



# QM Library Newsletter

Issue 1, December 2021 (edited by Sam, Year 12)

## IN DEPTH

### TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD

by Harper Lee

*To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee is a fictional story on the front, but its themes are so much more than that. It is one of those books which you will have to read at some point and reading it as early as possible is ideal since it is a good entry point into books that explore deeper themes.

The story is told through Jean Louise "Scout" Finch, and it is about the unconventional hero and single parent Atticus Finch, the lawyer who stands up for a black man, charged with the rape of a white girl.

Atticus is known as a "moral" hero – and morality is the main theme of the book, as well as what is "right" and "wrong" and targeting the problems with the law. Atticus is not perfect, but at the same he has the ideal personality – he is not racist, sexist or homophobic, but he sees everyone as equal, and he fights indirectly to destroy bias.

*To Kill a Mockingbird* is a tough read – that is understandable – but you must at least give it a try. The themes of the book link into many real-life situations.

**Taysir (Year 9)**

## PEARLS OF WISDOM

### FOR A SHORT WHILE

by Jay Hulme

*People like to write about Icarus, but we forget that he flew, for a short while, anyway; / and people like to write about Judas, but we forget that he walked with God, for a short while, anyway; / and people like to write about death, but forget that we live, for a short while, anyway; / and perhaps such things are worth it, are worth throwing it all away; / oh, what I'd give to touch such dreams, for a short while, anyway.*

chosen by **William (Year 10)**

## QUICK READS

### THE TAKING OF ANNIE THORNE

by C.J. Tutor

*The Taking of Annie Thorne* is one of the most sinister thrillers out there, an opinion shared by authors such as Stephen King. The novel gets straight into the drama and will make shivers run down your spine. The twists and turns make it almost impossible to predict what will occur later in the book until the very end. I highly recommend this book by C.J. Tutor as well as her best-selling book *The Chalk Man*.

**Adam (Year 11)**

### REAPER MAN

by Terry Pratchett

This fantasy comedy set on the strange Discworld tells the story of Death, dying. He tries to hide from a governing power on a farm to live out the rest of his days with the innocent Miss Flitworth under the guise of "Bill Door". He tries to figure out how humans live their everyday lives by eating, drinking in bars, and trying to learn how to dream, while simultaneously attempting to teach a dyslexic rooster how to crow correctly. Meanwhile, across the world people die, but don't go away.

**Benjamin (Year 10)**

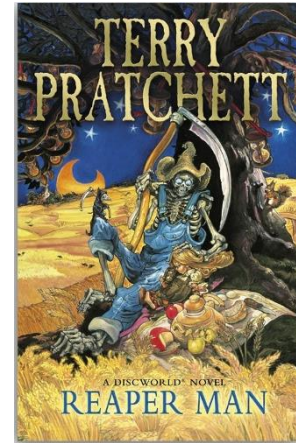
### I AM THE MINOTAUR

by Anthony McGowan

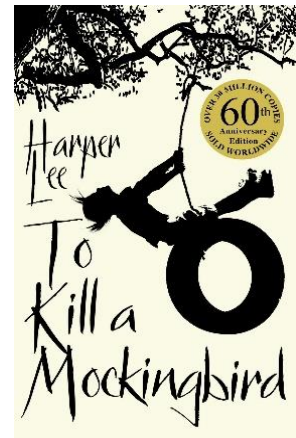
*I am the Minotaur* is an inspiring book, aimed at around 12 to 13-year-olds. The imagery of *Minotaur* is especially appealing, and the characterisation is some of the best I have read. With an emotionally drawing plot that shines a light on the struggles of being a young carer, *Minotaur* is a book which shows that the life you hope for may not work out in the end, but that your true calling can be found in the places you do not expect.

**Blake (Year 9)**

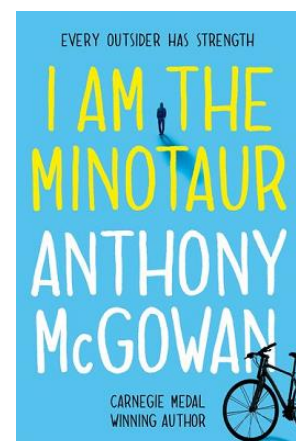
## JUDGING BY COVERS...



**Benjamin**



**Taysir**



**Blake**