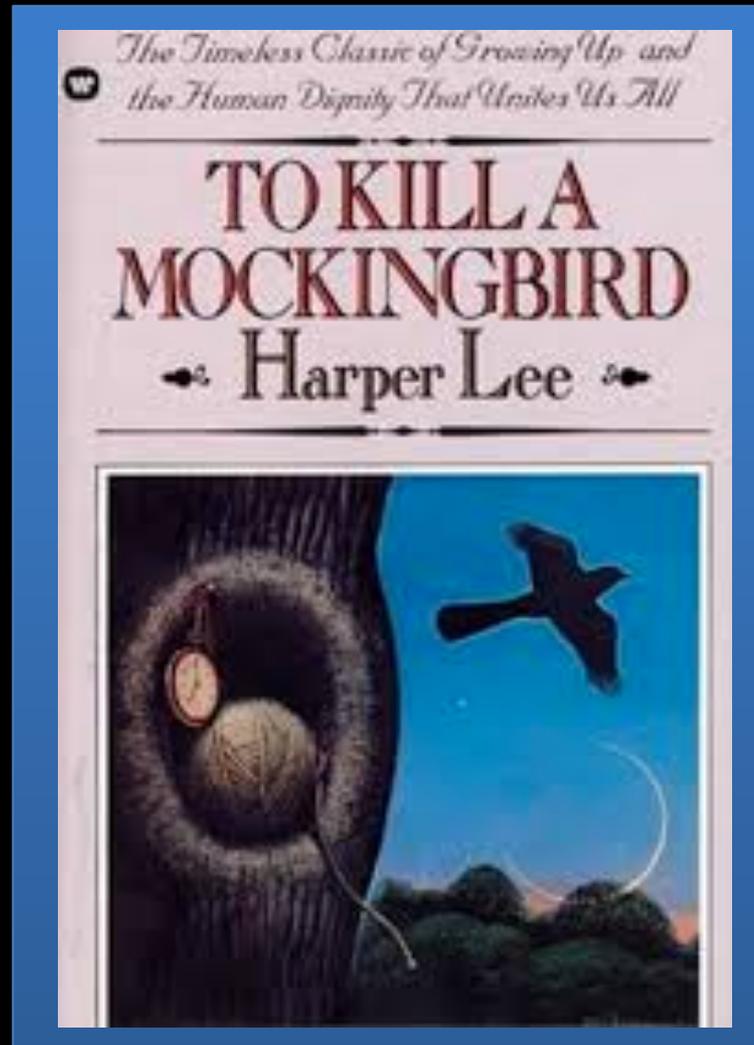


To Kill A Mockingbird

Chapters 7 - 9



Chapter 7

After Dill, Scout and Jem sneaked onto the Radley Place, it took Jem a week to talk to Scout again. He was quiet and moody. Dill went home to Meridian and school started for Jem and Scout. One day Jem told Scout what happened the night they sneaked over to the Radley Place. When Jem went back to get his pants from the fence, he found them all folded up and sewn back together where the tears were. Jem said it was creepy, like they were expecting him to come back.

One day on the way home from school, Jem and Scout found a ball of string in the tree hole where they had found the box of pennies. They found two soap carvings another day, one looked like Jem and one looked like Scout! Who had carved them to look like the kids?

Jem and Scout did not know who had carved them. Four days later they found a spelling bee medal. The next time they found something it was a watch and a pocketknife on a chain. Jem and Scout wrote a thank you note to put into the tree. When they went to put the note in it. The hole had been filled with cement! They were sad.

Chapter 8

Winter came and it was very cold in Maycomb. It got so cold it snowed! Usually it did not snow much in Maycomb, and Scout had never seen snow before! At first she was afraid! Then she and Jem went outside to play in the snow. They wanted to build a snowman but did not know how. They gathered snow in baskets until they had enough to roll it into balls. The children made the snowman look like the mean neighbor, Mr. Avery. Atticus told them to change it so Mr. Avery would not get mad.

That night Atticus woke Jem and Scout up and took them outside. Miss Maudie's house was on fire! The men from the town helped carry out some of her furniture. The fire trucks could not save her house so they started watering the roofs of other houses so they would not catch on fire. The neighbors stood and watched the fire burn until morning. When Jem and Scout got back into the house, Atticus asked Scout where she got the blanket she had around her. Scout did not remember, but Atticus said he thought it was Boo Radley who put the blanket on her. Jem told Atticus about the gifts in the tree.

Chapter 9

Scout heard Cecil Jacobs, another student at school, say that Scout Finch's daddy defended black people. He was teasing Scout about it. When she asked Atticus, he said he was defending a black man by the name of Tom Robinson. Atticus said he had to defend Tom so he could hold his head up in town and not be a coward.

At Christmas, Scout and Jem's Uncle Jack came to visit. He gave the kids air rifles. Then they all went to their Aunt and Uncle's for Christmas day. Jem and Scout visited with their cousin, Francis. Francis began to tease Scout about her dad Atticus being a "Nigger-lover" because he was defending Tom Robinson. Scout got very upset and hit Francis. Scout got into trouble with Uncle Jack because he thought it was Scout's fault. Later that night, Scout told Uncle Jack he was not fair. Scout said her dad always listens to both sides of a story before deciding who was wrong. Scout never had a chance to explain to Uncle Jack about the teasing that Francis was doing. Uncle Jack felt bad that he was so hard on Scout when he heard the whole story.