



Personal Notes

This book can be quoted while writing essays on prejudice, family life and courage, inequality or even the racial prejudice and social injustices. It's a perfect example of different forms of courage, of the moral nature of human beings—that is, whether people are essentially good or essentially evil. The most important message it conveys is that it is possible to live with conscience without losing hope or becoming cynical. It teaches us what real friendship, trust, understanding or cruelty, injustice, racism and anger means.

To Kill a Mockingbird, a novel by Harper Lee, has become a classic of modern American Literature, winning the Pulitzer Prize. **A haunting portrait of race and class, innocence and injustice, hypocrisy and heroism, tradition and transformation in the Deep South of the 1930s.** This book remains as important today as it was upon its initial publication in 1960, during the turbulent years of the Civil Rights movement. America was in a state of ethical development as social inequality was - very - gradually being overcome. **Women's rights and black rights movements were beginning to emerge and some campaigned through violence.**

To Kill a Mockingbird tells the story of the young narrator's passage from innocence to experience when her father confronts the racist justice system of the rural, Depression-era South. In witnessing the trial of Tom Robinson, a black man unfairly accused of rape, Scout, the narrator, gains insight into her town, her family, and herself.

The coexistence of Good and Evil: the novel shows the reader the transition of Scout and Jem from innocent children, when they assume that all people are good, to a more adult perspective where they encounter evil, prejudice and hatred. The book is about Atticus Finch, who appears as an unconventional hero and role model due to his morality rather than his physical capabilities. **The theme of morals is apparent throughout the whole novel, especially in relation to religion and perception of sin.**

To Kill a Mockingbird focuses on that **gut instinct of right and wrong, and distinguishes it from just following the law.** Even the titular quote: **"Shoot all the blue jays you want, if you can hit 'em, but remember it's a sin to kill a mockingbird"** is in itself an allegory for this message.