

THE BODECIA BOOK CLUB BOOK REVIEW

Animal Farm by George Orwell

Picking up this classic to start off book club, as we haven't met for a while, we thought we would start with a British classic. Little, did a few of us know, that weaved as genius throughout the pages was a darker story and each character had a role to play in history!

It is like a fairy story, along the lines of Hans Anderson and the brothers Grimm. Deep! Animal Farm is anything but a fairy story. Sick and tired of maltreatment under their enslavement from us - man, the animals of Manor Farm revolt. Released from all their chains, there is but one key rule: All animals are equal. Yet, as the story progresses we soon see some animals are more equal than others!

As it is considered a classic, those of us who had not read it were expecting somewhat of a hard read and lots of long and thoughtful prose! We were very surprised ... it was an easy read with a uncomplicated simple style. Another revelation that most of us didn't know was that Orwell uses the turmoil faced on the farm by the animals as a metaphor for the Russian Revolution itself.

Don't let this put you off reading it though, you can still really enjoy this book without realising the undertones and references. If you are however, studying history and the story of Russia in particular then you will pick up which animals represents which Russian figure. Here are our observations –

- Major is Stalin himself
- Boxer represents the peasants/workers, eventually they are sent to the knackers yard!
- Dogs represent the KGB
- Moses represents religion, he left for a while but came back, Major didn't argue with Moses as it have the workers something to believe in

We enjoyed this book, we liked the style of writing, it was easy to read. It showed how a people's fight for freedom can so quickly morph into a power play as chaos ensues.

We gave Animal Farm by George Orwell an **OK**.

Some other titles by George Orwell include:

- 1984 (1949)
- The Road to Wigan Pier (1937)

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