

Animal Farm  
Part 4.

FADE UP SONG BEASTS OF ENGLAND.

BENJAMIN IN NARRATION: The winter was bitter and cold and all the animals were hungry.

BOXER: (PANTING AND GRUNTING WITH PAIN) I will work harder!

BENJAMIN: If there was any inspiration it was found in Boxer's strength and dedication to pulling up the boulders for the windmill.

BOXER: I will work harder!

BENJAMIN: When Whymper the solicitor came on his weekly visits animals were instructed in the art of disinformation.

SHEEP: BaaaH! Our leader Napoleon's doubled our rations. We never go hungry! Four legs good, two legs bad! Our leader Napoleon's doubled our rations.

BENJAMIN IN NARRATION: Bins were filled with sand and covered up with a thin topping of grain and oatmeal. Most of the time Napoleon didn't bother to show his face on Sunday mornings.

SQUEALER: (SQUEAKING, SQUEALING SOUND AND RAPID THUMPING OF TROTTERS FROM SIDE TO SIDE.) Orders of our supreme leader Comrade Napoleon. The hens will surrender all their eggs. Our enlightened leader Comrade Napoleon has contracted to sell four hundred eggs a week to pay for grain and meal.

HENS: No we won't! No we won't! (CLACKING AND FLAPPING SOUND.)

BENJAMIN IN NARRATION: The hens stupidly..

FLAPPING OF WINGS

flew up to the rafters..

SOUND OF SMASHING EGGS

and dropped their eggs onto the floor.  
Napoleon stopped all their rations.

DOGS GROWLING.

The dogs made sure they didn't get one grain of food and after five days

WHIMPERING HEN NOISE.

they gave in, but nine had died of starvation. Snowball was being blamed for everything. Broken windows. Trampled seed-beds.

SOUND OF HEAVY TROTTERS THUMPING ON THE GROUND. SNUFFING.

Napolean would go on patrols looking for Snowball's scent.

NAPOLEAN: (SNUFF SNUFF!) Snowball!

DOGS BARKING AND GROWLING.

He has been here! I can smell him distinctly.

SQUEALER: (SHRILL SQUEALING AND THUMPING TROTTERS) Comrades! Snowball has sold himself to Frederick of Pinchfield Farm, who is even now plotting to attack us and take our farm away from us. Snowball is to act as his guide when the attack begins. But there is worse than that. We had thought that Snowball's rebellion was caused by his vanity and ambition. But we were wrong comrades! Do you know what the real reason was? Snowball was in league with Jones from the very start! He was Jones's secret agent all the time. To my mind this explains a great deal, comrades. Did we not see for ourselves how he attempted- fortunately without success- to get us defeated and destroyed at the Battle of the Cowshed?

SOUND OF ANIMALS BEING AGHAST, SHOCKED AND SURPRISED.

BOXER: (HORSE SNORTING) Umm! I do not believe that. Snowball..

DOGS GROWLING

fought bravely at the Battle of the Cowshed. I saw him myself. Did we not give him 'Animal hero, first class' immediately afterwards?

SQUEALER: (SKIPPING MORE EARNESTLY) That was our mistake comrade. That was our mistake. For we know now.. it is all written down in the secret documents that we have found.. that in reality he was trying to lure us to our doom

BOXER: But he was wounded. We all saw him running with blood.

SQUEALER: (MORE DESPERATE SQUEALING SOUND) That was part of the arrangement. Jones' shot only grazed him. I could show you this in his own writing if you were able to read it. The plot was for Snowball, at the critical moment, to give the signal for flight and leave the field to the enemy.. and he very nearly succeeded. I will even say, comrades, he would have succeeded if it had not been for our heroic leader, comrade Napoleon. Do you not remember, how just at the moment when Jones and his men had got inside the yard, Snowball suddenly turned and fled, and many animals followed him? And do you not remember too that it was just at that moment, when panic was spreading and all seemed lost, that comrade Napoleon sprang forward with a cry 'Death to Humanity' and sank his teeth in Jones's leg? Surely you remember that comrades. Surely!

BOXER: Ummm! I do not believe that Snowball..

BARKING AND GROWLING

was a traitor at the beginning. What he has done since is different, but I believe that at the Battle of the Cowshed (GAINING IN CONFIDENCE) he was a good comrade!

LOUD APPLAUSE FROM HORSES, COWS, HENS AND PORKERS.

SQUEALER: (NO MORE SQUEAKING. TALKING SLOWLY AND FIRMLY.) Our leader, comrade Napoleon, has stated categorically.. categorically comrade, that Snowball

LOUDER DOG BARKING AND GROWLING.

was Jones's agent from the very beginning- yes.. and from long before the Rebellion was ever thought of!

LOUD CRESCENDO OF BARKING AND GROWLING.

BOXER: Ah! That is different. Umm. If comrade Napoleon says it. It must be right. Napoleon is always right.

SQUEALER: (NOW SQUEALING AND SQUEAKING AGAIN) That's the true spirit comrade! That's the spirit!

BENJAMIN: Four days later Napoleon put in a rare appearance with all his dogs.

SOUND OF PACK OF DOGS FRISKING AND GROWLING.  
THEN SNORTING PIG SOUND AND LOUD WHIMPER.  
LOUD BARKING AND SQUEALING.

CLOVER: Oh my god. They've gone for the porkers. Watch out Boxer!

BOXER: (LOUD YAPPING AND SNAPPING OF DOGS) Oh dear

BENJAMIN IN NARRATION: Three of them went for Boxer..

BOXER: What do you think you're doing. LOUD BOPS. DOG WHIMPERING IN FRIGHT AND THEN DOG SHRIEKING FOR MERCY.

Oh dear. Why did you do that? I could kill you. What shall I do? Comrade Napoleon What shall I do?

NAPOLEAN: Let him go. Let him go!

WHIMPERING HOWLING SOUND OF DOG OFF THE SOUND STAGE.

NAPOLEAN: (AGGRESSIVELY) Comrades we have unmasked the traitors in our midst. These four pigs are agents of Snowball!

LOUD BARKING AND GROWLING.

Confess your crimes!

PORKERS TOGETHER: We porkers have been secretly communicating with the criminal traitor Snowball.. we have been collaborating with him in the destruction of the windmill. Snowball told us he had been Jones's secret agent for several years

SUDDEN LOUD, FRIGHTFUL ATTACK BY THE DOGS AND PIG SQUEALING DIES DOWN.

NAPOLEAN: If any other animal has anything to confess, confess now!

HENS: Snowball appeared to us in a dream and incited us to disobey our leader Comrade Napoleon's orders

SUDDEN, LOUD FRIGHTFUL ATTACK BY THE DOGS AND HEN SOUNDS STOP.

GEESE: We have been secretly stealing six ears of corn and eat them at night!

LOUD FRIGHTFUL ATTACK BY THE DOGS AND GEESE SOUNDS STOP

SHEEP: Baaah! Traitor Snowball directed me to urinate in the drinking pool... We murdered our Leader Napoleon's favourite ram by chasing him round and round a bonfire till he dropped dead..

LOUD FRIGHTFUL ATTACK BY THE DOGS AND THE SHEEP SOUNDS STOP.

BOXER: I do not understand it. I would not have believed that such things could happen on our farm. It must be due to some fault in ourselves. The solution, as I see it, is to work harder. From now onwards I shall get up a full hour earlier in the mornings.

CLOVER: Oh dear. All this killing and the stench of blood. I feel quite faint. This is all a shock. I'm sure it was never meant to be like this.

ECHOING RECOLLECTION OF MAJOR'S SPEECH.

'No animal must ever live in a house, or sleep in a bed, or wear clothes, or drink alcohol, or smoke tobacco, touch money, No animal must ever kill any other animal. All animals are equal.'

CLOVER BEGINS SINGING BEASTS OF ENGLAND AND AS SHE GOES THROUGH THE WORDS ANOTHER ANIMAL JOINS HER AND IT BECOMES SOMETHING OF A LAMENT.

Beasts of England, beasts of Ireland,  
Beasts of every land and clime,  
Hearken to my joyful tidings  
Of the golden future time.

Soon or late the day is coming  
Tyrant man shall be o'er thrown  
and the fruitful fields of England  
Shall be trod by beast alone..

INTERRUPTED BY SQUEALING AND DOG BARKING

SQUEALER: Special decree by our honoured Leader Comrade Napoleon. Beasts of England has been banned. It is forbidden to sing it.

MURIEL: (APPROPRIATE GOAT SOUNDS) Why?

SQUEALER: It is no longer needed, comrade. Beasts of England was the song of Rebellion. But the rebellion is now completed. The executions of the traitors this afternoon was the final act. The enemy both external and internal has been defeated. In 'Beasts of England' we expressed our longing for a better society in days to come. But that society has now been established. Clearly this song has no longer any purpose.

SHEEP BLEATING: Four legs good! Two legs bad! Four legs good! Two legs bad!

CLOVER: Benjy! Benjy! Do us a favour. Read the seventh commandment.

BENJAMIN: Oh no! Oh no! I refuse to meddle in such matters.

CLOVER: Muriel! You have a try. Please. It's important!

MURIEL: 'No animal shall kill any other ani..mal with.. out cau..se?'

BENJAMIN IN NARRATION: Things got a lot worse. What did they expect? A sort of hero worship surrounded Napoleon. They gave him ridiculous titles 'Father of all animals, Terror of Mankind' and many of the animals became indoctrinated..

HEN: Under the guidance of our Leader, Comrade Napoleon, I have laid five eggs in six days.

COWS: Thanks to the leadership of Comrade Napoleon, how excellent this water tastes!

BENJAMIN IN NARRATION: A pig called Minimus composed a silly poem..

MINIMUS: (SPEAKING THE POEM IN THE EXAGGERATED STYLE OF SIR LAURENCE OLIVER PLAYING RICHARD THE THIRD)

Friend of the fatherless!  
Fountain of happiness!  
Lord of the swill-bucket! Oh, how my soul is on  
Fire when I gaze at thy  
Calm and commanding eye  
Like the sun in the sky,  
Comrade Napoleon!

BENJAMIN IN NARRATION: The fat old boar was getting proud and paranoid. Four dogs guarded his bed at night and a young pig had to taste all his food lest it be poisoned!  
Meanwhile the trading with the neighbouring farmers Pilkington and Frederick continued.  
But relations were being established and broken off with confusing speed.

SQUEALER: Death to Frederick! Death to humanity!

BENJAMIN: But then Napoleon announced he was selling a load of timber to pay for the windmill machinery to the hated Frederick.

SQUEALER: Death to Pilkington. Death to humanity!

NAPOLEAN: (SNORTING AND HOGGING) All these stories about Frederick being cruel to his animals are untrue. They've been greatly exaggerated by Snowball

BARKING AND DOG GROWLING.

NAPOLEAN: and Snowball and his agents have not been hiding in Frederick's Farm. They've been hiding at Pilkington's!

SQUEALER: Comrades. Are you not proud of your Leader Comrade Napoleon's cunning? Our great leader is smarter than any living being on earth. Frederick thinks he can pay for the timber with a piece of paper with writing on it. These humans call it a cheque. But our leader has demanded payment in real five pound notes.

SOUND OF BICYCLE ON COUNTRY PATH RINGING BELL!

BENJAMIN: But one afternoon a pale faced Whympers  
rushed in to announce the notes were all forgeries.

NAPOLEAN: LOUD PIG ROAR! Death to Frederick. When captured we will boil him alive!

BENJAMIN: Pigeons were sent with a friendly message to Pilkington in the hope of re-establishing good relations..but

HEAVY MARCHING OF MEN..

Frederick mounted an attack

LOUD GUN FIRE FROM SIX DIFFERENT GUNS.  
ANIMAL SOUNDS SUGGESTING HURT, SURPRISE.

The animals were forced into the farm buildings and the windmill and pasture were all in the hands of the enemy.

CLOVER: What are we going to do Comrade Napoleon?

NAPOLEAN: (SNORTING) Everything is in control. I have a counter-attack plan with re-inforcements from Pilkington at Foxwood.

OTHER ANIMALS: BRAVO! BRILLIANT! HOW LUCKY WE ARE TO HAVE SUCH AN ENLIGHTENED LEADER!  
SOUND OF PIGEONS LANDING.

NAPOLEAN: Look! He's sent us his battle orders!

BENJAMIN IN NARRATION: Some battle order. All the note read was 'serves you right!'

SOUND OF A SLEDGHAMMER KNOCKING AGAINST BRICKS.

CLOVER: Oh no. They're knocking the windmill down!

NAPOLEAN: Impossible. We've built the walls far too thick for that. They could not knock it down in a week. Courage comrades!

DONKEY SOUND OF DISTRESS

CLOVER: What's the matter Benjy? They can't knock it down we're safe..

BENJAMIN: Can't you see? Oh what's the use..

CLOVER: Tell us Benjy. What's going on.

BENJAMIN: They're putting blasting powder in a hole and the whole thing's going to

ENORMOUS EXPLOSION.

BENJAMIN: I thought so.

COUGHING SOUND. PIGEONS FLUTTERING AND SWIRLING IN THE AIR.

CLOVER: Oh no! Look what they've done.

BOXER: (NEIGHING ANGRILY) We must attack.

NAPOLEAN: Charge comrades. Revenge!

FRIGHTFUL SHRIEK OF ANIMALS, POUNDING OF FEET, BLASTS OF GUNS, CLUMPS AND BLOWS AND MEN SHOUTING IN PAIN. SUDDEN ROAR OF DOGS, GROWLING AND BARKING.

FREDERICK: Get out men! Get out!

SOUND OF MEN RUNNING AND ANIMALS CHASING THEM.

BENJAMIN: We eventually chased them, but not without great cost. A cow, three sheep, and two geese were killed. Nearly everyone was wounded

OHHHH! GROANING SOUNDS.

Even Boxer's knees were bleeding. He'd lost a shoe and split his hoof

GUN FIRING IN THE DISTANCE.

BOXER: What's that gun firing for?

SQUEALER: (SKIPPING FROM TROTTER TO TROTTER) To celebrate our victory!

BOXER: What victory?

SQUEALER: What victory, comrade? Have we not driven the enemy off our soil- the sacred soil of Animal Farm?

BOXER: But they've destroyed the windmill. And we have worked on it for two years!

SQUEALER: What matter? We will build another windmill. We will build six windmills if we feel like it. You do not appreciate, comrade, the mighty thing that we have done. The enemy was in occupation of this very ground that we stand upon and now- thanks to the leadership of Comrade Napoleon- we have won every inch of it back again!

BOXER: Then we have won back what we had before

SQUEALER: That is our victory. Yes. (SQUEAL) Haha! That is our victory comrade..

FADE OUT WITH END VERSE OF MINIMUS' POEM

Thou art the giver of  
All that they creatures love,  
Full belly twice a day, clean straw to roll upon:  
Every beast great or small  
Sleeps at peace in his stall,  
Thou watchest over all,  
Comrade Napoleon!

END