

To Kill A Mockingbird

QUOTES AND BRIEF NOTES

Character Profiles

Jem

- Four years senior than Scout
- Age difference plays a major role in their relationship - "Our mother died when I was two, so I never felt her absence... I did not miss her, but I think Jem did. He remembered her clearly, and sometimes in the middle of a game he would sigh at length, then go off and play by himself behind the car-house." - Hidden understanding between them, "When he was like that, I knew better than to bother him."
- 'In all his life, Jem had never declined a dare.'
- 'Besides, Jem had his little sister to think of.' Their relationship is presented also when Atticus forces Jem to go and apologise to Mrs. Dubose, 'Of course Jem antagonised me sometimes until I could kill him, but when it came down to it he was all I had.'
- Jem was incredulous in having his aspersions being cast by Scout when he explains to Dill what a 'Hot Steam' is. Scout reprimands it, 'Don't you believe a word he says, Dill... Calpurnia says that's nigger-talk' 'Jem was offended by my contradicting him on Hot Steams and that he was patiently awaiting an opportunity to reward me.'
- He bashes Scout on acting girly in his preadolescent stages, 'I swear, Scout, sometimes you act so much like a girl, it's mortifyin'.'; 'But Jem told me I was being a girl, that girls always imagined things, that's why other people hated them so, and I started behaving like one I could just go off and find some to play with. '; 'I declare to the Lord you're gettin' more like a girl every day!' But later conceives her being tomboyish as contradictory to the social gender strictures in his adolescence, 'It's time you started bein' a girl and acting right!'
- 'Jem's head at times was transparent: he had thought that up (devising to enact Boo's dramatic household situation) to make me understand he wasn't afraid of Radley's in any shape or form, to contrast his own fearless heroism with my cowardice.'
- 'It was then, I suppose, that Jem and I first began to part company. Sometimes I did not understand him, but my periods of bewilderment were short-lived.' - Scout when Jem tries to sneak out to retrieve his pants from the Radley house. / 'he was now positively allergic to my presence in public'. / 'Then he rose and broke the remaining code of our childhood.'
- 'Atticus ain't ever whipped me since I can remember. I wanta keep it that way.'

- Jem's understanding and development of friendship with Boo - his newfound maturity could comprehend the unjust system of society to tear asunder a innocent man from living a life when Nathan Radley puts concrete on the tree-hole, 'Jem leaned on a pillar, rubbing his shoulders against it... He stood there until nightfall, and I waited for him. When we went in the house I saw he had been crying.' ; When Jem explains to Scout about the Atticus cartoon on the Montgomery Advertiser - 'In addition to Jem's newly developed characteristics, he had acquired a maddening air of wisdom.' ; 'Scout, try not to antagonise Aunty, hear?'
- His acceptance of Atticus - ' Naw, Scout it's something you wouldn't understand. Atticus is old, but I wouldn't care if he couldn't do anything - I wouldn't care if he couldn't do a blessed thing... Atticus is a gentleman, just like me!'

Dill

- "...when Dill first game us the idea of making Boo Radley come out." - Dill's purpose in being an outsider
- "Sitting down, he wasn't much higher than the collards. We stared at him until he spoke: " - their first encounter with the madness that was Dill
- "I'm Charles Baker Harris," he said. "I can read." ; "I'm little but I'm old,"
- "Dill was from Meridian, Mississippi... Dill had seen the *Dracula*, a revelation that moved Jem to eye him with the beginning of respect."
- "Thus we came to know Dill as a pocket Merlin, whose head teemed with eccentric plans, strange longings, and quaint fancies."
- "The Radley Place fascinated Dill... There he would stand, his arm around the fat pole, staring and wondering."
- 'Summer was Dill' ; 'With him, life was routine, without him, life was unbearable.'
- 'He had eaten dinner in the diner, has seen two twins hitched together get off the train in Bay St Louis and stuck to his story regardless of the threats... said he had seen his father, Dill's father was taller than ours, he had black beard (pointed), and he was president of the L & N Railroad.' ; After he runs away, he makes up a tale - ' having been bound in chains and left to die in the basement by his new father, who disliked him, and secretly kept alive on raw field peas by a passing farmer who heard his cries for help, Dill worked himself free by pulling the chains from the wall. Still in wrist manacles, he wandered two miles out of Meridian where he discovered a small animal show and was immediately engaged to wash the camel. He travelled with the show all over Mississippi until his infallible sense of direction told him he was in Abbott County, Alabama, just across the river from Maycomb. He walked rest of the way.'
- 'He had asked me earlier in the summer to marry him, the he promptly forgot about it. He staked me out, marked me as his property, said I was the only girl he would ever love, then he neglected me. I beat him twice bit it did no good, he only grew closer to Jem. They spent days together in the treehouse plotting and planning, calling me only when they needed a third party.'

- His imagination saves them from public humiliation and a possible beating when the neighbourhood finds out someone had trespassed in Nathan Radley's property, 'We were playin' strip poker up yonder by the fish-pool,' 'That was fast thinkin' son' - Jem.
- 'He was worn out, dirty beyond belief, and home.'
- Parental indifference and loneliness - 'He just said we would. We never did.'; '... they just wasn't interested in me.'; 'Well, they stayed gone all the time, and when they were home, even, they'd get off in a room by themselves.'; 'They ain't mean. They buy me everything I want, but it's now-you've-got-it-go-play-with-it. You've got a roomful of things. I-got you-that-book-so-go-read-it.'
- His imagination - 'There was a man Dill had heard of who had a boat that rowed across to a foggy island where all these babies were; you could order one-' ; 'Beautiful things floated around in his dreamy head. He could read two books to my one, but he preferred the magic of his own inventions. He could add and subtract faster than lightning, but he preferred his own twilight world, a world where babies slept, waiting to be gathered like morning lilies.'
- 'Tellin' the truth's not cynical, is it?' / 'There ain't one thing in this world I can do about folks except laugh so I'm gonna join the circus and laugh my head off.'

Atticus

- "His first two clients were the last two persons hanged in the Maycomb County jail" ; "... an occasion that was probably the beginning of my father's profound distaste for the practice of criminal law" - reference to Atticus's experience in seeing the persecution of his clients ('but they were Haverford, in Maycomb Country a name synonymous with jackass') who were allowed to 'plead Guilty to second-degree murder and escape with their lives' when they had 'dispatched Maycomb's leading blacksmith in a misunderstanding' and were 'imprudent enough to do it in the presence of three witnesses'.
- "Jem and I found our father satisfactory: he played with us, read to us, and treated us with courteous detachment." - The children's first impression of their father. 'Atticus was feeble: he was nearly fifty.' ; 'He was much older than the parents of our school contemporaries, and there was nothing Jem or I could say about him when our classmates said, 'My father -' ; 'Jem was football crazy. Atticus was never too tired to play keep-away, but when Jem wanted to tackle him, Atticus would say: 'I'm too old for that, son.' ; 'Our father didn't do anything. He worked in an office, not in a drugstore. Atticus did not drive a dump-truck or the county, he was not the sheriff, he did not farm, work in a garage, or do anything that could possibly arouse the admiration of anyone.' ; 'He did not do the things our schoolmates' fathers did: he never went hunting, he did not play poker or fish or drink or smoke. He sat in the living-room and read.'
- He is magnanimous. He waves at Mrs. Dubose, the morphine addict, who screams insults at Jem and Scout. Although Atticus knows that Mrs. Dubose doesn't approve of his own actions, he still recognises that she has 'real courage'. When Scout senses his demeanour towards Mrs. Dubose, she

comments, 'It was times like these when I thought my father, who hated guns and had never been to any wars, was the bravest man who ever lived.'

- 'The main one is, if I didn't I couldn't hold up my head in town, I couldn't represent this county in the legislature, I couldn't even tell you or Jem to do something again.' - Atticus when Scout asks him why he's defending Tom. Atticus is fighting for more than abstract principles of social justice. He wants to serve as an example that will prevent his children from 'catching racism', which he calls, 'Maycomb's usual disease'.
- 'Because I could never ask you to mind me again. Scout, simply by the nature of the work, every lawyer gets at least one case in his lifetime that affects him personally. This one's mine, I guess.'
- Highlight of Atticus's parenting skills - 'When a child asks you something, answer him, for goodness' sake. But don't make a production of it. Children are children, but they can spot an evasion quicker than adults, and evasion simply muddles 'em... Bad language is a stage all children go through, and it dies with time, when they learn they're not attracting attention with it.'
- Atticus tells his children that they were from 'gentle breeding' and not like the rest of the folks in Maycomb, after Scout tells Aunt that Cousin Joshua was in jail which hurts her. When Atticus realises his children's incomprehension towards his new attitude of conforming to hereditary pride, he stops and tells them to forget it, 'Don't you worry about anything, he said, 'It's not time to worry'. / 'I don't want you to remember it. Forget it.' / 'He nearly slammed it (bedroom door), but caught himself at the last minute and closed it softly.' ; 'I know now what he was trying to do, but Atticus was only a man. It takes a woman to do that kind of work.'
- When Scout, Jem and Dill encounter the lynch mob, Atticus fears for their safety - 'A flash of plain fear was going out of his eyes, but returned when Dill and Jem wriggled into the light.' / ' He put the newspaper down very carefully, adjusting its creases with lingering fingers. They were trembling a little.' ; 'He nodded, produced his handkerchief, gave his face a going-over and blew his nose violently.'
- 'With his infinite capacity for calming turbulent seas, he could make a rape case as dry as a sermon.' ; Atticus knew he had to further drag a victimised girl into public humility by disclosing her as a liar to save the life of a mockingbird, 'but it gave him no pleasure to do so.' ; 'He's the same in the court-room as he is on the public streets.'
- When Bob spits on Atticus's face, cursing for vengeance - 'I wish Bob Ewell wouldn't chew tobacco,' was all Atticus said about it. / Atticus didn't bat an eye, just took out his handkerchief and wiped his face and stood there and let Mr. Ewell call him names wild horses could not bring her to repeat.
- 'If this thing's hushed up it'll be a simple denial to Jem of the way I've tried to raise him. Sometimes I think I'm a total failure as a parent, but I'm all they've got. Before Jem looks at anyone else he looks at me, and I've tried to live so I can look squarely back at him...If I connived at something like this, frankly I couldn't meet his eye, and the day I can't do that I'll know I've lost him. I don't want to lose him and Scout, because they're all I've got.'

- 'I can't live one way in town and another way in my home.'

Calpurnia

- "She was all angles and bones; she was near-sighted; she squinted; her hand was wide as a bed slat and twice as hard. She was always ordering me out of the kitchen, asking me why I couldn't behave as well as Jem when she knew he was older, and calling me home when I wasn't ready to come. Our battles were epic and one-sided. Calpurnia always won because Atticus always took her side. She had been with us ever since Jem was born, and I had felt her tyrannical presence as long as I could remember."
- 'There goes the meanest man ever God blew breath into,' murmured Calpurnia. We looked at her in surprise, for Calpurnia rarely commented on the ways of white people.
- 'There's some folks who don't eat like us,' she whispered fiercely, 'but you ain't called on to contradict 'em at the table when they don't.' - 'Don't matter who they are, anybody sets foot in this house's yo' comp'ny, and don't you let me catch you remarkin' on their ways like you was so high and mighty! Yo' folks might be better'n the Cunninghams but it don't count for nothin' the way you're disgracin' 'em'
- 'We couldn't operate a single day without Cal, have you ever thought of that? You think about how much Cal does for you, and you mind her, you hear?' - Atticus
- 'Suppose you and Scout talked coloured-folks' talk at home - it'd be out of place, wouldn't it? Now what if I talked white folk's talk at church, and with my neighbours? They'd think I was puttin' on airs to beat Moses.'
- "Led a modest double life' - Side Note (Calpurnia's double life is a textbook example what W.E.B Du Bois called a 'double-consciousness'. He describes it as the 'sense of always looking at one's self through the eyes of others, of measuring one's soul by the tape of a world that looks on in amused contempt and pity. One ever feels his two-ness, - an American, a Negro; Two souls, two thoughts, two unreconciled strivings; two warring ideals in one dark body, whose dogged strength alone keeps it from being torn asunder.' She is acutely aware of how she looks in the eyes of others. She has internalised the racism of the whites as well as the classism inside her own community, and she treads carefully in both worlds.)
- 'Besides, I don't think the children've suffered one bit from her having brought them up. If anything, she's been harder on them in some ways a mother would have been... she's never let them get away with anything, she's never indulged them the way most coloured nurses do. She tried to bring them up according to her lights, and Cal's lights are pretty good - and another thing, the children love her.'

Mrs. Dubose

- “Mrs. Dubose was plain hell” - Presentation of her character before finding out the truth of her suffering. She is presented as the cantankerous morphine addict who has a particularly heinous mouth.
- ‘Mrs. Dubose was the meanest old woman who ever lived. Jem wouldn’t go by her place without Atticus beside him.’
- ‘Just before your escapade she called me to make her will. Dr Reynolds told her she had only a few months left. Her business affairs were in perfect order but she said, “There’s still one thing out of order.” - ‘She said she was going to leave this world beholden to nothing and nobody.’

Boo Radley

- Jem gave a reasonable description of Boo: Boo was about six-and-a-half feet tall, judging from his tracks; he dined on raw squirrels and any cats he could catch, that’s why his hands were blood-stained - if you ate an animal raw, you could never wash the blood off. There was a long jagged scar that ran accross his face; and what teeth he had were yellow and rotten; his eyes popped, and he drooled most of the time.
- Boo’s first gifts to the children - ‘two pieces of chewing gum minus their outer wrappers’
- ‘Some inside the house was laughing’
- ‘Scout can thank him for covering her up.’ - Atticus. ‘Thank who?’ I asked. ‘Boo Radley. You were so busy looking at the fire you didn’t know it when he put the blanket around you.’
- Scout’s imagination - ‘But I still looked for him each time I went by. Maybe someday we would see him. I imagined how it would be: when it happened, he’d just be sitting in the swing when I came along. ‘Hidy do, Mr. Arthur,’ I would say, as if I had said it every afternoon of my life. ‘Evening, Jean Louise,’ he would say, as if he had said it every afternoon of my life.’
- ‘His lips parted into a timid smile, and our neighbour’s image blurred with my sudden tears. ‘Hey, Boo,’ I said.
- ‘I wondered why Atticus was inviting us to the from porch instead of the living room, then I understood. The living-room lights were awfully strong.’ ‘Boo would feel more comfortable in the dark.’
- ‘Thank you for my children, Arthur,’ he said.
- ‘I was beginning to learn his body English. His hand tightened on mine and he indicated that he wanted to leave.’ ‘He almost whispered it, in the voice of a child afraid of the dark.’
- ‘Boo was our neighbour. He gave us two soap dolls, a broken watch and chain, a pair of good-luck pennies, and our lives, but neighbours give in return. We never put back into the tree what we took out of it; we had given him nothing and it made me sad.’
- ‘Autumn again, and Boo’s children needed him.’

- ‘Atticus was right. One time he said you never really know a man until you stand in his shoes and walk around in them. Just standing on the Radley porch was enough.’

Miss Maudie

- ‘But while no one with a grain of sense trusted Miss Stephanie Crawford, Jem and I had considerable faith in Miss Maudie. She had never told on us, had never played cat-and-mouse with us, she was not at all interested in our private lives. She was our friend.’
- ‘We’re bringing back your things, Miss Maudie,’ said Jem. ‘We’re awful sorry.’ Miss Maudie looked around, and the shadow of her old grin crossed her face. ‘Always wanted a smaller house, Jem Finch. Gives me more yard. Just think, I’ll have more room for my azaleas now!’ / ‘Grieving, child? Why, I hated that old cow barn. Thought of settin’ fire to it a hundred times myself, except they’d lock me up.’ ‘With most of her possessions gone and her beloved yard a shambles, she still took a lively and cordial interest in Jem’s and my affairs.’
- When Stephanie Crawford inquires the children about the court and all types of ridiculous assumptions, Miss Maudie stops her, ‘Hush, Stephanie,’ Miss Maudie’s diction was deadly. ‘I’ve not got all the morning to pass on the porch - Jem Finch, I called to find out if you and your colleagues can eat some cake.’ - ‘As we ate, we sensed that this was Miss Maudie’s way of saying that as far as she was concerned, nothing had changed.’
- ‘She never laughed at me unless I meant to be funny.’ ; ‘Miss Maudie’s hand closed tightly on mine, and I said nothing. It’s warmth was enough.’ - When Stephanie mocks Scout and asks her what she wanted to be when she grew up.

Aunt Alexandra

- ‘Had I ever harboured the mystical notions about mountains that seem to obsess lawyers and judges, Aunt Alexandra would have been analogous to Mount Everest: throughout my life, she was cold and there.’
- ‘Enamoured, upright, uncompromising.’ / ‘Aunt Alexandra was the last of her kind: she had riverboat, boarding-school manner; let any moral come along and she would uphold it; she was born in the objective case; she was an incurable gossip. When Aunt Alexandra went to school, self-doubt could not be found in any textbook, so she knew not its meaning. She was never bored, and given the slightest chance she would exercise her royal prerogative: she would arrange, advise, caution, and warn.’ / ‘Aunt Alexandra fitted into the world of Maycomb like a hand into a glove, but never into the world of Jem and me.’
- Aunt was worried for the children being so exposed to prejudice, and ‘nearly faints’ when they tell her they’d been in the courtroom. ‘I guess it hurt her when we told her Atticus said we could go back, because she didn’t say a word during supper.’ / ‘I didn’t think it wise in the first place to let them-’ ‘This is their home,

- sister,' said Atticus. 'We've made it this way for them, they might as well learn to cope with it.' - 'It's just as much Maycomb County as missionary teas.'
- 'I'm sorry, brother,' she murmured. Having never heard her call Atticus 'brother' before, I stole a glance at Jem, but he was not listening.
 - Aunt Alexandra's social prejudice conforming her to acknowledge others below her standard to be trash, i.e. Walter. This is dangerous because Scout already invited Walter over at dinner and it did save her father's life - 'Because - he - is - trash, that's why you can't play with him. I'll not have you around him, picking up his habits and learning Lord-knows-what. You're enough of a problem to your father as it is.'
 - 'You know she is not used to girls,' said Jem, 'leastways, not girls like you. She's trying to make you a lady.' / Arranging the missionary society - 'This was a part of her campaign to teach me to be a lady.'
 - Understanding and rising above prejudice - 'she had let Calpurnia serve today'
 - 'I can't say I approve of everything he does, Maudie, but he's my brother, and I just want to know when this will ever end. ' Her voice rose: 'It tears him to pieces. He doesn't show it much, but it tears him to pieces. I've seen him when - what else do they want from him, Maudie, what else? ... I mean this town. They're perfectly willing to let him do what they're afraid to do themselves - it might lose him a nickel. They're perfectly willing to let him wreck his health doing what they're afraid to do.'

Mayella Ewell / Ewell family

- 'One corner of the yard, though, bewildered Maycomb. Against the fence, in a line, were six chipped-enamel slop jars holding brilliant red geraniums, cared for as tenderly as if they belonged to Miss Maudie Atkinson... People said they were Mayella Ewell's.'
- Unfamiliarity with kindness - 'Long's you keep on makin' fun o' me.' ; 'Long's he keeps on callin' me ma'am an' sayin' Miss Mayella. I don't haft take his sass, I ain't called upon to take it.' - I wondered if anybody had ever called her 'ma'am' or 'Miss Mayella' in her life; probably not, as she took offence at routine courtesy. - 'Who are your friends?' - Atticus - 'The witness frowned as if puzzled, 'Friends?'; Mayella's hostility, which had subsided to grudgeinf neutrality, flared again. 'You makin' fun o'me agin, Mr. Finch?' - Mayella Ewell must have been the loneliest person in the world. She was even lonelier than Boo Radley, who had not been out of the house in twenty-five years. When Atticus asked had she any friends, she seemed not to know what he meant, then she thought he was making fun of her.' 'Tom Robinson was probably the only person who was ever decent to her. But she said he took advantage of her, and when she stood up she looked at him as if he were dirt beneath her feet.'
- 'The jury learned the following things: their relief cheque was far from enough to feed the family, and there was strong suspicion that Papa drank it up anyway.'
- 'Mr. Bob Ewell stopped Atticus on the post-office corner, spat in his face, and told him he'd get him if it took the rest of his life.'

- Bob - 'He thought he'd be a hero, but all he got for his pain was ... was, okay , we'll convict this Negro but get back to your dump. He's had his fling with about everybody now, so he ought to be satisfied.

Tom Robinson

- 'It occurred to me that in their own way, Tom Robinson's manners were as good as Atticus's. Until my father explained it to me later, I did not understand the subtlety of Tom's predicament: he would not have dared strike a white woman under any circumstances and expect to live long.
- Tom was a dead man the minute Mayella Ewell opened her mouth and screamed.

Themes

Compromise

- 'Do you know what a compromise is?' - 'An agreement reached by mutual concessions.'
- 'You tell him I'll take over from here and try to undo the damage - Your father does not know how to teach.' - Miss Caroline - 'If you'll concede the necessity of going to school, we'll go on reading every night just as we always have.'
- 'Come on home to dinner with us, Walter,' he said. 'We'd be glad to have you.' ... 'Our daddy's a friend of your daddy's.' - Jem settling the dispute between Scout and Walter- little hints of his maturity.
- 'Sometimes it's better to bend the law a little in special cases.'
- Above for Miss Maudie's point two.
- 'Somehow, if I fought Cecil I would let Atticus down. Atticus so rarely asked Jem and me to do something for him, I could take being called a coward for him.'
- Dolphus Raymond - 'I try to give 'em a reason, you see. It helps folks if they can latch on to a reason.'

Justice for the innocents

- 'Shoot all the bluejays you want, if you can hit 'em, but remember it's a sin to kill a mockingbird.' - Atticus. 'Mockingbirds don't do one thing but make music for us to enjoy. They don't eat up people's gardens, don't nest in corncribs, they don't do one thing but sing their hearts out for us. That's why it's a sin to kill a mockingbird.'
- 'Bob Ewell fell on his knife. He killed himself.' - Heck Tate covering up the real fact to save a mockingbird. / 'God damn, I'm not thinking of Jem!'
- 'All the ladies in Maycomb includin' my wife'd be knocking on his door bringing angel food cakes. To my way of thinkin', Mr. Finch, taking the one man who's done you and this town a great service an' draggin' him with his shy ways into the limelight - to me, that's a sin. It's a sin and I'm not about to have it on my head. If it was any other man it'd be different. But not this man, Mr. Finch.'
- 'There's a black boy dead for no reason, and the man responsible for it's dead. Let the dead bury the dead this time, Mr. Finch.'
- 'Well, it'd be sort of like shootin' a mockingbird, wouldn't it?'
- 'Most people are (nice), Scout, when you finally see them.' - Atticus.

Empathy

- ‘You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view- until you climb into his skin and walk around in it.’ - Atticus
- ‘Well how’d you feel if you’d been shut up for a hundred years with nothin’ but cats to eat?’ - Dill.
- ‘Why do you reckon Boo Radley’s never run off?’ - ‘Maybe he doesn’t have anywhere to run off to...’
- ‘Atticus had said it was the polite thing to talk to people about what they were interested in, not about what you were interested in.’ - Scout
- ‘I saw something only a lawyer’s child could be expected to see, could be expected to watch for, and it was like watching Atticus walk into the street, raise a rifle to his shoulder and pull the trigger, but watching all the time knowing that the gun was empty’
- ‘You got it backwards, Dill,’ said Jem. ‘Clowns are sad, it’s folks that laugh at them.’
- ‘I destroyed his last shred of credibility at that trial, if he had any to begin with. The man had to have some kind of comeback, his kind always does. So if spitting in my face and threatening me saved Mayella Ewell one extra beating, that’s something I’ll gladly take. He had to take it out on somebody and I’d rather it’d be me than that houseful of children out there.’
- Rising above social prejudice - ‘that boy’s not trash, Jem. He ain’t like the Ewell.’ / ‘No, everybody’s gotta learn, nobody’s born knowin’. That Walter’s as smart as he can be, he just held back sometimes because he had to stay out and help his daddy. Nothin’s wrong with him. Naw, Jem, I think there’s just one kind of folks. Folks.’
- Jem - ‘That’s what I thought, too... when I was your age. If there’s just one kind of folks, why can’t they get along with each other? If they’re all alike why do they go out of their way to despise each other? Scout, I think I’m beginning to understand something. I think I’m beginning to understand why Boo Radley’s stayed shut up in the house all this time... it’s because he *wants* to stay to inside.’

Social Awareness

- ‘There are just some kind of men who- who’re so busy worrying about the next world they’ve never learned to live in this one’ - Miss Maudie on describing Mr. Radley.
- ‘But before I can live with other folks I’ve got to live with myself. The one thing that doesn’t abide by majority rule is a person’s conscience.’
- Humbleness of the black people- ‘When they saw Jem and me with Calpurnia, the men stepped back and took off their hats; the women crossed their arms at their waists, weekday gestures of respectful attention.’ ; Their presentation of respect to Atticus for at least vindicating Tom, ‘They were standing. All around us and in the balcony on the opposite wall, the Negroes were getting to their feet. Reverend

Sykes's voice was as distant as Judge Taylor's: 'Miss Jean Louise, stand up. Your father's passin'.'

- 'Rape was carnal knowledge of a female by force and without consent.'
- Dolphus Raymond - 'It ain't honest but it's mighty helpful to folks. Secretly, Miss Finch, I'm not much of a drinker, but you see they could never, never understand that I live like I do because that's the way I want to live.'
- 'I have nothing but pity in my heart for the chief witness for the state, but my pity does not extend so far as to her putting a man's life at stake, which she has done in an effort to get rid of her own guilt... She has committed no crime, she has merely broken a rigid and time-honoured code of our society, a code so severe that whoever breaks it is hounded from our midst as unfit to live with... 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.'
- 'But there is one way in this country in which all men are created equal - there is one human institution that makes a pauper the equal of a Rockefeller, the stupid man the equal of an Einstein and the ignorant man the equal of any college president. That institution, gentlemen, is a court.'
- 'I simply want to tell you that there are some men in this world who were born to do our unpleasant jobs for us. Your father's one of them.'
- The jury took a long time coming to their decision, indicating that they couldn't be unanimous in Tom's sentencing. Miss Maudie explains this by stating 'we're making a step - it's just a baby-step, but it's a step.'; Atticus - 'That was the one thing that made me think, well, this may be the shadow of a beginning. That jury took a few hours. An inevitable verdict, maybe, but usually it takes 'em a few minutes.'
- 'In our courts, when it's a white man's word against a black man's, the white man always wins.'; 'As you grow older, you'll see white men cheat black men everyday 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.'
- Mr. Underwood didn't talk about miscarriages of justice, he was writing so children could understand. Mr. Underwood simply figured it was a sin to kill cripples, be they standing, sitting, or escaping. He likened Tom's death to the senseless slaughter of songbirds by hunters and children and Maycomb thought he was trying to write an editorial poetical enough to be reprinted in the Montgomery Advertiser.
- Heck Tate - 'Mr. Finch, there's just some kind of men you have to shoot before you can say hide to 'em.'

Courage

- 'I wanted you to see what real courage is, instead of getting the idea that courage is a man with a gun in his hand. It's when you know you're licked before you begin but you begin anyway and you see it through no matter what. You rarely win but sometimes you do.'

Pride

- Arthur's case highlights incredulosity of a 'foot-washing' Baptist and Redneck American, who couldn't have his pride meddled with, 'it was no prison and no disgrace. Mr. Radley thought it was.'
- 'I think maybe he put his gun down when he realised that God had given him an unfair advantage over most living things.' 'People in their right minds never take pride in their talents' - Miss Maudie. This allows us the true definition of pride, in which you understand you are 'One-Shot Finch' but you don't show it.

Prejudice

- 'Ignorant, trashy people use it when they think somebody's favouring Negroes over and above themselves' - Atticus when describing the term 'nigger-lover' to Scout.
- Rising above social prejudice - 'that boy's not trash, Jem. He ain't like the Ewell.' / 'No, everybody's gotta learn, nobody's born knowin'. That Walter's as smart as he can be, he just held back sometimes because he had to stay out and help his daddy

Innocence

- Their childish innocence consisted of arbitrary observations with coloured up fantasies of the world around them.
- Dill - 'It was the way he had said it made me sick, plain sick.' ; 'I don't care one speck. It ain't right, somehow it ain't right to do 'em that way. Hasn't anybody got any business talin' like that -it just makes me sick.'
- 'Because you're children and you can understand it,' - 'Things haven't caught up with that one's instinct yet. Let him get a little older and he won't get sick and cry... Cry about the simple hell people give other people- without even thinking. Cry about the hell white people give coloured folks, without even stopping to think that they're people, too.'
- It was Jem's turn to cry. His face was streaked with angry tears as we made our way through the cheerful crowd. 'It ain't right.' he muttered, all the way to the corner of the square where we found Atticus waiting.
- 'They've done it before and they did it tonight and they'll do it again and when they do it - seems that only children weep.'

Femininity

- When Jem enters his adolescent stage, Cal keeps Scout company, 'Calpurnia would do until Dill came.' She also has the sense of femininity gradually instilled in her, 'She seemed glad to see me when I appeared in the kitchen, and by watching her I began to think there was some skill involved in being a girl.'
- Jem had discovered with angry amazement that nobody had ever bothered to teach Dill how to swim, a skill Jem considered necessary as walking. They had spent two afternoons at the creek, they said they were going in naked and I couldn't come, so I divided the lonely hours between Calpurnia and Miss Maudie.
- She gave Miss Maudie a look of pure gratitude, and I wondered at the world of women. Miss Maudie and Aunt Alexandra had never been especially close, and here was Auntie silently thanking her for something.
- 'After all, if Auntie could be a lady at a time like this, so could I.'
- 'I slipped my hand into the crook of his arm....He had to stoop a little to accommodate me, but if Miss Stephanie Crawford was watching from her upstairs window, she would see Arthur Radley escorting me down the sidewalk, as any gentleman would do.'

Hypocrisy

- 'Oh child, those poor Mrunas.' - Mrs. Merriweather's large brown eyes always filled with tears when she considered the oppressed. 'Living in that jungle with nobody but J. Grimes Everett,' - 'The poverty...the darkness...the immorality'
- 'Well, I always say forgive and forget, forgive and forget. Thing that church ought to do is help her lead a Christian life for those children from here and on out. That darky's wife. Tom's wife.
- 'they grumbled all next day after that trial' - 'I tell you there's nothing more distracting than a sulky darky. Their mouths go down to here. Just ruins your day to have one of 'em in the kitchen... I tell you there are some good but misguided people in this town. good but misguided. Folks in this town who think they're doing right, I mean. Now far be it from me to say who, but some of 'em in this town thought they were doing the right thing a while back, but all they did was stir 'em up... I'm not read in that field, but sulky... dissatisfied... I tell you if my Sophy'd kept it up another day I'd have let her go. It's never entered that wool of hers that the only reason I keep her is because this depression's on and she needs her dollar and a quarter every week she can get it.'
- 'His food doesn't stick going down, does it?' - Miss Maudie
- Mrs. Merriweather identifies others as hypocrites while she is the biggest one of them all, ' At least we don't have that sin on our shoulders down here. People up there set 'em free, but you don't see 'em settin' at the table with 'em. At least we don't have the deceit to say to 'em yes you're as good as we

are but stay away from us. Down here we just say you'll live your way and we'll live ours.'

- Hypocrisy is a product of ignorance
- Miss Gates - 'Over here we don't believe in persecuting anybody. Persecution comes from people who are prejudiced.' - 'I heard her say it's time somebody taught 'em a lesson, they were gettin' way above themselves, an' the next thing they think they can do is marry us. Jem, how can you hate Hitler so bad an' then turn around and be ugly about folks right at home -?'