

APPENDIX

Synopsis of *To Kill a Mockingbird*

To Kill a Mockingbird tells about the Finches, who consist of Scout, her brother Jem and their father Atticus, around 1930's in Alabama. Atticus is a respected lawyer in Maycomb County. He takes on a case of an African-American named Tom Robinson, against two dishonest white people. The case is the biggest thing to hit Maycomb County in years and it turns the whole town against Atticus, causing several people including Atticus' sister Alexandra, Alexandra's grandson Francis, Bob Ewell and Mayella Ewell, to be involved in conflicts with Atticus and his children. Scout and Jem are forced to bear the slurs against their father and watch with shock and disillusionment as their fellow townspeople convict an obviously innocent man because of his race. The only real enemy that Atticus makes during the case was Bob Ewell, the white man who has accused Tom Robinson of raping his daughter.

Before Atticus can get Tom Robinson to court again, Tom is shot for trying to escape the prison and dies. It seems that the case is finally over and life will be back to normal until Halloween night. On the way home from a pageant, Bob Ewell attacks Jem and Scout. Boo Radley, their neighbour, rescues Scout and her brother.

Biography of Harper Lee

Nelle Harper Lee was born in Monroeville Alabama on April 28, 1926. Her parents' names are Amasa Coleman Lee and Frances Cunningham Finch Lee. She is an American author well-known for her 1960 Pulitzer-Prize-winning novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*, which deals with the issues of racism. In 2007, this book brought Lee to get an award from President George W. Bush, which is the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Lee wrote *To Kill a Mockingbird* as she was inspired by her childhood memories. Her father was a lawyer and he became the inspiration of the character Atticus in her book. Her neighbour and childhood friend Truman Capote inspired the character Charles Baker Harris in her book.

After graduating in 1944 Harper Lee went to the Huntingdon in Montgomery. She joined literary honor society and the glee club. Transferring herself to the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa, Lee was known for being a loner and an individualist. She also went to Oxford University in England as an exchange student, but she dropped out after the first semester. She soon moved to New York City to follow her dreams to become a writer. She never got married, and she never said why.

Sources: Maslin, Sauer.