

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD: MOVIE VERSION

Study Guide compares *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee to the movie version *To Kill a Mockingbird* (1962) starring Gregory Peck. Screenplay by Horton Foote. Directed by Robert Mulligan. Produced by Alan Pakula. A Pakula-Mulligan, Brentwood Productions Picture.



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ISBN 978-1-937714-07-9

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SAMPLE TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD: MOVIE VERSION

THE MOVIE VERSION OF *TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD* IS NOT LIKE THE BOOK by Harper Lee

RECOMMENDED MOVIE: *To Kill a Mockingbird* (1962) starring Gregory Peck. Screenplay by Horton Foote. Directed by Robert Mulligan. Produced by Alan Pakula. A Pakula-Mulligan, Brentwood Productions Picture. This is the **ONLY** movie version of the novel and a classic. Gregory Peck won the Academy Award for Best Actor for his portrayal of Atticus Finch.

HOW ACCURATE IS THE MOVIE VERSION OF THE BOOK?

Plot: ★★☆☆☆ Characters: ★★☆☆☆ Setting: ★★★★★

Structure: ★★☆☆☆ Symbols: ★★☆☆☆ Theme: ★★☆☆☆

WHAT'S IN THE BOOK THAT'S NOT IN THE MOVIE?

Aunt Alexandra, the history of the Finch family, Uncle Jack, cousin Francis, Nathan Radley, Link Deas, the air rifles, the fire at Miss Maudie's, the mud man, Scout's painful experiences in first and second grade, Dill's Aunt Rachel (in the movie she's called Aunt Stephanie), Jem's destruction of Mrs. Dubose's flowers, Scout's discovery of trinkets left in the knothole, the children's visit to Calpurnia's church, the story takes place over 2 ½ years.

WHAT'S IN THE MOVIE THAT'S NOT IN THE BOOK?

Dill's aunt Miss Stephanie Crawford (in the book her name is Miss Rachel), the judge's request that Atticus defend Tom Robinson, Jem's discovery of the first trinkets in the knothole, Tom Robinson's father, Arthur Radley's cementing over the knothole, Miss Maudie as a younger woman, the trial as the main action, the reduced role of Mrs. Dubose, the story taking place in one year, Atticus throwing a glass at Tom Robinson in the courtroom.

WHAT'S THE SAME?

The setting in Maycomb, Alabama in the 1930's, Scout's fights at school, the trinkets in the knothole, Atticus's shooting a mad dog, the trial of Tom Robinson, Bob Ewell's spitting on Atticus, Boo Radley's rescue of Jem and Scout on Halloween.

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THE MOVIE: SUMMARY

The following is a scene-by-scene comparison of the movie to the corresponding chapters in the book.

THE MOVIE: CHAPTER 1

The movie opens with the voice of Scout as an adult narrating the scenes. She describes the town of Maycomb, Alabama when she was six years old in 1932. She calls it a tired old town where people did not have much to do and were suffering financially during the Great Depression. (**ACCURATE**)

Scout greets Mr. Cunningham as he leaves a sack of hickory nuts at the Finch's back door. (**ERROR:** *In the book in Chapter 2 Scout mentions that Mr. Cunningham once brought them hickory nuts. The scene is not in the book*) Scout runs to get Atticus so he can thank Mr. Cunningham. After Cunningham leaves, Atticus explains to Scout that it embarrasses Mr. Cunningham when he brings things as payment for some legal work. (**ERROR:** *This scene is not in the book*) She asks if the Cunninghams are poor. Then she asks if her own family is poor. Atticus explains that they aren't as poor as the Cunninghams because the Cunninghams are farmers, and the crash hit them the hardest. (**ERROR:** *In the book this dialogue takes place in Chapter 2*)

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