

To Kill a Mockingbird

Adapted from Harper Lee's novel by Christopher Sergel

*Especially for Grades 7-12

Barter's Gilliam Stage– Fall, 2023

(NOTE: standards are included for reading *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee, seeing a performance of the play, and completing the study guide.)

Virginia SOLs

English – 7.1, 7.4, 7.5, 7.7, 7.9, 8.2, 8.4, 8.5, 8.7, 8.9, 9.1, 9.3, 9.4, 9.6, 9.8, 10.3, 10.4, 10.6, 10.8, 11.3, 11.6, 11.8, 12.1, 12.3, 12.4, 12.6

Theatre Arts – 7.6, 7.18, 7.20, 8.5, 8.12, 8.18, 8.22, TI.10, TI.11, TI.13, TI.17, TII.6, TII.9, TII.12, TII.15, TII.17, TIII.11, TIII.12, TIV.12, TIV.13

Tennessee/North Carolina Common Core State Standards

English Language Arts – Reading Literacy: 7.1, 7.4, 7.7, 7.10, 8.1, 8.4, 8.6, 8.7, 8.10, 9-10.1, 9-10.4, 9-10.6, 9-10.9, 9-10.10, 11-12.1, 11-12.4, 11-12.7, 11-12.10

English Language Arts – Writing: 7.1, 7.7, 7.8, 7.9, 8.1, 8.7, 8.8, 8.9, 9-10.1, 9-10.7, 9-10.8, 9-10.9, 11-12.1, 11-12.7, 11-12.8, 11-12.9

Tennessee State Standards

Theatre 6-8 – 7.1, 7.2 **Theatre 9-12** – 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 7.1, 7.2

North Carolina Essential Standards

Theatre Arts – 7.A.1, 7.AE.1, 7.CU.1, 8.A.1, 8.AE.1, 8.CU.1, 8.CU.2, B.C.1, B.C.2, B.A.1, B.AE.1, B.CU.1, B.CU.2, I.A.1, I.AE.1, I.CU.2, P.C.1, P.A.1, P.AE.1, A.C.2, A.A.1, A.AE.1

Setting

The small town of Maycomb, Alabama, 1930's.



Characters

Atticus Finch – a lawyer

Jem – Atticus's young son

Scout – Atticus's even younger daughter

Calpurnia – the Finch's cook

Dill – a young boy visiting Maycomb

Maudie Atkinson – the Finch's neighbor; nice

Mrs. Dubose – the Finch's neighbor; hateful

Stepanie Crawford – the Finch's neighbor; gossip

Heck Tate – the sheriff

Tom Robinson – man accused of a crime

Helen Robinson – Tom's wife

Boo Radley – recluse; the neighborhood legend

Reverend Sykes – pastor of the Black church

Bob Ewell – low-class troublemaker

Mayella Ewell – his daughter

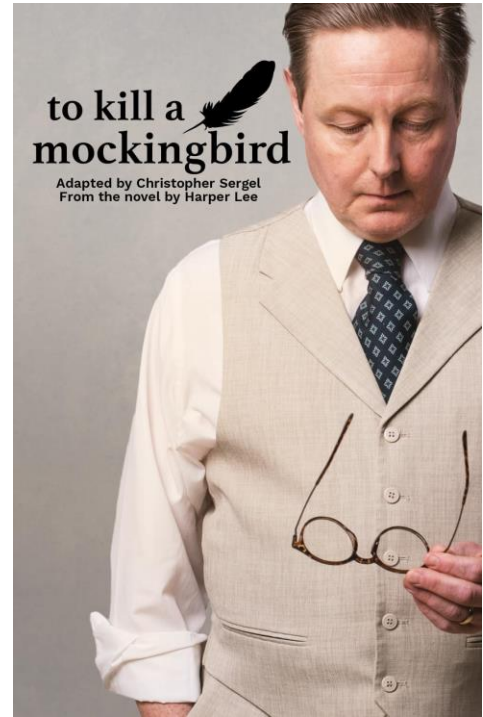
Mr. Cunningham – a poor farmer

Judge Taylor – presides over trial

Mr. Gilmer – prosecuting attorney

Nathan Radley – Boo's brother

Clerk – court clerk



Note: Doubling of Actors

In this production of *To Kill a Mockingbird* some actors will be playing more than one role. Doubling of actors requires distinction between characters. In this production, characters will be distinguished by costume, voice and other physical character traits.

“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 Finch

Vocabulary Words

ancient	sensible	recollect
contemporaries	tension	identify
inconspicuous	civilized	evidence
benefit	advantage	circumstances
scold (noun)	camisole	disregard
morbid	agreeable	misdemeanor
principal	begrudge	impudent
profane	recounted	enormity
abusive	intention	persist
hooky	gala	circumstantial
scuppernong	testimony	contempt
contradict	jury	assumption
ruthless	audibly	caliber
prediction	obscene	institution
tribulations	speculations	unmitigated
truant	spectators	temerity
inquisitive	recess	integrity
peculiar	defendant	verdict
mortgage	warrant (verb)	acquittal
entailment	literacy	tribute
majority	irrelevant	desist
conscience	prejudice	appeal
abuse	courteous	distraction

Define each of the vocabulary words listed above then write sentences using them. Remember: anyone reading your sentence should be able to understand the word from the context in which it is used.

“Simply because we were licked a hundred years before we started is no reason for us not to try to win.”

Atticus Finch

Synopsis

This story is set during the Great Depression in the sleepy town of Maycomb, Alabama, where a young girl named Scout Finch lives with her brother, Jem, and their widowed father, Atticus, who is a lawyer. Because Atticus is away at work all day, Scout and Jem are looked after by the family's Black cook, Calpurnia. This particular summer, Jem and Scout befriend a boy named Dill, who has come to live in their neighborhood with his Aunt Rachel for a few weeks while his mother remarries. Dill becomes obsessed with the spooky house on their street and its equally spooky occupant, Boo Radley. Boo is a recluse, and Dill is determined to hatch a plan to get him to come out of the house. Atticus learns of this plan and insists they leave Boo alone. Atticus then explains that Boo has his reasons for staying inside, and they won't understand him fully until they spend some time walking around in his shoes.



Jem, who loves football, wants Atticus to play with the other fathers in a fundraising game coming up, but Atticus refuses, claiming he's too old. Jem is ashamed, certain his father has no redeeming skills. Then one afternoon a mad dog is seen coming up the street. When the sheriff and Atticus arrive, the sheriff insists that Atticus be the one to shoot him since he is a champion shot. Until then, Jem and Scout had never seen their father even hold a gun; when Atticus kills the dog with one shot, they begin to realize that there's a lot more to their father than they ever suspected.



Meanwhile, a young white woman named Mayella Ewell accuses a Black man named Tom Robinson of rape. To the consternation of Maycomb's racist white community, Atticus agrees to defend Tom and as a result, Jem and Scout are subjected to name-calling from other children. Even Mrs. Dubose, the hateful old lady two doors down, gets in on the action, and so angers Jem that he attacks her prize camellia bushes. When Atticus finds out, he orders Jem to apologize and arranges for Jem to read to Mrs. Dubose every afternoon for a month.

Synopsis (cont.)

Dill, who had left town to go live with his mother and new “father” in Meridian, Mississippi, runs away and returns to Maycomb. Atticus arranges for him to stay with the Finches for the remainder of the summer. Tom Robinson’s trial is about to begin, and when the Tom is placed in the local jail the night before, a mob gathers outside to lynch him. Atticus tries to face the mob down, but is losing ground until Jem, Scout, and Dill join him. Scout recognizes one of the men, Mr. Cunningham, and her polite questioning about his son shames him into dispersing the mob.



The trial begins and the children sit in the balcony with the town’s Black citizens. Atticus provides clear evidence that the accusers, Mayella and her father, Bob Ewell, are lying; that Tom Robinson was physically incapable of assaulting Mayella the way she described, and that the beating that she received was at the hands of her father. Yet, despite all the evidence pointing to Tom’s innocence, the all-white jury convicts him. The innocent Tom later tries to escape from prison and is shot to death, shaking the children’s faith in humanity and the justice system.

Despite the verdict, Bob Ewell feels that Atticus and the judge have made a fool out of him, and he vows revenge. He attacks Jem and Scout as they walk home from a Halloween party. Boo Radley intervenes, however, saving the children and stabbing Ewell fatally during the struggle. Boo carries the wounded Jem back to Atticus’s house, where the sheriff, in order to protect Boo, insists that Ewell tripped over a tree root and fell on his own knife. After sitting with Scout for a while, Boo disappears once more into the Radley house.



Later, Scout feels as though she can finally imagine what life is like for Boo. With this realization, Scout embraces her father’s advice to practice sympathy and “walk in another man’s shoes.” She demonstrates that her experiences with hatred and prejudice will not sully her faith in human goodness.

Biography of Harper Lee, author of *To Kill a Mockingbird*

Nelle Harper Lee was born on April 28, 1926, the youngest of four children of Amasa Lee, a lawyer, and Frances Cunningham Finch Lee. She grew up in Monroeville, a small town in southwest Alabama. As a child, Lee was a tomboy and a precocious reader. She attended Huntingdon College, a private school for women in Montgomery for a year and then transferred to the University of Alabama. After graduation, Lee studied at Oxford University.

In 1949, Lee moved to New York City, where she wrote several essays and short stories. Although none were published, her agent encouraged her to develop one short story into a novel, a novel that eventually became *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Published in 1960, it became an instant best seller. In 1961 it was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, and in 1962 it was made into a film starring Gregory Peck.

For the remainder of her life, Harper Lee divided her time between New York and her hometown of Monroeville, Ala., where she died on February 19, 2016. Though she published no other work of fiction, *To Kill a Mockingbird* continues to have a strong impact on successive generations of readers.



Biography of Christopher Sergel, Playwright



Christopher Sergel was born May 7, 1918, in Iowa City, IA, and graduated from the University of Chicago. He was a born adventurer. As captain of the schooner *Chance*, he spent two years in the South Pacific; as a writer for *Sports Afield* magazine, he lived in the African bush for a year; as a lieutenant commander during WWII, he taught celestial navigation; as a playwright, his adaptation of Sherwood Anderson's *Winesburg, Ohio* was seen on Broadway. But throughout his life, his greatest adventure and deepest love was his work with Dramatic Publishing, of which he was President from 1970 to 1973.. During this time, he wrote adaptations of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Cheaper By the Dozen*, *The Mouse That Roared*, *Up the Down Staircase*, *Fame*, *Black Elk Speaks* and many more. His inspiration and integrity attracted to the company fine writers including C.P. Taylor, Timberlake Wertenbaker, Arthur Miller, Roald Dahl

and E.B. White - to name just a few. He once said he hoped to be remembered as E.B. White described Charlotte... "a true friend and a good writer." Sergel died at his home in Wilton, CT on May 7, 1993 – his 75th birthday.



A Brief History

Barter Theatre was founded during the Great Depression by Robert Porterfield, an enterprising young actor. He and his fellow actors found themselves out of work and hungry in New York City. Porterfield contrasted that to the abundance of food, but lack of live theatre, around his home region in Southwest Virginia. He returned to Washington County with an extraordinary proposition: bartering produce from the farms and gardens of the area to gain admission to see a play.

Barter Theatre opened its doors on June 10, 1933 proclaiming, “With vegetables you cannot sell, you can buy a good laugh.” The price of admission was 40 cents or the equivalent in produce, the concept of trading “ham for Hamlet” caught on quickly. At the end of the first season, the Barter Company cleared \$4.35 in cash, two barrels of jelly and enjoyed a collective weight gain of over 300 pounds.

Playwrights including Noel Coward, Tennessee Williams and Thornton Wilder accepted Virginia ham as payment for royalties. An exception was George Bernard Shaw, a vegetarian, who bartered the rights to his plays for spinach.

Today, Barter Theatre has a reputation as a theatre where many actors performed before going on to achieve fame and fortune. The most recognized of these alumni include Gregory Peck, Patricia Neal, Ernest Borgnine, Hume Cronyn, Ned Beatty, Gary Collins, Larry Linville and Frances Fisher. The list also included James Burrows, creator of *Cheers*, Barry Corbin, and the late Jim Varney.

Robert Porterfield passed away in 1971. His successor, Rex Partington, had been at Barter in the 1950s as an actor and in the 1970s as stage manager. Rex returned as chief administrator from 1972 until his retirement in 1992. In March 2006, he passed away.

Richard Rose was named the Producing Artistic Director in October 1992. During his tenure, attendance grew from 42,000 to more than 163,000 annual patrons. Significant capital improvements were also made, including renovation of the main stage (now Gilliam Stage) in 1995 and the 2006 addition of The Barter Café at Stage II (now the Smith Theatre). Rose retired in December of 2019 and Katy Brown, who had been at Barter since 1998 as the Director of the Barter Players and as an Associate Artistic Director, was named the fourth Producing Artistic Director – and is the first woman to hold the position.

Barter represents two distinct venues of live theatre: Barter Theatre’s Gilliam Stage, and Barter’s Smith Theatre. Gilliam Stage, with over 500 seats, features traditional theatre in a luxurious setting. Barter’s Smith Theatre offers seating for 167 around a thrust stage in an intimate setting and is perfect for more adventurous productions. Barter Theatre is also home to The Barter Players, a talented ensemble of actors who produce plays for young audiences throughout the year.

History is always in the making at Barter Theatre, building on legends of the past; Barter looks forward to the challenge of growth in the future.

Word Search

Find the following words in the puzzle below:

Atticus Finch, Maycomb, lawyer, Calpurnia, Scout, Boo Radley, Jem, Dill, Barter Theatre, mockingbird, Mayella, chiffarobe, courtroom, mad dog, Harper Lee, Tom Robinson, Heck Tate, rifle, knothole

L	M	A	Y	C	O	M	B	L	S	Y	H	D	C	H
I	O	E	N	G	F	O	S	C	A	C	Z	G	A	K
N	O	T	L	L	G	U	O	Q	N	W	O	S	L	M
L	R	A	C	M	A	U	E	I	P	D	Y	P	P	O
L	T	T	L	Q	T	L	F	P	D	M	R	E	U	C
I	R	K	Q	X	F	S	X	A	A	E	P	T	R	K
D	U	C	T	I	U	X	M	Y	W	Z	J	H	N	I
A	O	E	R	C	A	S	E	D	M	F	H	T	I	N
M	C	H	I	Y	E	L	D	A	R	O	O	B	A	G
R	E	T	I	Q	L	U	X	B	S	P	L	X	T	B
I	T	J	Q	A	H	A	R	P	E	R	L	E	E	I
A	B	A	R	T	E	R	T	H	E	A	T	R	E	R
E	R	M	T	E	B	O	R	A	F	F	I	H	C	D
N	O	S	N	I	B	O	R	M	O	T	I	A	C	G
K	N	O	T	H	O	L	E	K	K	Y	E	L	R	I

True and False

Write **T** if the statement is **True** and **F** if the statement is **False**.

1. ____ *To Kill a Mockingbird* was written by Harper Lee.
2. ____ Atticus Finch is a lawyer in the town of Maycomb, Alabama.
3. ____ Scout often fights with her brother Dill.
4. ____ Jem attacks Mrs. Dubose's camellia bushes.
5. ____ Calpurnia shoots a mad dog wandering near the Finch's home.
6. ____ Scout finds two buffalo nickels in the knothole of the tree.
7. ____ Jem wants Atticus to play baseball with the other fathers.
8. ____ Dill's parents worry about him nonstop.
9. ____ Stephanie Crawford is addicted to morphine.
10. ____ Mr. Cunningham was part of the mob at the jailhouse.
11. ____ Bob Ewell is right-handed.
12. ____ Mayella asked Tom Robinson to bust up a chiffarobe.
13. ____ Tom Robinson is acquitted of his crime.
14. ____ Boo Radley accidentally breaks Jem's arm.
15. ____ Boo Radley kills Bob Ewell with a kitchen knife.

Matching

Draw a line connecting the person/place in the 1st column with the corresponding description in the 2nd.

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Mayella | a. left-handed |
| 2. Heck Tate | b. loves football |
| 3. Bob Ewell | c. helps raise Jem and Scout |
| 4. Calpurnia | d. refused to shoot a mad dog |
| 5. Scout | e. accused of a crime |
| 6. Tom | f. lies on the witness stand |
| 7. Jem | g. real name is Jean Louise |

Questions/Activities

1. The novel *To Kill a Mockingbird* is narrated by Scout, the daughter of Atticus Finch. Why do you think the author chose to tell this story from a young girl's point-of-view? **Discuss.** **How does point-of-view (POV) affect story?** For example, how would this story differ if it was told from Atticus's POV? From Calpurnia's? Bob Ewell's? Tom Robinson's? Boo Radley's? **Discuss.**



EXTRA CREDIT!

Rewrite the scene where Bob Ewell attacks the Finch children from Boo Radley's point-of-view. Then rewrite it from Bob Ewell's POV, then Jem's. Compare the stories. Does a different POV affect how you feel about the different characters? **Discuss.**



Boo Radley



Bob Ewell



Jem Finch

2. What is **justice**? Was the verdict against Tom Robinson an example of justice? Is there a difference between the law and justice? **Discuss.** At the end of the book, after Bob Ewell is found dead, Sheriff Heck Tate tells Atticus "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. Let the dead bury the dead." What does Heck Tate mean by this statement? Is this a form of justice? **Discuss.**

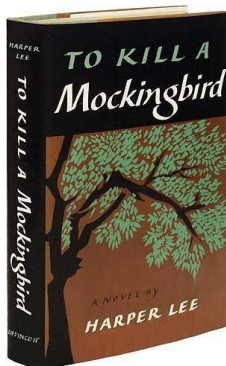


3. What do you think happened to Mayella Ewell after the story ends? Does she stay in Maycomb? Does she run away? Is there anyone left to help her? Does she deserve help after what she did to Tom Robinson? **Discuss.**

4. The novel *To Kill a Mockingbird* was published in 1960, in the midst of America's Civil Rights era. The story itself is set in the 1930's. **Using the internet, research** the laws affecting the Black communities in the American south in 1935 and compare them with the laws affecting the same communities in 1960. Had anything changed? **Discuss.**



Are the events surrounding the case against Tom Robinson something that could only happen in the past, or is this something we still see happening today? Could this novel have been set in 1960? In 2020? **Discuss.** Again, **use the internet and research** the Central Park birdwatching incident that occurred on May 25, 2020. **How does this case compare to the one against Tom Robinson? Discuss.**



5. Since its publication in 1960, various states, counties, school boards, etc. have tried to ban *To Kill a Mockingbird*. **Using the internet, research** the reasons behind the various movements to do so. Have those reasons changed over the years? **Discuss.** How do you feel about book-banning? Are there good reasons for banning a book? Who gets to decide? **Discuss.**

6. When Tom Robinson tried to escape from prison by climbing the fence, the prison guards shot him 17 times, killing him. Tom was unarmed. Do you think the guards used excessive force? What were Atticus's thoughts on this subject? **Discuss.**

Using the internet, research other situations where unarmed Black men and women are shot and killed by law enforcement officials. (i.e. Breonna Taylor, Jayland Walker, Michael Brown) How do these situations compare to the death of Tom Robinson? How much has changed in the 90 years since this story was set? **Discuss.**



7. Read *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee then attend a performance of Barter's production. How are they similar? How are they different?

Write a paper that compares and contrasts the book with Barter's production!

8. Using pictures from magazines or newspapers, construct a collage representing one of the characters from *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Display the collages around the room and see if the other students are able to match the collage to the character.



Write a critique of Barter's production of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Be sure to include what you liked, didn't like and what you would have done differently.

Write it!

Select your favorite character from the play, pick an important day in their life that influences this play then write a journal entry about that day as that character. For example, what might Jem write the night after Atticus shot the dog? What might Dill write after Tom Robinson's conviction? Be as specific as possible and write as that character would.



Comedy vs. Tragedy



comedy: a dramatic work that is light and often humorous or satirical in tone and that usually contains a happy resolution of the thematic conflict.

tragedy: A drama or literary work in which the main character is brought to ruin or suffers extreme sorrow, especially as a consequence of a tragic flaw, moral weakness, or inability to cope with unfavorable circumstances.

Given these definitions, would you categorize *To Kill a Mockingbird* as a comedy or a tragedy? **Cite three samples from the play to support your position.** Does a character's point-of-view influence your findings? **Discuss.**

irony: *a literary technique, originally used in Greek tragedy, by which the full significance of a character's words or actions are clear to the audience or reader although unknown to the character.*

9. In Chapter 20, Atticus says "... he swore out a warrant, no doubt signing it with his left hand, and Tom Robinson now sits before you, having taken the oath with the only good hand which he possesses--his right hand." **Why is this ironic?** Can you find other examples of irony in this story? **Discuss.**

Be Descriptive!

**Read the description of Maycomb, Alabama
from *To Kill a Mockingbird* below...**

“Maycomb was an old town, but it was a tired old town when I first knew it. In rainy weather, the streets turned to red slop; grass grew on the sidewalks, the courthouse sagged in the square. Somehow, it was hot then; a black dog suffered on a summer’s day; bony mules hitched to Hoover carts flicked flies in the sweltering shade of the live oaks on the square...



Students

Find a picture of a person, place or thing from a magazine and write a description of him/her/it in your own words. Be as descriptive as possible.

Teacher

Number the pictures and place them on one wall of the classroom. Give the students copies of the descriptions and see if they are able to match them to the appropriate picture!

Be Artistic!

Read the following descriptions from Harper Lee's
To Kill a Mockingbird

“Finch’s Landing consisted of three hundred and sixty-six steps down a high bluff and ending in a jetty... A two-rut road ran from the riverside and vanished among the dark trees. At the end of the road was a two-storied white house with porches circling its upstairs and downstairs... There was a kitchen separate from the rest of the house, tacked onto it by a wooden catwalk; in the backyard was a rusty bell on a pole... a widow’s walk was on the roof...”

“He was still leaning against the wall. He had been leaning against the wall when I came into the room, his arms folded across his chest. As I pointed he brought his arms down and pressed the palms of his hands against the wall. They were white hands, sickly white hands that had never seen the sun... I looked from his hands to his sand-stained khaki pants; my eyes traveled up his thin frame to his torn denim shirt. His face was as white as his hands, but for a shadow on his jutting chin. His cheeks were thin to hollowness; his mouth was wide... and his gray eyes were so colorless I thought he was blind. His hair was dead and thin, almost feathery on top of his head...”

Now working in whichever medium you choose – paint, pencil, pen and ink, charcoal, etc. – illustrate one of the descriptions above.



From the Page to the Stage!

How does a book become a stage play? Here are some of the elements that went into Barter's production of *To Kill a Mockingbird*...

1. Script

It all starts here. A playwright (in this case, playwright Christopher Sergel) turns the prose of literature into dialogue and dramatic action. This is called "adapting". Sound easy?

Try it yourself!

Pick a scene from your favorite story and adapt it into a scene for the stage. Try not to use the narrative voice – focus instead on creating "dialogue" between the characters.

2. Director/Actors

The director and actors begin the rehearsal process. The director "blocks" the play, which means he tells the actors where to move and stand and sit. The actors work on learning their lines, finding their character's motivation and creating the world of the play. The length of a rehearsal process for a Barter production ranges from 80 to 120 hours spread out over 4-8 weeks, depending on the play.

Try it yourself!

Rehearse the scene you adapted with your classmates.

3. Set Design

The set designer designs a set that will not only serve the aesthetic needs of the production by creating beautiful visuals that represent the various locations in the story (the neighborhood streets, the courtroom) but also function as a safe environment upon which the actors will move (or be moved). A good set design will also allow the action to flow from one scene to another smoothly, with seamless transitions.

Try it yourself!

Using the scene you adapted, design a set that will both visually serve the story and function effectively for the actors.

4. Costumes/Wigs

The costume designer is responsible for creating a different look for each character while maintaining the overall aesthetic of the production.

Each actor's costume must be tailored to fit and be built to take the wear-and-tear of 8 shows a week! Also, in a show where the actor is required to play more than one character, the design must incorporate a method to facilitate "quick changes". The wig designer is responsible for designing, building and styling the wigs that will appear in the show. Like the costumes, wigs are necessary to help distinguish characters.

Try it yourself!

Design a costume/wig for the character in your scene. Make sure your costume includes a mechanism to make "quick changes possible."

5. Props

The stick of gum in the knothole! Heck Tate's rifle! The courtroom Bible! These are a few examples of the props designed and built by Barter's props department for this production. A **prop** is defined as an object used on stage by actors for use in the plot or story line of a theatrical production.

Try it yourself!

Design and build the props you will need for your scene.

6. Lights/Sound

Lights not only illuminate the actors and pull focus to various spots on the stage but, together with sound, help create a mood. Lights and sound can also, along with the set, help establish location. The sound of cars approaching, the light of a bare bulb burning, and we are waiting with Atticus in front of the jail that night!

Try it yourself!

Put together a soundtrack for your scene that establishes place and mood. Feel free to use recorded music/sound effects or perform it live!

7. Stage Manager/Crew

The Stage Manager attends all the rehearsals and once the show goes into production, is "in charge", calling all the sound and light cues and maintaining the integrity of the piece during its run. The SM is aided in these endeavors by the Crew, the unsung heroes who work backstage moving sets, changing wardrobe, placing props – whatever is necessary for the show to go on!

Suggested Further Reading

Books by Southern Writers:

Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston
My Last Days as Roy Rogers by Pat Cunningham DeVoto
Daisy Fay and the Miracle Man by Fannie Flagg
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou
The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas
Necessary Lies by Diane Chamberlain
The Color Purple by Alice Walker
The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd
The Heart is a Lonely Hunter by Carson McCullers
A Lesson Before Dying by Ernest J. Gaines
Bastard Out of Carolina by Dorothy Allison

Books written about Harper Lee:

I Am Scout: The Biography of Harper Lee by Charles J. Shields
Afternoons with Harper Lee by Wayne Flynt
The Mockingbird Next Door: Life with Harper Lee by Marja Mills

