

2021年

4.23 世界閱讀日

創作比賽

4.23 World Book Day  
Creative Competition in 2021

探索閱讀

新領域

Exploring the New Frontiers of Reading

香港 Hong Kong

初中組 中一 (S1) ▶ 中三 (S3)  
Junior Secondary

## WONG Kary

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**Topic** A Good Book Will Inspire Lives -  
To Kill a Mockingbird

"To Kill a Mockingbird" will never stop being a good book, and it will never stop inspiring good people.' "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee was written at a time of disparity between the rights of white and black Americans. The story is set in the mid-1930s in the small town of Maycomb, Alabama. Telling from the eyes of Scout Finch, it portrays her father Atticus Finch, a lawyer who is hopelessly struggling to prove the innocence of a black man who is falsely convicted of rape. It also explores the idea 'Mockingbird' throughout the story by suggesting that it is wrong to prey upon people who may be weaker than you, but bear you no harm, this refers to the likes of Boo and Tom Robinson who are inherently innocent people.

Atticus is a heroic figure and the protagonist of the novel. Not only a father of Scout and Jem, but he was also the teacher of them, guiding them to learn some valuable life lessons about tolerance, empathy and understanding. Other than that, Atticus serves as Maycomb's moral backbone, an individual whom others turn to in times of doubt and trouble. However, the conscience that makes him so noble eventually triggers his falling out with the people of Maycomb. He decides to defend Tom Robinson, a black man, unwilling to abide by the status-quo of the convenient, entrenched racial bias inherent within the community. The acts of Atticus in Maycomb make him the object of scorn, but he wasn't afraid of the consequences and risks that his family would face later on. Knowing that there are still people that are like Atticus, I realise that despite all the hypocrisy and misery in the world, life goes on and there is always hope for better days.

Moreover, "To Kill a Mockingbird" explores the theme of motivation to its readers:

'You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view... Until you climb inside of his skin and walk around in it.'

Many people are being treated differently because of the colour of their skins, gender, etc. Despite this, a lot of people turn a blind eye to these prejudiced acts, since they do not want to get involved and eventually be targeted as well. This introduces and brings many people who are just like Tom Robinson back to today's society, demonstrating the frankly brutal reality of these people, who cannot be hushed into silence in their world, simply because of their appearance, skin colour and gender.

"To Kill a Mockingbird" is an inspiring novel. As a reader, I am often immersed in the book. I understand it must have been hard to be Tom Robinson or people that are being treated unfairly to go through discrimination and gossip behind his back. Overall, I like the character Atticus as he always stands out from the pack of people who wanted to do wrong even though he knew he would have to face risks and repercussions. Rather than cowardly stay away from inequity in this community, Atticus wanted to show his children, Jem and Scout how to follow their heart and do good deeds.

I know living in a place with such biased views was not easy and if I were those victims, I would have hidden behind my pillow and run away from reality. After reading this book, I have taken inspiration and learnt that I shouldn't walk away from the sad truths. I should stand out for them and lessen the 'mockingbirds' in this world. This book is rich with reality and raw emotions, managing to bring out the awareness of the social issues discussed earlier to the world, giving outsiders a chance to come out from the dark and show their true light.

With the differing perspectives of characters in the novel, "To Kill a Mockingbird" demonstrates how 'mockingbirds' live in their world, while others would never truly know how they feel. These perspectives converge in a portrait of one community's struggle with empathy, compassion, and acceptance. I encourage others to read this book because of how this book shows fairness and equality, introduces the true values that everyone should have and persuades more people to start treating them equally.

### Book Read

Book title : To Kill a Mockingbird  
Author : Harper Lee  
Publisher : London: Arrow Books, 2015.

### Comments

- Interesting, but also profound.
- A well-written and heart-touching piece of writing.