



***To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee**

Harper Perennial Modern Classics, HarperCollins Publishers, 2005

ISBN: 9780060935467 (Paperback)

*Age Range: Adult (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: N/A (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Shoot all the bluejays you want, if you can hit 'em, but remember it's a sin to kill a mockingbird."

A lawyer's advice to his children as he defends the real mockingbird of Harper Lee's classic novel—a black man charged with the rape of a white girl. Through the young eyes of Scout and Jem Finch, Harper Lee explores with rich humor and unswerving honesty the irrationality of adult attitudes toward race and class in the Deep South of the 1930s. The conscience of a town steeped in prejudice, violence, and hypocrisy is pricked by the stamina and quiet heroism of one man's struggle for justice—but the weight of history will only tolerate so much.

One of the best-loved classics of all time, *To Kill a Mockingbird* has earned many distinctions since its original publication in 1960. It has won the Pulitzer Prize, been translated into forty-five languages, sold more than fifty million copies worldwide, and been made into an enormously popular movie. It was also named the best novel of the twentieth century by librarians across the country (*Library Journal*).

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"One of the most—if not the most—beloved of American novels." —*New Yorker*

"A seminal American story, a touchstone of racial tolerance. . . . It's a book determined to make young readers feel like grownups. . . and grownups feel like children in their petty grievances and prejudices." —*USA Today*

"The rare classic that speaks to all ages about the less triumphant aspects of American history." —*Time*

"The enduring appeal of *Mockingbird* lies not only in the plot or characters; the book is a mirror, a source of endless and revelatory conversation about who we are and have been as a country." —*Washington Post*

"A powerful and enduring piece of literature." —*Boston Globe*

"The names Scout and Atticus—and, perhaps above all, the name Harper—reflect a respect not just for the arc of history, but for the hope that it does indeed bend toward justice." —*The Atlantic*

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HarperCollins

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AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Include bulleted list of award nominations and wins, state award lists, best-of lists, and any other notable accolades.

- Winner, 1961 Pulitzer Prize
- Finalist, National Book Awards 1961 for Fiction
- Audie Award, 2007, Finalist, Audiobook of the Year
- Voted America's Best-Loved Novel in PBS's Great American Read

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

Add link to discussion guide, author interviews, blog posts, or any additional resources that provide useful context about the book.

- [Teacher's Guide](#)
- [Discussion Guide](#)
- [PBS American Masters | "Excerpt from Director Mary Murphy's *Scout, Atticus, and Boo*"](#)
- [PBS Learning Media | The Great American Read: To Kill a Mockingbird](#)

AUTHOR STATEMENT

- [The New York Times | "Harper Lee Twits School Board In Virginia for Ban on Her Novel"](#)

*A NOTE ON AGE RANGES

A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

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