

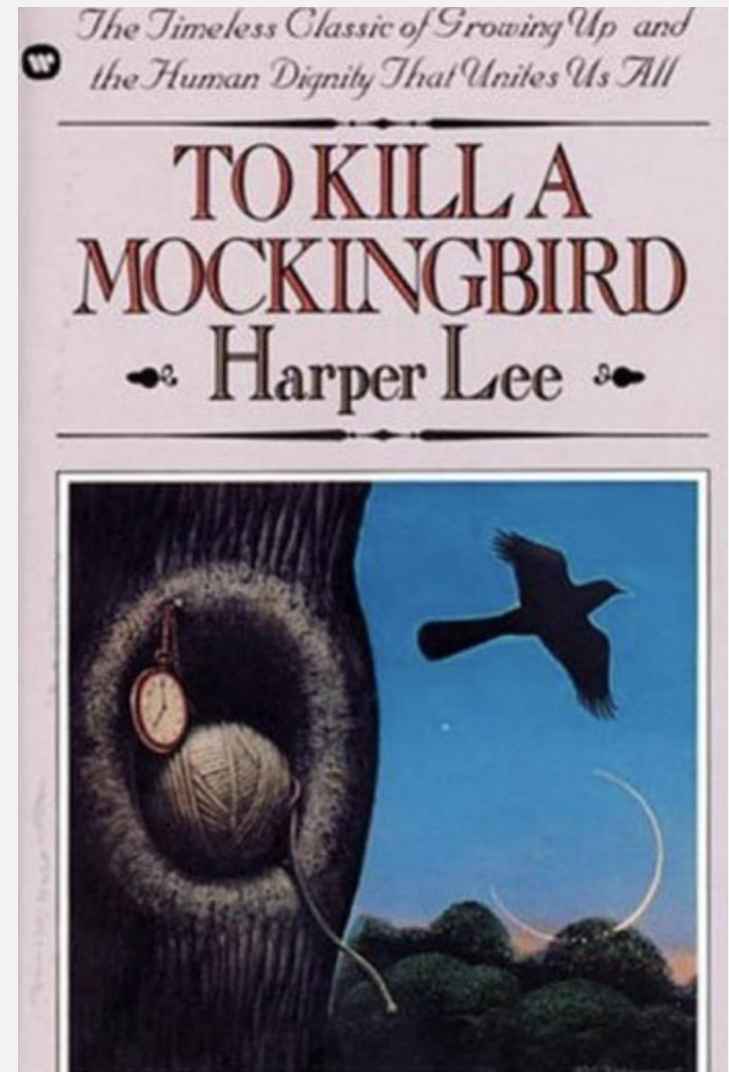
TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD BY HARPER LEE

- Introduction Material
- To be used as background information for
- ATP Book Club
- April 2025's book

MEET MS. HARPER LEE

Nelle Harper Lee

Born April 28, 1926



WHERE SHE GREW UP...

- Born April 28, 1926
- Harper Lee grew up in a small town of Monroeville, Alabama

Alabama





WHO
HER
FAMILY
IS...

- Her father was a descendant of General Robert E. Lee
- Father was a lawyer and a state legislator
- Many say father was role model for Atticus Finch (father in the novel)

FRIENDS WITH THE
FAMOUS AUTHOR...

Truman Capote



SCHOOLING...

Lee attended the University of Alabama

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graph TD; A[Lee attended the University of Alabama] --> B[Here she wrote articles and editorials for her college]; B --> C[She continued on there to pursue her law degree, but dropped out in 1949 to move to New York to become a writer];
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She continued on there to pursue her law degree, but dropped out in 1949 to move to New York to become a writer

WRITING ATTEMPTS...

During her time in New York, Lee wrote many short stories, none of which were published

Finally, an agent saw the short story *To Kill A Mockingbird*

FINALLY PUBLISHED...

- Lee turned the short story into a full-length novel, finishing the first draft in 1957
- She spent 2 years revising it, and it was published in 1960.
- One of the most influential books beside *The Bible*

-Library of Congress

A Background of

*TO KILL A
MOCKINGBIRD*

- First published in 1960
- *TKAM* follows the story of Scout Finch (a girl) thinking back on her childhood with her brother Jem, and a childhood friend named Dill
- The reader is transported back to the 1930s to Maycomb where Scout grew up



THE
BEGINNING...

CONTENT...

- Scout encounters characters from all levels of society
- She learns about the injustices of racism & witnesses the divisions between class and race
- Scout comes to respect the diversity all around her

LEE'S SKILLS...

Lee tells a story where children lose their innocence as they grow up and encounter the harsh realities of life

Her story speaks to the acceptance of all kinds of people

COMPARISONS...

- Maycomb County = Monroeville, Alabama
- Scout Finch's age = Lee's age
- Atticus Finch's job = Lee's father's job
 - (a lawyer and state legislator)
- Many more connections seen throughout the novel

A THOUGHT TO PONDER...

The story is set in a time and place where racism is still running rampant.



How might racism play into the loss of innocence for Scout and Dill?

Harper Lee

SLIDE-SHOW CREATED BY:
STEPHANIE SARGENT
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