

# Reaction Paper to a Book

## Reaction to "To Kill a Mockingbird"

**Name:** John Smith

**Course:** American Literature 202

**Instructor:** Dr. Jane Doe

**Date:** May 17, 2024

### Introduction

"To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee explores racial injustice in the American South through Scout Finch's innocent eyes. Set in the 1930s, the novel highlights themes of morality, empathy, and the struggle between good and evil. My reaction to this book is one of deep admiration for its powerful message and emotional impact.

### Summary

Scout Finch lives with her brother Jem and their father Atticus in Maycomb, Alabama. Atticus, a lawyer, defends Tom Robinson, a black man falsely accused of raping Mayella Ewell. Despite Atticus's compelling defense, Tom is convicted, revealing the deep-seated racism of the time. The story follows Scout's coming-of-age journey as she learns about compassion and understanding from her father and Boo Radley.

### Analysis and Reaction

#### Racial Injustice and Moral Courage

The trial of Tom Robinson illustrates racial injustice and Atticus Finch's moral courage. His defense, despite societal prejudice, exemplifies integrity and the fight against racism, resonating deeply with me.

#### Scout's Coming-of-Age Journey

Scout's growth from innocence to understanding is heartwarming. Her evolving perspective on justice and empathy, influenced by her father's example, deeply resonated with me. Scout's interactions with Boo Radley highlight the importance of empathy and not judging others.

### Conclusion

"To Kill a Mockingbird" remains a timeless call for empathy and justice. Its exploration of moral courage and the fight against racial injustice is inspiring and sobering. Harper Lee's work encourages us to embody integrity and empathy, reminding us that the fight for justice is ongoing.

### References

Lee, H. (1960). *To Kill a Mockingbird*. J.B. Lippincott & Co.

---