**Chapter 1**

* Flashback → when Jem was nearly 13 he broke his arm; the story will explain the events that led up to this
* Narrator → Scout (6 year old); brother is Jem (10 years old); father is Atticus - an older man (15 years older than his late wife); he is a lawyer; wife has died when Scout was 2
* The Cook → Calpurnia (Cal); older than Atticus; black woman; mother figure for Scout & Jem; disciplinarian; Atticus always takes Cal’s side (he trusts her)
* Ancestry → Simon Finch - the first Finch in Alabama; settled Finches Landing
  + The only Finch who still lives in Finch’s Landing is Alexandria (sister to Atticus)

     - Setting → Maycomb, Alabama - 1931 → described as a “tired old town”

- grass grew on the sidewalks; courthouse “sagged” in the square; always hot

- nowhere to go and no money to do anything (very poor)

     - That summer they met Dill (Charles Baker Harris)

- spending the summer with his Aunt Rachel

- from Meridian, Mississippi

- won a beautiful child contest; spent the winnings on the movies

- looks 4 years old but is really 7 (tiny)

- Dill accepted by Jem & Scout

- tells Jem & Scout about the movies

- plays all the bad parts in the stories

- he doesn’t have a father; Jem & Scout can’t relate (empathy)

     - Dill is fascinated by the Radley house

- old run down house at the end of the street

- slate grey, rain rotted shingles, drunken fence

     - The Radleys

- Mother, father, oldest son (Nathan), younger son (Arthur → “Boo”)

- Boo got in trouble as a child; locked in house; 15 years later stabs his father

     - According to Jem, Boo is 6 ½ feet tall, ate raw animals, hands were blood stained,      long jagged scar, teeth were yellow and rotten, and his eyes popped

     - Dill dares Jem to touch the Radley house

- house is droopy and sick

- Jem is scared to touch the house; Dill wore him down

- Jem runs; touches the house, runs back; they see the inside shutter move; could be Boo (?)

**Chapter 2**

* We learn about Scout → she is smart, educated, confident
* Miss Caroline Fisher → new to education; bad with children; does not understand the people of Maycomb
* Scout does not like Miss Caroline because Miss C. yells at her for knowing how to read and write
* Entailment → property that by law gets passed down to an heir
  + Property can’t be borrowed against
  + Rich in land, but owe money
  + Mr. Cunningham had problem with entailment
    - Needed a lawyer (Atticus) - no money to pay him - pays Atticus with goods/services

**Chapter 3**

* Scout beats up Walter
* Jem invites Walter over for dinner
* Scout yells at Walter for pouring syrup all over his food
* Calpurnia yells at Scout → treat everyone with respect
* Burris Ewell → 3rd time in 1st grade; filthy; rusty hands; mean
* Ewells → disgrace to Maycomb; father spends relief checks on whiskey; allow him to hunt out of season

**Chapter 4**

* End of the school year
* Scout walks past the Radley house; sees tin foil in knothole of the tree; gum - tests it - eats it; Jem gets angry
* Summertime → means Dill comes back
* Jem & Scout pass Radley house; find a shiny box with two Indian head pennies
* Dill learned to smell death → leads to a conversation about Hot Steams (spirits) that did not make it to heaven
* Get tire from house - puts Scout in it - pushes tire - crashes into Radley house
* Play a game called “Boo Radley”
* Atticus comes home; ends game
* Scout is happy because she heard someone laughing

**Chapter 5**

* Jem & Dill spend every day together playing; make fun of Scout for being a girl
* Scout spends her time with Miss Maudie Atkinson → neighbor, friend, widow, chameleon lady (p. 56)
* Scout questions Miss Maudie about Boo; asks if Boo is still alive; Miss M. says he is because his body hasn’t been brought out of the house (p. 57)
* Boo’s dad ws a “foot washing Baptist” (p. 59)
* Jem and Dill have a plan to lure Boo Radley out of the house → tie a note to the end of a fishing pole → Note: Please come out. We will buy you ice cream
  + Fishing pole did not reach
  + Atticus shows up; tells them to leave Boo alone
* Miss Maudie Atkinson
  + Baptist (but not a foot washer)
  + Knows Boo Radley; grew up with him
  + Wise, smart, articulate → Crisp speech for a Maycombian
  + About the same age as Uncle Jack (about 40)
  + “Has a benign presence” (benign → harmless, gentle, kind
  + Chameleon → able to take on both gender roles
  + “She has never told on us” → trustworthy
  + Purpose → another mother figure to Scout; someone to talk to when the boys are playing

**Chapter 6**

* End of summer
* Dill’s last night in Maycomb
* Scout, Jem, and Dill sitting around Miss Rachel’s fish pond talking about Mr. Avery
* Mr. Avery boards in the house across the street from Miss Dubose - Makes change from the collection plate
* Plan becomes → go over to Boo’s house, sneak around back, and look in the window
  + Why wait till now?

1. Dark so it’s easier to see in the house
2. Atticus will be inside reading
3. If they die they get to miss school

* Back of the house - climb under the wire fence, go through the gate - climb on the porch - can’t see inside
* Decide to find a different one
* Scout sees shadow of a man wearing a hat
* Kids run
* Nathan Radley shoots - kids run, Jem’s pants get stuck, takes them off
* See neighbors standing around, Nathan Radley has the gun, says he shot at black man in yard
* Dill says he won them (Jem’s pants) playing strip poker; Jem says playing with matches
* Jem goes to get his pants back; comes back shaking

**Chapter 7**

* Jem tells Scout he found his pants folded/mended
* Keep finding presents in the tree (Boo is leaving them)
* Nathan Radley puts cement in the tree; tells the kids the tree is sick
* Jem cries → shows he has matured - Jem realizes Nathan did something cruel - cuts off connection with outside world

**Chapter 8**

* Fall turns to winter - Cause of the season change: Mr. Avery says when children disobey their parents, smoke, or make war on each other then seasons change
* Mrs. Radley dies (natural causes)
* Scout screams “World is endin’” → first time seeing snow
* Build a snowman that looks like Mr. Avery
* Atticus wakes up Scout & Jem - Miss Maudie’s house is on fire
* Jem & Scout stand in front of Radley house
* Boo puts a blanket around Scout’s neck
* Miss Maudie is happy her house burnt down
* Fire is a turning point in the novel → after fire they are thrust into adult life

**Chapter 9**

* Scout fights with Cecil because he talks bad about Atticus
* Atticus is defending Tom Robinson → A black man accused of raping a white woman → Ewell
  + Atticus knows he will lose this case - it’s the right thing to do

-    Christmas time

- Uncle Jack comes to visit → cool uncle; doesn’t understand children until Scout teaches him his first lesson → listen to both sides of a story before acting

-    Christmas Day → go to Finches Landing

-    Aunt Alexandra → racist; gossips to her grandson Francis

-    Francis → says Atticus is a “N” lover; lets the kids run wild

**Chapter 10**

* Atticus was feeble (weak because of his age)
* Scout & Jem do not like that their father is old and uncool
* Scout & Jem get air rifles - Uncle Jack teaches them to shoot
* Atticus tells them they can shoot all the bluejays you want, but it is a sin to kill a mockingbird → they only make beautiful music for people to enjoy
* Scout & Jem see a dog in the street - Dogs name is Tim Johnson
* The dog is mad → has rabies
* Kids run and tell Calpurnia - she calls Atticus and Sheriff Heck Tate
* Atticus tells Tate to shoot the dog - Tate gives gun to Atticus - Atticus kills dog
* Maudie tells Scout that Atticus is the best shot in Maycomb → “Ol’ One Shot”
* Doesn’t shoot because he has an unfair advantage

**Chapter 11**

* Mrs. Dubose → mean old lady who always shouts at Jem & Scout
* Mrs. Dubose says something nasty about Atticus to Jem & Scout - Jem loses his temper - destroys all of Mrs. D’s flowers (white camellias)
* Jem’s punishment → must go to Mrs. D’s house every day for a month and read to her - Scout goes with Jem
* Mrs. Dubose dies one month after Jem’s punishment is over
* Atticus explains to Jem that Mrs. D. was addicted to morphine - Jem reading to her was part of her effort to end her addiction to morphine → shows Mrs. D’s bravery
* Mrs. Dubose give a box to her maid for Jem upon her death - in the box is a single white camellia

**Chapter 12 & 13**

* Summer
* Dill does not come to Maycomb - he has a new dad
* Dill’s absence coincides with the beginning of the adult world upon Scout’s childhood
* Dill has represented childhood
* Cal takes the kids to her church - this is our first look at the black community in Maycomb
* Church → poor, unpainted, no song books, no one can read
  + We see how close the people are - sense of community
  + Cal serves as a bridge between the two worlds

     -    Alexandra

    - clashes with Cal; doesn’t see a need for Cal anymore

     -     Lacks parenting skills

     -     Eager to help raise Jem & Scout

     -     Has pride in her family

**Chapter 14**

* Dill reappears - runs away from home - doesn’t think his family wants him anymore
* Alexandra represents the rules and customs of the adult world
* Dill represents an escape from the rules of the world
* Jem is growing up → wants Scout to act like a girl - spends time alone - aware of adult social roles
* Jem tells on Dill - “He broke the remaining code of our childhood” -Scout
* Jem slowly losing his innocence

**Chapter 15**

* Tom Robinson arrives at the Maycomb jail
* Atticus goes to the jail to sit outside to protect Tom R. from any angry mobs looking to enact justice
* Cars pull up to the jail - men want to kill Tom
* Jem, Scout, & Dill sneak into town late at night to see what Atticus is doing
* Atticus tells kids to go home - Jem refuses - shows his maturity
* Scout recognizes Mr. Cunningham - father of her classmate Walter Cunningham - Scout asks him about his entailment problems and asks him to say “hey” to Walter - Mr. Cunningham feels ashamed - tells all the men to leave
* Mr. Underwood had Atticus covered with a shotgun from the window of the newspaper office the whole time

**Chapter 16**

* Trial begins the next day
* Mr. Dolphus Raymond
  + Wealthy white man
  + Lives with a black woman - has children with her
  + Pretends to be drunk so that people of Maycomb have explanation for his behavior
  + Really drinking coke out of a bottle in a paper bag - not alcohol
  + Prefers living among black people

**Chapter 17**

* Trial Begins

Heck Tate’s Testimony

* Bob Ewell came to get him on 11/21 - says black man raped his daughter, Mayella
* Tate goes to Ewell home - finds Mayella lying on the floor in the front room
* Picks her up; washes her face - she tells Tate that Tom Robinson beat her and took advantage of her - didn’t call doctor - obvious she was beaten - bruises on the right side of her face, neck, and both arms - black eye on right side
* Person who attacked Mayella had to be left-handed
* Finger marks around her entire neck - shows she was choked with both hands

Bob Ewell’s Testimony

* Coming in from the woods with a load of kindlin’ (fire wood) - gets to the fence and hears Mayella scream (just before sundown)
* Drops the wood and runs right into the fence
* When he gets free he runs to the window
* Sees Tom Robinson raping his daughter
* Bob says the room was a mess like there was a big fight
* Ran around the house to get in, but Tom ran out the front door
* Bob runs to get Sheriff Tate
* Did not call a doctor because it would cost $5 and it was obvious as to what happened
* Atticus has Bob sign his name - Bob is left-handed

**Chapter 18**

Mayells Ewell’s Testimony

* Says she was sitting on the front porch
* Sees Tom - asks him to help her chop wood - she would pay him a nickel - Mayella goes into the house to get the money - Tom follows her inside, grabs her around the neck, and throws her to the ground
* When she wakes up her father is standing over her yelling, “Who did this?”
* Atticus asks her if Tom did this - asks Tom to stand up - we see that Tom’s left arm is useless (12 inches shorter than right arm)
* Atticus asks her about her friends - she doesn’t have any
* She invited Tom in the house before

**Chapter 19**

Tom Robinson’s Testimony

* Mayella always asks him to come inside the fence
* The first time she did this was last Spring - asks him to chop wood
* The Ewell children were always around
* The night of 11/21 → Tom was walking home from work - Mayella says she needs help with something inside the house - Mayella says the hinges on the door are broken - Tom sees nothing wrong with the hinges - Tom notices there are no kids around - Mayella saved 7 nickels over the course of a year to send them for ice cream
* Mayella asks Tom to get a box from the top of the dresser - Tom stands on the chair - Mayella grabs Tom from behind - Tom falls from the chair - Chair flips over (only piece of furniture that fell)
* Mayella kisses him - Tom pushes her away - Bob shows up - Yells through the window that he will kill Mayella
* Tom runs

**Chapter 20**

Conversation Between Dolphus Raymond and Dill & Scout

* Mr. Raymond offers Dill a drink from the bottle he has in a paper sack
* Dill reveals that the drink is Coca-Cola
* Mr. Raymond pretends to be drunk to give white people an excuse for why he prefers to be around black people

Atticus’ Closing Argument

* Goes over the evidence
* Makes a personal appeal to the jury
* Prosecution has produced no medical evidence of the crime
* Testimony of Bob and Mayella Ewell is unreliable
* Evidence shows Bob Ewell beat Mayella – Tom Robinson was physically unable to produce the bruises that were on Mayella’s body
* Mayella lusted after Tom – set the whole plan up – Mayella is lonely; no friends
* Begs the jury to avoid racist thoughts – all black people are criminals

**Chapter 21**

* Calpurnia hands Atticus a note telling him the children have not been home since noon
* Mr. Underwood points out that Jem & Scout are in the colored balcony
* Atticus tells kids to go home – kids want to stay for verdict – Atticus says come back after dinner – Kids go home, eat, and come back
* Jem is confident in Tom being found not guilty
* Late at night jury enters the court room
* Verdict 🡪 Tom is guilty
* As Atticus leaves the courtroom everyone in the colored balcony rises in a show of respect

**Chapter 22**

* Tom Robinson is found guilty – Jem is upset
* Miss Maudie tells Jem & Scout – Judge Taylor chose Atticus to defend Tom so Tom would get a fair trial
* Jury was deliberating for a long time – shows signs of progress in race relations
* Bob Ewell spits on Atticus – threatens him

**Chapter 23**

* Jem & Scout are afraid for Atticus – He tells them he made Bob look like a fool
* One man on the jury that wanted to free Tom 🡪 Cunningham
* Scout wants to become friends with Walter Cunningham – Aunt Alexandra calls the Cunninghams trash
* Jem thinks there are 4 types of people:
  1. Finches & their neighbors
  2. Cunninghams
  3. Ewells
  4. Black people
* Scout says that we shouldn’t judge – people are people

**Chapter 24**

* Aunt Alexandra invites her missionary circle to tea
* Women talking about how the black people in Maycomb are “acting up” – Atticus comes home and tells them Tom Robinson is dead – Tom tried to escape from jail – Gets shot 17 times

**Chapter 25**

* People learn of Tom’s death – say it’s typical of a black man to try to escape
* Mr. Underwood writes a long editorial condemning Tom’s death as the murder of an innocent man – death of a songbird (mockingbird)
* Bob Ewell is happy – 1 down 2 to go

**Chapter 26**

* Scout in school – talking about Hitler – teacher lectures the class on the virtues of equality and democracy
* Scout remembers her teacher on the courthouse steps saying racist comments – Does not understand why her teacher hates Hitler but acts the same way

**Chapter 27**

* 3 things happen in Maycomb
  1. Bob Ewell got a job – Gets fired a few days later – Blames Atticus
  2. Judge Taylor’s house is broken into
  3. Helen Robinson (Tom’s wife) was stalked by Bob Ewell
* Halloween party/play at school

**Chapter 28**

* Jem & Scout on their way to the Halloween party – crossing the field – going to the school – Cecil Jacobs jumps out and scares them
* Scout falls asleep backstage during the play – misses her entrance
* Jem & Scout leave – going back home – Jem hears footsteps behind them
* As they get near the tree – someone attacks them 🡪 Bob Ewell
* Someone comes and saves Jem & Scout 🡪 Boo
* Boo kills Bob Ewell – carries Jem back to the house
* Heck Tate tells Atticus that Bob Ewell is dead

**Chapter 29**

* Heck Tate asks Scout what happened – tells what happened – says Jem was picked up and carried home
* Man standing in the corner of Scout’s room 🡪 pale – white hands – hair was dead – thin – hollow cheeks 🡪 The man is Boo

**Chapter 30**

* Heck Tate & Atticus argue – Atticus thinks Heck is covering up for Jem – He thinks Jem killed Bob – He is really covering for Boo
* It would bring Boo unwanted attention
* Story Heck Tate is going with: Bob Ewell fell on his knife