

THE SYMBOL OF MOCKINGBIRDS IN HARPER LEE'S *TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD* A THEME ANALYSIS

Wahyu Titik Retno Handayani*
Tri Pramesti**

Abstrak. Simbolisme digunakan dalam berbagai tulisan seperti novel. Simbol merupakan bagian yang tak terpisahkan dari sebuah karya fiksi karena simbol memperkaya narasi dan menarik perhatian pembaca. Artikel ini membahas simbol yang tersirat dalam kata *mockingbird*. Lewat analisa tema novel ini terungkaplah bahwa *mockingbird* menyimbolkan kebaikan dan kesucian, yang baik dan yang jahat, ketidaksetaraan social dan rasisme, dan keberanian.

Kata kunci: simbol, penafsiran simbol, tema

INTRODUCTION

Symbolism is used in many writing forms such as novels. It is an integral component of fiction because the symbols enrich the narrative by pulling the message of the novel for the readers. Symbols in novels can be objects, characters, figures, or colors used to represent abstract ideas or concepts. Just as characterization, dialogues, and plot work on the surface to move the story along, symbolism works under the surface to tie the story's external action to the theme. In fictional narrative, symbolism is often produced through allegory. Something or someone stands for something else. Allegory is obviously the simplest way to flesh out a theme and it makes it easier to lead readers to the main theme of a story. Symbols are not only acknowledged in novels, but also in everyday life that are used as metaphors. All the time whether we know it or not and all of the symbols in society have a meaning of great importance.

Although many books, criticisms, and analyses are written to discuss about Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Harper Lee, 1960) that become an instant huge success novel in the American Literature history, there is not any specific and more details discussing about the mockingbird as a symbol in the novel. As in Harold Bloom's *Notes on To Kill a Mockingbird* (Harold Bloom, 1996) only discusses about the biography of the author, thematic and structural analysis of the work, themes, patterns and motifs, list of characters, and a selection of critical from previously published material. This novel is also chosen because from all the essays and books that have been written or published, *To Kill a Mockingbird* is the first and only novel that ever been written by Harper Lee and becomes one of the most outstanding novel in American Literature history. This article tries to interpret a mockingbird as a symbol in *To Kill a Mockingbird* because there are many interpretations which can teach us as the readers to have better understanding about living in a peace and harmony among other human beings.

* Wahyu Titik Retno Handayani, S. S. alumnus Prodi Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris, Fak. Sastra Untag Surabaya

** Dra. Tri Pramesti, M.S. dosen Prodi Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris, Fak. Sastra Untag Surabaya

The Meaning of a Symbol

A symbol is something that through its nature or appearance reflects or represents another thing more profound than itself (Bruce-Mitford, 1996:6). Symbol is different from a sign which represents or points to something else in a fairly straightforward way. For instance, a fire that may symbolize a flame of the sun as well as has qualities of warmth, light, and creative power as if a fire is used as a sign. It will remind us about the advertisement sign about a product that is flammable. A symbol has wider in its interpretation because it is not only the physical meaning but it can be also linked to other interpretation.

The Creation of a Symbol

The world around us is filled with symbols and signs. Those we have chosen to create, such as alphabets and flags, are universally recognizable, but others, of uncertain and ancient origin, mean different things to different peoples. The symbols can be taken from many things, many places, and many ideas. Mythologies and religions, for examples, are rich in symbols and signs that represent many things. Since thousands years ago, mythologies in Greek, Egyptian, Roman, and Celtic created symbols to represent something in their culture, art, language, and daily life. On the other hand, religions around the world also created symbols and signs to symbolize something such as in Christianity, Hinduism, Judaism, Buddhism, Islam, and many other religions. (Bruce-Mitford, 1996:8-10)

Some symbols can also be taken from nature. God created so many things in this universe that human has the ability to interpret the meaning according to its content and appearance. For example, the sun and the moon; the sun represents life because of its natural rising in the morning that marks the new day of every creature, while the moon represents death because of its pale appearance in the day and only show at night where most creatures, usually take asleep.

The Way People Interprets a Symbol

Human life is surrounded by mysteries. It is a human nature to find the answers of the questions that are difficult and sometimes it is impossible to find the right answer. Through the symbols, some of the human desires to find the true answers are fulfilled. Since many centuries ago, people learned, created, and interpreted the symbols with many ways. The intellectual of human being to find the meaning of the symbol is one of the ways. People can use their knowledge to interpret and find the correct meaning of the symbol. People also can use the faculties or the natural content of the object to revel of the meaning. The appearance of the object as a symbol also helps people to interpret the meaning.

The other thing that people can use to reveal the meaning of a symbol is through the historical background of the symbol. One object as a symbol could be having many different meanings because of different history behind the symbol. For example, the snake is the symbol of an evil in the West but it is a symbol of wisdom in China (Biedermann, 1992: 39)

The mythologies can also help people to find the meaning or interpret the symbols. Myths can live longer than the human life itself. It is because the myth is almost like a faith in human life, if it is believed by people; they will be up-holding it

from generation to the next generation. Like the Greek Mythology that people still are studying until now. The symbols that are used in the mythologies are written neatly in books for reference. Those stories behind the symbols are collected from oral tradition that told from generation to next generation and then recorded in written facts that make people easier to look at the meaning in the modern world.

Some symbols are also revealed from the old texts that had been found through archeology; usually the symbols come from the religions. The interpreters tried to reveal the meaning from the documents, texts, facts, and files that they collected from many sources. For example, the white dove in Christianity is representation of the Holy Spirit because, according to the Bible, when Jesus was baptized, there was a dove flying along with a very bright light above His head (Bruce-Mitford, 1996:65)

The Meaning of a Bird as a Symbol

In mythology and throughout symbolical tradition birds have mostly positive associations. As St. Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179) wrote in her natural history *Liber de Subtilitatum*: “*Birds symbolize the power that helps people to speak reflectively and leads them to think out many things in advance before they take action.*” (page 17). Birds can symbolize many things in human life. The qualities of their ability of flying with their wings or feathers enable them to go everywhere they like which is often interpreted by people about the human’s soul that can approach heaven after death or can fly like an angel.

Every bird has different meaning in symbolizing something. It is taken from the bird’s physical qualities themselves as well in the bird’s spirit values. For example, birds of paradise that are usually found in New Guinea and Indonesia, represent “a pure and sinless, lightness, closeness to God as well as symbolize The Virgin Mary” (Biedermann, 1992: 40). A dove is a symbol of Holy Spirit as well as goodness such love, peace, purity, wisdom, gentleness, and knowledge. While a bird can also symbolize evil like ravens or black crows. Ravens symbolizes of death, ill omen, war, and illness.

Some birds’ meanings are taken also from the history or ancient myth from where the birds originally come from. India uses Garuda, a kind of eagle, as a national symbol. This Indian’s symbol is two Garudas sitting in branches of a big tree: “one Garuda eats the fruits symbolize the active life; the other Garuda has a sitting position with its eyes watch something or someone that symbolizing the meditative seeking after knowledge” (Biedermann, 1992: 39).

In the idioms of various languages, birds are also having many meanings. In Chinese the word *niao* (bird) is given to a male’s sexual connotation and in German the word *einen Vogel haben* “to have a bird” is associated with insanity (Biedermann, 1992:39-40). In the United States, people describe someone stupid as a Dodo Bird because of the physical dumb-looking of this bird.

The Meaning of a Mockingbird

The mockingbird itself has many meanings according to its natural faculties as well as from historical background from where this bird comes from. First, this bird symbolizes of the power living in harmony due of the ability of this bird living in colony and capability of fast breeding in spring time. They live in colonies, take care

their babies, live side by side among themselves as well as with other creatures in peaceful. The habit of living and feeding on the wild fruits but harmless to human and other animals are making the mockingbird also can represent bird of innocence. That is why people make mockingbird as a bird that symbolizes of peaceful-maker and innocence. (Biedermann, 1992: 66)

The second meanings of mockingbird are the combination of beauty, happiness, and enjoyment. In Miranda Bruce-Mitfrod's's book of *The Illustrated Book of Sign and Symbol* (Bruce-Mitfrod, 1996: 66) wrote: "according to the myth in Native American mockingbird is a truthful bird that represent beauty, happiness, and enjoyment." As for beauty, it is the way they imitate other sounds so perfectly and perform it to others with beautiful voice as well as their physically appearance. As happiness, the songs that a mockingbird mimics are the powerful and complex songs with natural harmony in voices and rhythm can bring such happiness feeling. Finally, as an enjoyment, it brings enjoyment to the audience or other hearers. This bird is really an amazing bird in mimicking and make human to respect this bird from its natural gift.

The last one, the mockingbird's ability in mockery and mimicry also means mocking, laughing or taunting. (Biedermann, 1992: 67). Imitating sounds from other birdcalls until human voices are the best talent that mockingbird could do. Some researches found they could imitate a complex song that played on a piano. They even can make variation sound by themselves after imitated from other sounds' sources. All sounds that they imitate mostly sound like mocking or laughing to others. The sounds that they imitate are actually their statement to other birds and animals which are living around them that the area where they are living is their territory. In symbolism, the laughing or the mocking sound from the mockingbird can have the meaning of saying something in disrespectful to other people. It can be sarcasms jokes or words, actions or pantomimes, or even the social criticisms over something that improper in society as well as in the world.

DISCUSSION

The Themes in *To Kill a Mockingbird* that are reflected by Mockingbird

There are five major themes in *To Kill a Mockingbird* that are reflected by the mockingbird: Goodness and Purity, Good and Evil, Social Inequality and Racism, The Justice in Law, and Bravery. All of them are good moral values in human life to learn about being a better person living with dignity and honor. Every theme will be analyzed the connection to the mockingbird as a symbol and to show moral messages behind its symbolism that the novel's author wants to share to the readers.

Goodness and Purity

On a Christmas day, Scout and Jem receive air guns from their father and he tells them that although he would prefer that they practice their shooting with tin cans, if they must shoot at living things, they must never shoot at mockingbirds. Atticus explains that it is a sin to kill a mockingbird. Jem does not understand why it is wrong to kill the mockingbirds, just like their conversation one day:

“Atticus said to Jem one day, 'I'd rather you shoot at tin cans in the back yard, but I know you'll go after birds. Shoot all the blue jays you want, if you can hit 'em, but remember it's a sin to kill a mockingbird.'”

That was the only time I ever heard Atticus say it was a sin to do something, and I asked Miss Maudie about it.

“Your father's right,” she said. “Mockingbirds don't do one thing but make music for us to enjoy. They don't eat up people's gardens, don't nest in corncribs, they don't do one thing but sing their hearts out for us. That's why it's a sin to kill a mockingbird.”

(Lee, 1982: 94)

So, their neighbor, Miss Maudie, explained that the mockingbirds are living among the human without any annoying at all. What the mockingbirds do only sing beautifully with their voice and songs and living peacefully. Never harm others and never bothers other living thing, so it is sin to kill them for human pleasure.

Clearly, this is the title scene, but the theme continues throughout the book. Miss Maudie explains why Atticus is correct – mockingbirds never do anyone any harm, and are not pests in any way. All they do is sing beautifully and live peacefully. Therefore, it is a sin to kill them. Mockingbirds in here that Miss Maudie explained to Jem and Scout, are the bird that live in Maycomb County that never harm to human and other living things, but it also symbolized innocent people like Boo Radley and Tom Robinson. Small people or low people according to the white people's point of view, but they are the same human being as the rest of the people in the Maycomb County and in the world. They have the same right to live in the nature that God created for living. It demonstrates how similar Atticus and Mrs. Maudie are. Both agree quite strongly that it is a sin to kill a mockingbird, an animal symbolic of the innocence of both Boo Radley and Tom Robinson, as neither has caused harm, and prove only to have pure hearts. They both only became the victim because of their physical statement; Boo is a white man with weird-life-style while Tom is a black man who lives in major white community; but both are the good people with good heart.

The mockingbird comes to represent true goodness and purity. Tom Robinson is one example of a human “mockingbird”. He stands accused of raping and beating Mayella Ewell, but is innocent of the charges. The town commits the ultimate sin by finding him guilty and sentencing him to death. In effect, they have killed a mockingbird. Boo Radley is another example of a human “mockingbird”. He has spent his entire life as a prisoner of his own home because his father was overzealous in punishing him for a childhood mistake. Boo Radley observes the world around him, causing no harm to anyone, and then saves Jem and Scout's lives when Bob Ewell attacks. The sheriff determines that Ewell's death will be ruled an accident to avoid forcing Boo to go to trial, even though Boo has killed him to protect the children. Atticus agrees, and wants to make sure Scout understands why this little white lie must be told. She replies saying of course she understands, putting Boo on trial and in the public sphere would be like killing a mockingbird, again it is just like killing an innocent people . The mockingbird represents true goodness and innocence that should always be protected. Here is the quote of Scout and Atticus on Boo's case:

"Atticus looked like he needed cheering up. I ran to him and hugged him and kissed him with all my might. 'Yes sir, I understand,' I reassured him. 'Mr. Tate was right.'"

Atticus disengaged himself and looked at me. "What do you mean?"

'Well, it'd be sort of like shootin' a mockingbird, wouldn't it?'"

(Lee, 1982: 279)

Good and Evil

To Kill a Mockingbird is an exploration of human morality, and presents a constant conversation regarding the inherent goodness or evilness of people. Atticus, father of Scout and Jem, also plays the role of teacher, for his children and his town. Atticus believes that people usually contain aspects of both good and evil, but that good will usually win through. Atticus teaches this to his children, but also to the town, as he works to defend Tom Robinson, an innocent black man accused of raping a white woman. In the racism town of Maycomb in the heart of America's South during the Depression Era around 1933-1935, this is almost an impossible task. Despite the challenge of overcoming the town's deeply established racism and forcing people to change their social perspectives, Atticus struggles on, because he believes that one day, goodness will overcome over the evils of racism and racial equality will exist. He is the one who has a strong faith that change other people's opinions or belief will take time. Just like Miss Maudie who also believed in Atticus that he would and could change the way of Maycomb people think about other people from different folks. She said about Atticus appointed by Judge Taylor was not coincidence. It was planned because Judge Taylor also wants to see that fairness in his court would proceed as Miss Maudie said in this quote:

" I was sittin' there on the porch last night, waiting. I waited and waited to see you all come down the sidewalk, and as I waited I thought, Atticus Finch won't win, he can't win, but he's the only man in these parts who can keep a jury out so long in a case like that. And thought to myself, well, we're making a step – it's just a baby-step, but it's a step."

(Lee, 1982: 218 - 219)

Throughout the book, Scout and Jem make the classic transition from innocence to maturity. Jem leads this change, as he is older than Scout, but both children experience it. At the beginning of the novel, they approach life innocently believing in the goodness of all people, thinking everyone understands and adheres to the same values they and their father do. During Tom Robinson's trial, the children are sorely disappointed when the jury, made up of their fellow townspeople, convicts the obviously innocent Tom Robinson simply because he is a black man and his accuser is white. The realization that there is true evil within their society shakes Jem to the core. He held a strong belief in the goodness of all people, but after the trial he must reevaluate his understanding of human nature. The challenge of this struggle causes him great emotional pain as he tries to come to terms with disappointing realities of inequality, racism, and general unfairness. Scout also struggles to understand these things, but even following the trial is able to maintain her belief in the goodness of human nature. At the end of the novel, both children are faced with true evil, as Bob

Ewell tries to kill them. True goodness, embodied in Boo Radley, saves them. In this final conflict between these opposing forces, goodness prevails. Again, Harper Lee used the mockingbird to represent the goodness because of this natural quality of the bird that it would never hurt people or harmless, instead only entertains human being with its beautiful singing that bring joyful and peace.

Social Inequality and Racism

Along with struggling with concepts of good and evil, Scout and Jem spend a great deal of time trying to understand what defines and creates social strata. Scout tends to believe that “folks are just folks”, while Jem is convinced that social standing is related to how long people’s relatives and ancestors have been able to write.

Scout explains the town’s social strata quite clearly on her first day at school when Walter Cunningham does not have lunch or lunch money. Her classmates ask her to explain to the teacher why Walter won’t take a loaned quarter to buy lunch, and she lectures the teacher on the Cunningham’s financial situation and how they trade goods for services. Scout and the other children have a very clear understanding of the social inequalities in their town, but see these inequalities as natural and permanent. The Finch family falls rather high up in the social hierarchy, while the Ewell family falls at the bottom. However, this hierarchy only includes white people. Maycomb’s black population fall beneath all white families in Maycomb, including the Ewells, whom Atticus labels as “trash” but Atticus and his children treat equally through their black maid, Calpurnia, like what Calpurnia said in this quote:

“It's not necessary to tell all you know. It's not ladylike -in the second place, folks don't like to have someone around knowin' more than they do. It aggravates 'em. You're not gonna change any of them by talkin' right, they've got to want to learn themselves, and when they don't want to learn there's nothing you can do but keep your mouth shut or talk their language.”

(Lee, 1982: 128)

Here, Calpurnia explains her understanding of different kinds of people. Cal speaks proper English in the Finch home, proves that she is educated and cares about how she is perceived. On the other hand, she also shows respect for the people at her church and in her community by speaking the way they do. Here, Calpurnia also sets an example for Scout by telling her what it means to be ladylike. It does not matter from what the social status you are, but if you speak like educated person, people will respect you.

Scout understands this social structure, but doesn’t understand why it is so. She believes that everyone should be treated the same, no matter what family they are from. For instance, when she wants to spend more time with Walter Cunningham, Aunt Alexandra objects saying no Finch girl should ever consort with a Cunningham. Scout is frustrated by this, as she wants to be able to choose her own friends based on her definition of what makes a good person: morality. Even though the white society has the same skin color, but they still divided in social status that make people grouped according to their social status. In this case, Harper Lee put mockingbird as to represent a social critic, to mock or laugh to their own silly and stupid behavior among the white community that some people still look down to other group of people only because they are poor or not have equal social status. The ability of mockery or mimic voices that

mockingbird can do is really symbolizing on the way to laugh or mock narrow-minded people of Maycomb. Those who called themselves as the people whom their social status better than other base on skin color, white people is better status than black people, should be ashamed. They accused an innocence black man over rapping a white girl which was not true. In other hand, there is a real criminal, Mr. Ewell - a white man, who want to hurt Jem and Scout because he hates Atticus defended the black man. People would be respected and honored by others is not because they come from higher social status but because they live their life in dignity and proper educated well as open-minded to all human being.

Following the unequally social status in the Maycomb society, racism is a major fact of the novel. During the Depression era in 1930s as the background of the story, blacks were still highly overpowered members of society. Blacks were not permitted to mix with whites in public settings, as demonstrated in the courthouse physical separation of races and in the clearly distinct black and white areas of town. Moreover, things like intermarriage were almost unheard of, and sorely looked down upon.

Throughout the novel, Scout explores the differences between black people and white people. She and Jem attend church with Calpurnia and Scout truly enjoys the experience. Afterwards, she asks Calpurnia if she might be able to visit her house sometime because she has never seen it. Calpurnia agrees, but the visit is never made, largely because Aunt Alexandra puts a stop to it. Jem, Scout and Dill also sit with the black citizens of the town in the balcony of the court house to observe the trial. In addition, Scout and Dill have a lengthy conversation with Mr. Raymond, a white man who married a black woman and has mixed children. Mr. Raymond reveals that he pretends to be an alcoholic by carrying around a paper bag with a bottle of Coca-Cola inside in order to let the town excuse his choice to marry a black woman.

Tom Robinson is convicted purely because he is a black man and his accuser is white. The evidence is so powerfully in his favor, that race is clearly the single defining factor in the jury's decision. Atticus fights against racism, and a few other townspeople are on his side, including Miss Maudie and Judge Taylor. Jem and Scout also believe in racial inequality, but are obviously in the minority. When Atticus wins the trial, he tries to make his children understand that although he lost, he did help move along the cause of ending racism as evidenced by the jury's lengthy deliberation period. Usually, such a trial would be decided immediately. The quote from Miss Maudie's explanation about the hard situation of Atticus to defend Tom Robinson and racism in Maycomb:

"Indoors, when Miss Maudie wanted to say something lengthy she settled her fingers on her knees and settled her bridgework. This she did, and we waited."

"I simply wanted to tell you that there are some men in this world who were born to do our unpleasant jobs for us. Your father's one of them."

(Lee, 1982: 218)

Mrs. Maudie explains things well, telling the children even though Atticus lost, he won by forcing the town to truly examine their perceptions of race and equality. It took a great deal of time for the jury to come to their verdict, and this alone demonstrates that Atticus succeeded in causing the men of the jury to examine their views of race. Therefore, although unpleasant, Atticus's work is of great importance and will affect the future of race relations in Maycomb.

Through out the trial Jem and Scout try to understand what his father been doing for the black man. The Judge is a white, the juries are all white people, the persecutor is white man, the excuser is white girl, and the defendant is a poor and cripple black man; a perfect black-sheep to be blamed over something evil like rapping a white young girl. But what makes Jem amazing and proud of his father, Atticus never shows his frighten yet in opposite, he looks so confident and serious to defend Tom Robinson. For Jem, it was like a miracle how his father turn over all the facts to be cleared and a loud as well as pointed to the juries, judge, and audience that justice to be perform right there in a proper way for everybody no matter what they are.

Harper Lee used a mockingbird as symbol not only to show the innocence people that defenseless and need protection from the stronger people like the way Atticus defended for Tom Robinson, but Lee also use the mockingbird as a symbol of mockery or mock to the people from high social status but have a narrow-minded, racist, and low attitude as a not well-educated people to others especially to the color people. In the case of defending a black man, Tom Robinson, a man from the lowest social status according to the white society but actually he is innocent and dignify person. He blamed because he is a black and the accuser is a white girl. Atticus turned up all possibilities and evidences just to show to the narrow-minded white people that what they have done so far actually is wrong. Color people or white people actually have the same rights; they have the same right to live in this world among others in peacefully. Just like the mockingbirds that live in nature without cause harm to other creatures. They just singing and bring a joy to anyone who listened to the songs. In the life, if people live in dignity and open-minded as well as respect others, the voice of the mockingbirds is sound like beautiful singing in their ears, but it is sounded like mocking ,laughing, underestimated and down-looking attitude for the people who think they were the better social status or race. It is like Scout replied in her class when she quoted her father's philosophy: "*Equal rights for all, special privilege for none*" (Lee, 1982: 248).

Social Inequality and Racism

Atticus is a lawyer, and the book is centered on his representation of Tom Robinson. Although Atticus loses the trial, he believes strongly that despite social inequalities, all men are equal in law and have the same right to have justice. He includes this information in his closing statements to the jury, and during his later discussions with Jem and Scout regarding jury selection and the trial process, makes this statement again. Atticus believes that progress towards racial equality can and will be made in the courtroom. Here the quote what Atticus said in the courtroom:

"The state has not produced one iota of medical evidence that the crime Tom Robinson is charged with ever took place. It has relied instead upon the testimony of two witnesses whose evidence has not only been called into serious question on cross-examination, but has been flatly contradicted by the defendant. The defendant is not guilty, but somebody in this courtroom is."

(Lee, 1982: 205 – 206)

Atticus' strong closing arguments prove what an excellent lawyer he is. Atticus speaks only the truth and tries to force those in the courtroom, including his children, to

examine the facts rather than the race of the accused. This speech must have taken a lot of courage, but to Atticus, it is absolutely necessary.

In addition, although he believes powerfully in upholding the law, Atticus understands that it must be bent in certain situations. For example, Bob Ewell is permitted to hunt even in the off season because the town authorities know that if he is prevented from hunting, his children might starve. In addition, at the end of the novel, the law would require Boo Radley to be placed on trial to determine whether he killed Bob Ewell is self defense or not. However, Atticus understands, as does Heck Tate and Scout, that Boo should not be forced to experience powerful public attention or criticism. Therefore, it is necessary to bend the law in this case to protect Boo.

Atticus did an excellent and high respectful job as a defendant of Tom Robinson and he got a great respect from both the judge and his staff as well as from the black community that witnessed the trial. It is because what he had done was something that it never been done in history of the Maycomb County justice system. It is like a dare that shook the white community because the time background of the story was when the slavery and racism still overwhelming all over Maycomb. But Atticus is a man with wisdom, dignity, honor, and always get well-respect from all people in any society at Maycomb. He is symbolizing of a bird in quality of powerful in speaking reflectively before he takes action. Words of words that he said always full of wisdom and well-thought before he performs it in the courtroom to show the truth to the world. What he had done was an open-eye action for everyone.

Bravery

Bravery takes many forms in *To Kill A Mockingbird*. Atticus is brave to defend a black man in the face of criticism and threats of violence. He also is brave in the face of danger, both when he kills the rabid dog with a single shot and when facing the mob of men outside the jailhouse. Atticus urges Scout to be brave and prevent herself from fighting those who criticize her or her family. To Atticus, withholding violence is one of the highest forms of bravery. The children believe themselves to be brave when approaching the Radley house early in the book, but learn later on that this was false bravery, and in fact, silly. Atticus holds up Mrs. Dubose as the ultimate definition of bravery, as she finds against her morphine addiction in order to be free from it before she dies, even when she knows she will die in the process. Here the quote from Atticus toward Jem and Scout about Mrs. Dubose:

"A lady?" Jem raised his head. His face was scarlet. "After all those things she said about you, a lady?"

"She was. She had her own views about things, a lot different from mine, maybe...Son, I told you that if you hadn't lost your head I'd have made you go read to her. I wanted you to see something about her. I wanted you to see what real courage is, instead of getting the idea that courage is a man with a gun in his hand. It's when you know you're licked before you begin but you begin anyway and you see it through no matter what. You rarely win, but sometimes you do."

(Lee, 1982: 116)

Here, Atticus educates his children as to the true meaning of heroism. Mrs. Dubose was a rather cranky and offensive old woman who lived nearby. She spoke out harshly against Atticus, and in a fit of rage, Jem attacked her flower bed. As punishment, he had to read to her every day after school. Unknowingly, Jem was helping the woman overcome her morphine addiction. Atticus reveals this to his children after the woman has passed, and lets them evaluate the situation for themselves. Atticus treats his children as adults and shows them the meaning of true courage. The last two lines in the passage serve as an analogy to the Tom Robinson case and show that Atticus knows he will not win, but must try his best in his search for justice.

Atticus, who also fights against a power greater than himself, tells his children they should have great respect for Mrs. Dubose. Finally, Bob Ewell represents the greatest cowardice, as he both lies in the courtroom to protect himself and resorts to attacking children in the darkness in order to make himself feel more of a man.

Bravery or courage comes in many shapes and characters. It is not always come from a strong man with strong muscle body to show the braveness. For Atticus, It is more important to fight something that is disagreeable with the brain rather than with the muscle or against with physically. This means that everybody could have bravery or courage in certain time of their life. Some examples in previous paragraphs showed that bravery can be come from a small girl like Scout when she said to a gang of men that would hurt Tom Robinson in jail as well as in an old-dying and morphine-addicted lady like Mrs. Dubose. Even though Mrs. Dubose was so racist with called Atticus defended nigger is wrong things to do and spoke harshly in criticizing to Jem, but she was so brave to face her agony at the end of her life. Over all those, Atticus is the bravest man with use the wisdom words and faith to find the justice for all humankind. Atticus symbolizes the quality of bird in a way of using powerful wisdom words against the unfairness and fight for justice. While Scout and Jem, through their innocence and pure heart of their childhood, they showed the courage within themselves just like a mockingbird in quality of innocence and purity. Symbolizing of small bird like a mockingbird but has a power in encourage braveness through its innocence and purity is really reflected in Scout and Jem. They are might be small children but they have a huge courage and braveness in their characters. In the case of Mrs. Dubose who faced her death with no fear at all, Atticus taught his children how the braveness could come from the people that weak and dying but still show the spirit of braveness and courage to face the worst thing in her life. This is just like symbolizing of mockingbird, even though it is a small and weak bird, but mockingbird has a powerful voice to imitating other voices that sometimes people will hear as a song as well as a mock. It is the way of mockingbird to defend itself, mocking others to show its courage and braveness just like Mrs. Dubose had done in her last life.

CONCLUSION

To sum up, Many symbols Lee uses to resemble every moment or to represent her messages and moral values in her novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*. From the analysis of its theme it is discovered that the mockingbird symbolizes the values of innocence, joy, harmony, and peace. Scout, Jem, Boo Radley and Tom Robinson symbolize of innocence that need the protection from the stronger evil ones. Scout and Jem have quality of innocence because they were children that still see things around them with pure hearts and innocent. Their innocent destroys by the evil called inequality, racism,

and general unfairness. While Boo Radley and Tom Robinson resembled the innocence in the way of defenseless part of the community. Boo with the anti-socialize way of his life and his unhappiness child background because of his very strict parents. Tom Robinson in the way of being innocence because of being manipulated by white racial people in justice. As the mockingbird symbolizes the harmony and peace, finally the truth and goodness always win at the end no matter what. The most important, even a person is different from others, it is very important living together without bothering but live in harmony and peace and respect others equally with all humankind and other creatures in this world.

REFERENCE

- Daly, Kathleen N. *Greek and Roman Mythology A to Z*. New York: facts On File, Inc., 1992.
- Fitzwater, Eva. *Notes on To Kill a Mockingbird*. Lincoln, Nebraska: Cliff Notes, 1966.
- Haskins, James. *The Scottsboro Boys*. New York: Henry Holt, 1994.
- Johnson, Claudia Durst. *To Kill a Mockingbird: Threatening Boundaries*. New York: Twayne Publishers, 1994.
- O'Neill, Terry. *Readings on To Kill a Mockingbird*. New York: Greenhaven Press, 2000.
- Power, Cathy Kelly. *Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Mockingbird: A Collection of Critical Essays*. Atlanta: Georgia State University Press, 1996.
- Smykowski, Adam. *Symbolism in Harper Lee's 'To Kill a Mockingbird'*.
<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/AnS/english/English104W15/tokillamockingbird/index.htm>
- Wilson, Charles Reagan, and William Ferris. *Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*. Chapel Hill: Univ. of North Carolina Press, 1989.