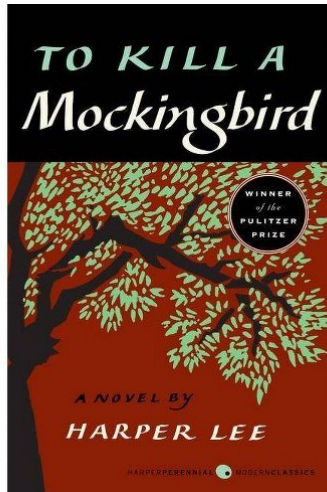


TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD



Adult

Book Summary:

An inquisitive young girl seeks to understand why the people in her town are racist and unwilling to change their harmful ways.

Summary of Concerns:

This book contains references and commentary regarding racism; derogatory terms; and inexplicit violence and inexplicit references to sexual assault and battery.

Mitigating Factor:

Positive narrative regarding the harms of racism.

By Harper Lee

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2 /5

Teen Guidance
BookLooks Review Rating

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9	A Negro would not pass the Radley Place at night,...
12	The sheriff hadn't the heart to put him in jail alongside Negroes, so Boo was locked in the courthouse basement.
13	We looked at her in surprise, for Calpurnia rarely commented on the ways of white people.
60	"Mr. Radley shot at a Negro in his collard patch." ..."...Scared him pale, though Says if anybody sees a white nigger around, that's the one. Says he's got the barrel waitin' for the next sound he hears in that patch, an' next time he won't aim high, be it dog, nigger, or-..."
63	...be it nigger, dog...
85	"Do you defend nigger, Atticus?" ..."...Don't say nigger, Scout. That's common."
86	"Do all lawyers defend n- Negroes, Atticus?" ..."Then why did Cecil say you defend niggers?..." ..."I'm simply defending a Negro- his name's Tom Robinson.
87	"My folks said your daddy was a disgrace an' that nigger oughta hang from the water-tank!"
91	...where Finch Negroes had loaded bales and produce...
94	"If Uncle Atticus lets you run around with stray dogs, that's his own business, like Grandma says, sos it ain't your fault. I guess it ain't your fault if Uncle Atticus is a nigger-lover besides, but I'm here to tell you it certainly does mortify the rest of the family-" ..."Just what I said. Grandma says it's bad enough he lets you all run wild, but now he's turned out a nigger-lover we'll never be able to walk the streets of Maycomb again. He's ruinin' the family, that's what he's doin'." ..."He's nothin' but a nigger-lover!"
95	"Nigger-lover!" he yelled.
114	Mrs. Dubose lived alone except for a Negro girl in constant attendance,...
117	But Mrs. Dubose held us: "Not only a Finch waiting on tables but once in the courthouse lawing for niggers!" ..."Your father's no better than the nigger and trash he works for!" ...Jem had probably stood as much guff about Atticus lawing for niggers as had I, and I took it for granted that he kept his temper...
119	Jem said softly, "She said you lawed for nigger and trash." ..."Son, I have no doubt that you've been annoyed by your contemporaries about me lawing for niggers, as you say,..."
124	..."what exactly is a nigger-lover?" ..."nigger-lover is just one of those terms that don't mean anything- like snot-nose. It's hard to explain- ignorant, trashy people use it when they think

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	<p>somebody's favoring Negroes over and above themselves. It's slipped usage with some people like ourselves, when they want a common, ugly term to label somebody."</p> <p>"You aren't really a nigger-lover, then, are you?"</p>
135	<p>"I wants to know why you bringin' white chillun to nigger church." ... "Stop right there, nigger."</p>
136	<p>In her place was a solid mass of colored people.</p>
140	<p>It was customary for field Negroes...</p>
143	<p>"Suppose you and Scout talked colored-folks talk at home- it'd be out of place, wouldn't it? Now what if I talked white-folks' talk at church, and with my neighbors?..."</p>
148	<p>"...our generation's practically the first in the Finch family not to marry cousins. Would you say the Finches have an Incestuous Streak?"</p>
159	<p>Miss Rachel Haverford's excuse for a glass of neat whiskey every morning was that she never got over the fright of finding a rattler coiled in her bedroom closet, on her washing, when she went to hang up her negligee.</p>
171	<p>The jail was Maycomb's only conversation piece; it's detractors said it looked like a Victorian privy; it's supporters said it gave the town a good solid respectable look, and no stranger would ever suspect that it was full of niggers.</p>
183	<p>"Why's he sitting with colored folks?"</p>
184	<p>..."what's a mixed child?"</p> <p>"Half white, half colored. You've seen 'em, Scout. You know that red-kinky-headed one that delivers for the drug-store. He's half white. They're real sad."</p> <p>"Sad, how come?"</p> <p>"They don't belong anywhere. Colored folks won't have 'em because they're half white; white folks won't have 'em 'cause they're colored, so they're just in-betweens, don't belong anywhere..."</p> <p>A small boy clutching a Negro woman's hand walked toward us. He looked all Negro to me: he was rich chocolate with flaring nostrils and beautiful teeth. Sometimes he would skip happily, and the Negro woman tugged his hand to make him stop.</p> <p>..."He looked black to me."</p> <p>"You can't sometimes, not unless you know who they are. But he's half Raymond, all right."</p>
185	<p>"Well how do you know we ain't Negroes?"</p> <p>..."but around here once you have a drop of Negro blood, that makes you all black..."</p> <p>...In the far corner of the square the Negroes and Mr. Dolphus Raymond stood up...</p> <p>...They waited patiently at the doors behind the white families.</p>
187	<p>The Negroes, having waited for the white people to go upstairs, began to come in.</p> <p>..."Looka there, now," he said irritably, as the black people surged upstairs.</p> <p>...steered us gently through the black people in the balcony. Four Negroes rose and gave us their front-row seats.</p>

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191	"...some nigger'd raped his girl."
193	The Negroes behind us whispered softly among themselves;...
195	...a small Negro settlement... ...most people turned around in the Negroe's front yards.
200	"...lived down yonder in that nigger-nest, passed the house every day..."
203	...then ran the nigger off,...
206	"I said come here, nigger, and bust up this chiffarobe or me, I gotta nickel for you..."
213	"...He choked you, he hit you, then he raped you, that right?"
219	...I thought, as what Jem called a mixed child: white people wouldn't have anything to do with her because she lived among pigs; Negroes wouldn't have anything to do with her because she was white.
220	Behind us, the Negroes did the same. Tom was a black-velvet Negro, not shiny, but soft black velvet. The whites of his eyes shone in his face, and when he spoke we saw flashes of his teeth.
222	"...She says she never kissed a grown man before an' she might as well kiss a nigger. She says what her papa do to her don't count. She says, 'Kiss me back, nigger.'..."
223	"Mr. Finch, if you was a nigger like me, you'd be scared, too."
226	"Like I says before, it weren't safe for any nigger to be in a- fix like that."
227	"Well, Dill, after all he's just a Negro."
232	She is the victim of cruel poverty and ignorance, but I cannot pity her: she is white. ...She tempted a Negro. She was white, and she tempted a Negro. She did something that in our society is unspeakable: she kissed a black man. Not an old Uncle, but a strong young Negro man. No code mattered for her before she broke it, but it came crashing down on her afterwards.
233	We do know in part what Mr. Ewell did: he did what any God-fearing, persevering, respectable white man would do under the circumstances- he swore out a warrant, no doubt signing it with his left hand, and Tom Robinson now sits before you,And so a quiet, respectable, humble Negro who had the unmitigated temerity to 'feel sorry' for a white woman has had to put his word against two white people's. ...confident that you gentlemen would go along with them on the assumption- the evil assumption- that all Negroes lie, that all Negroes are basically immoral beings, that all Negro men are not to be trusted around our women, an assumption one associates with minds of their caliber. "Which, gentlemen, we know is in itself a lie as black as Tom Robinson's skin, a lie I do not have to point out to you. You know the truth, and the truth is this: some Negroes lie, some Negroes are immoral, some Negro men are not to be trusted around women- black or white.
239	In the balcony, the Negroes sat and stood around us with biblical patience.

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242	They were standing. All around us and in the balcony on the opposite wall, the Negroes were getting to their feet.
249	According to Miss Stephanie Crawford, however, Atticus was leaving the post office when Mr. Ewell approached him, cursed him, spat on him, and threatened to kill him. ..."Too proud to fight, you nigger-lovin' bastard?"
252	In our courts, when it's a white man's word against a black man's, the white man always wins. They're ugly, but those are the facts of life."
253	"...As you grow older, you'll see white men cheat black men every day of your life, but let me tell you something and don't you forget it- whenever a white man does that to a black man, no matter who he is, how rich he is, or how fine a family he comes from, that white man is trash." ..."There's nothing more sickening to me than a low-grade white man who'll take advantage of a Negro's ignorance..."
259	"...and the Ewells hat and despise the colored folks."
319	I took him by the hand, a hand surprisingly warm for its whiteness.

Profanity	Count
Nigger	21