their lives, back down the laneway and out the gate. The invasion is over.

*There was not an animal on the farm that did not take vengeance on them after his own fashion. (but where is Napoleon?)*

In the post-battle excitement, Boxer is extremely remorseful for killing the man, while the animals suddenly realise that Mollie is missing. They search the farm, and find her hiding in a corner. She fled the battle as soon as the gun went off. They return to the farmyard to find that the man was only stunned, and has since recovered and escaped. The animals celebrate their victory. The flag is raised, Beasts of England is sung. A medal for "Animal Hero, First Class" is created and awarded to Snowball. A medal for "Animal Hero, Second Class" is created, and awarded to a sheep that died when Jones fired his gun. They decide to keep the gun and place it at the bottom of the flagstaff, to be fired each year on the anniversaries of the rebellion, and of the battle.

"He is dead," said Boxer sorrowfully. "I had no intention of doing that. I forgot that I was wearing iron shoes. Who will believe that I did not do this on purpose?"

"No sentimentality, comrade!" cried Snowball from whose wounds the blood was still dripping.

"War is war. The only good human being is a dead one."

*See the differences between pigs and other animals?*

- Pigs like to boast about their own achievement as in Snowball rewarding himself with a medal “Animal Hero, First Class” and giving the sheep a lesser one: “Animal Hero, Second Class”.
- Most pigs have not participated in the battle. They only lead towards it and it is only normal animals who fight.
- Boxer is so kind. He does not bear the sight of blood or the idea that he might have killed somebody.
- Pigs on the other hand have no problem at all in shedding blood.
- Mollie as expected escapes such important scenes. Like real aristocratic people in Russia, she cares only for her comfort and pleasures. There was much discussion as to what the battle should be called. In the end, it was named the Battle of the Cowshed, since that was where the ambush had been sprung. Mr. Jones's gun had been found lying in the mud, and it was known that there was a supply of cartridges in the farmhouse. It was decided to set the gun up at the foot of the Flagstaff, like a piece of artillery, and to fire it twice a year--once on October the twelfth, the anniversary of the Battle of the Cowshed, and once on Midsummer Day, the anniversary of the Rebellion.

#### Question

- ♣What is the name of the battle between animals and neighbouring farms?
- Manor farm battle
- Animal farm battle
- The Battle of the Cowshed
- The Battle of Germany