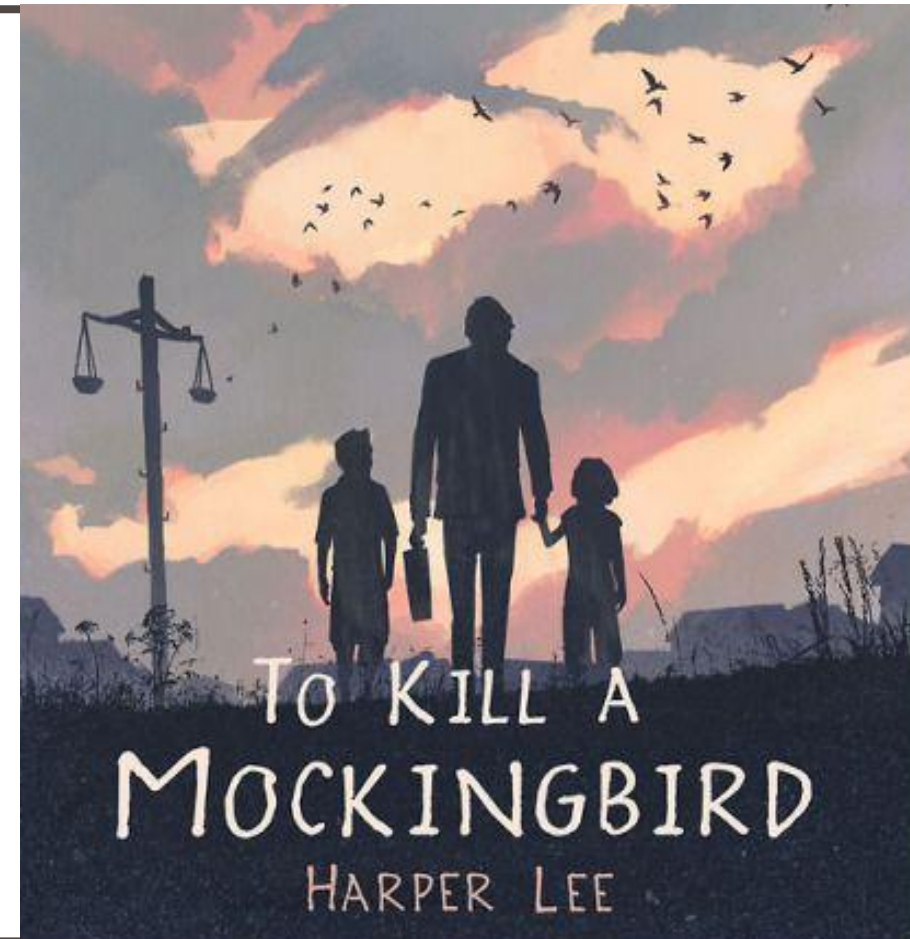


HARPER LEE
TO KILL A MOCKING BIRD



Plot



Atticus decides to take on a case involving a black man Tom Robinson who has been accused of raping a white girl Mayella Ewell, a member of the notorious Ewell family, who belong to the layer of Maycomb society that people refer to as "trash." The Finch family faces harsh criticism in the heavily racist Maycomb because of Atticus's decision to defend Tom. But Atticus insists on going through with the case, because his conscience could not let him do otherwise. He knows Tom is innocent, and also that he has almost no chance at being acquitted, because the white jury will never believe a black man over a white woman. Despite this, Atticus wants to reveal the truth to his fellow townspeople, expose their bigotry, and encourage them to imagine the possibility of racial equality.

Plot



Although Atticus presents a defense that gives a more plausible interpretation of the evidence—that Mayella was attacked by her father, Bob Ewell—Tom is convicted, and he is later got shoot when he was trying to run from prison. His death is compared to “the senseless slaughter of songbirds.”

Plot

Meanwhile, Mr. Ewell threatens Atticus and other people connected with the trial, because he feels he was humiliated. He gets his revenge one night while Jem and Scout are walking home from the Halloween play at their school. He follows them home in the dark, then runs at them and attempts to kill them with a large kitchen knife. Jem breaks his arm, and Scout, who is wearing a confining ham shaped wire costume and cannot see what is going on, is helpless throughout the attack. The elusive Boo Radley stabs Mr. Ewell and saves the children. Finally, Scout has a chance to meet the shy and nervous Boo. In the end the sheriff declares that Mr. Ewell fell on his own knife, so Boo won't have to be tried for murder. Scout walks Boo home and imagines how he has viewed the town and observed her, Jem and Dill over the years from inside his home. Boo goes inside, closes the door, and she never sees him again...

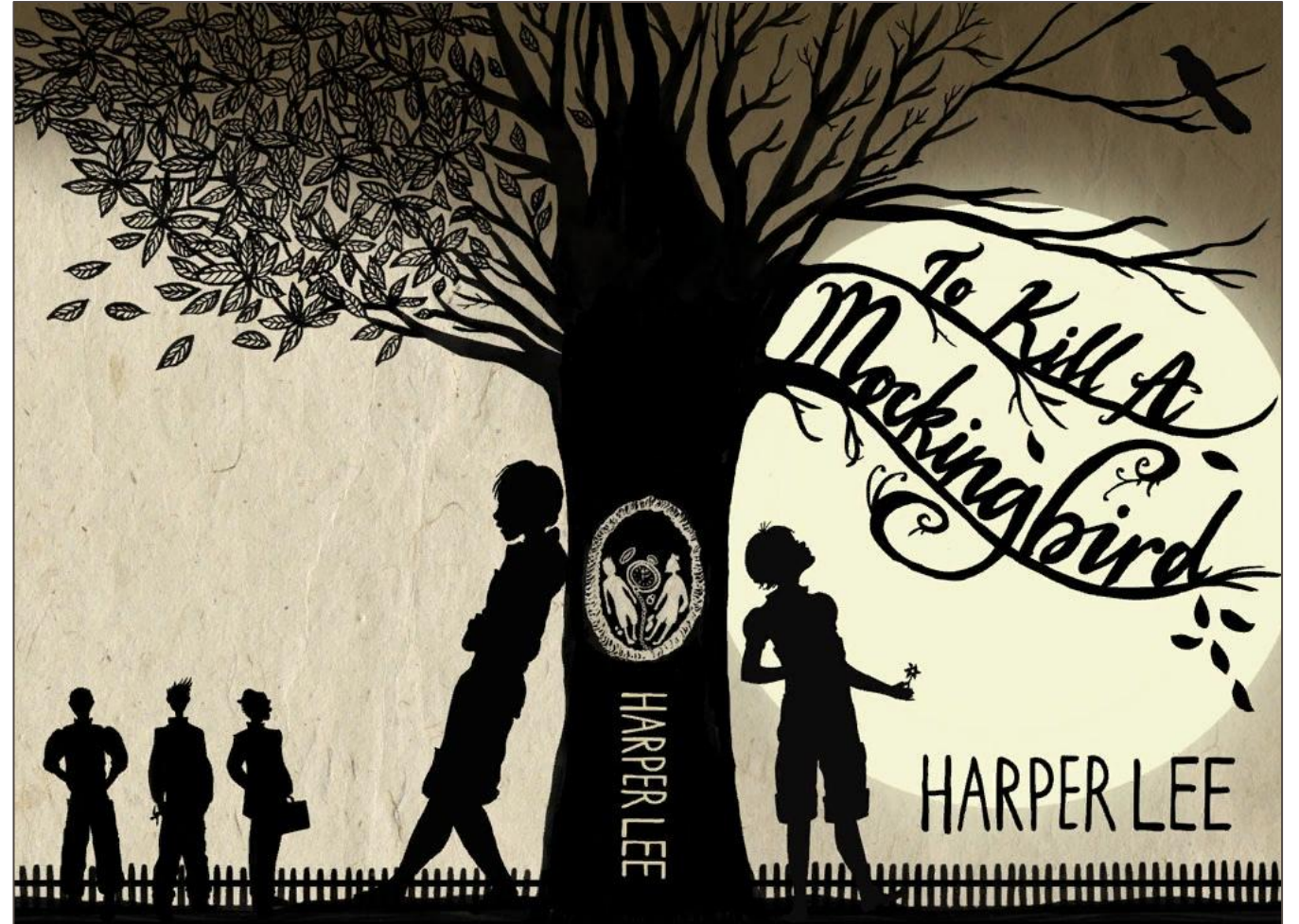
The

End

My predictions

As for my predictions, I didn't expect Tom Robinson to be killed like that and to be killed at all. I hoped that his sentence would be commuted or that he even would be released. It's awful that an innocent man died because of prejudice and racism of Maycomb people.

It was also rather unexpected that Mr. Ewell attacked the children and that they were saved by Boo Radley, who was considered to be a «monster» by locals. However, I'm glad that, at least, Boo was recognized as a hero and managed to escape punishment.



Message

In her book Harper Lee shows that every person deserves to be treated with respect and dignity. But in reality people often have prejudiced, incorrect opinions of others. These discriminatory views are shown through several situations in the novel. In the town of Maycomb the "white" residents are greatly prejudiced towards the "black" people. In the novel, this racism is shown when the residents are greatly opposed to Atticus Finch, a lawyer, defending Tom Robinson, a black man who has been charged for assault on a white lady. The court case held for this event provides the knowledge that Tom Robinson is innocent; however, Tom Robinson is convicted to be guilty. Another example of an incorrect view in the novel is the view that the Finch children have developed of Arthur (Boo) Radley, from stories they have heard from their neighbours. Boo Radley is seen to be the equivalent of an evil monster, which is entirely untrue, as he turns out to be a nice man.

Mockingbird



Mockingbirds don't do one thing but make music for us to enjoy. They don't eat up people's gardens, don't nest in corn cribs, they don't do one thing but sing their hearts out for us.

That's why it's a sin to kill a mockingbird."

- MISS MAUDIE

TOWN&COUNTRY

Mockingbirds symbolize innocence and beauty in the novel. Atticus and Miss Maudie tell Scout and Jem that it's a sin to kill a mockingbird, because these birds cause no harm to anyone or anything—they just sing. In doing so, they make the world a better place. Because of this mockingbirds are pure creatures, and killing them would be an act of senseless cruelty. Several characters in the novel can be seen as mockingbirds, especially Tom Robinson and Boo Radley, as they are fragile, kind, and moral individuals who are misunderstood by their prejudiced society, and, in Tom's case, ultimately destroyed by it.

Message

This book made me think about the importance of treating people equally and being fair to them regardless of their race, social status, etc. You shouldn't judge a book by its cover and believe rumors about other people, as they are often turn out to be false.

The story, especially the words and actions of Atticus, also teaches us to stay faithful to your views and moral code, be conscientious and not to be afraid of standing against the majority opinion.

- “I wanted you to see what real courage is, instead of getting the idea that courage is a man with a gun in his hand. It's when you know you're licked before you begin, but you begin anyway and see it through no matter what.”
- “The one thing that doesn't abide by majority rule is a person's conscience.”



Thank you for

