Of Mice and Men

Soundtrack Project

Using what we have read, complete the following project. Your task is to choose songs that match with the scenes and characters from *Of Mice and Men*. You are essentially creating a soundtrack for the book based on scenes and characters. Things to consider when choosing songs: lyrics, music style, tempo/speed, mood portrayed, etc. Once you have chosen your songs you will need to write a one-paragraph explanation for each of your decisions. For your final product, you will be required to submit a typed final draft with your song choices and paragraphs with proper citation formatting.

\*Bonus points will be awarded if you make a playlist of your songs and send me the link.

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**Part 1**

Give theme songs to the following characters:

* Candy
* Crooks
* Curley
* Curley’s Wife
* George
* Lennie
* Slim

Example:

John Proctor

“Don’t Stand So Close To Me” by The Police

The song “Don’t Stand So Close To Me” by the Police is about a girl that has a crush on an older man. Such lyrics as, “She wants him so badly/ Knows what she wants to be/ Inside her there’s longing/ This girls an open page/ Book marking – she’s so close now/ This girl is half his age” and “Temptation, frustration/ So bad it makes him cry” go along perfectly with what we have read about John Proctor. John Proctor has had an affair with Abigail Williams, one of the teenage girls in the town of Salem, Massachusetts at the time of the witch trials. Throughout the book he has an inner struggle with himself over what is right and wrong and what the consequences of his actions will be in the long run. In the end John decides to do what is right and confess to what he has done. This is a lot like the actions that the older man takes in the chorus when he tells the girl, “Don’t Stand So Close To Me”.

**Part 2**

Give a soundtrack song to each of the following scenes from the book:

* Preparing to go work on the farm
* Daydreaming of the farm they are going to buy themselves
* Killing of Candy’s dog
* Curley picking a fight with Lennie
* Lennie hanging out with Crooks
* Lennie and the dead puppy
* Lennie kills Curley’s wife
* Angry mob
* George kills Lennie

Example:

Scene – the hanging of the townspeople

“Mad World” by Gary Jules

The final scene in The Crucible involves some of the townspeople going to the gallows and being hanged as witches even though they are most likely innocent. The mood of the scene is very somber and sad with a touch of agitation. The music of the song also presents this mood to the listener. It features a solo piano and solo singer for an eerie vibe overall. The lyrics give an observation of sad, exhausted people that have been run down by the everyday problems of life. In a way this song could fit either the perspective of one of the characters at the noose, or one of the characters within the audience.