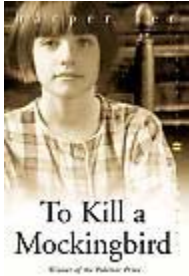


To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
Reviewed by Kim Muta



Harper Lee's coming-of-age classic, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, tells the story of six-year-old Scout Finch, her older brother Jem, and their father, Atticus, a small-town Alabama lawyer assigned to defend Tom Robinson, a black man falsely accused of rape. The reaction of the town, the dignity of Robinson, and the character of their father affect both children as they navigate the path from childhood innocence to adult understanding.

This book is worth reading for several reasons. It shows a picture of American life in a small southern town. It shows the devastation of racial and economic discrimination on individuals, families, and communities. It shows kids struggling with difficult life issues. It shows the positive impact of one person with courage and integrity.