

## CHARACTERS OF MAYCOMB COUNTY

**Miss Caroline:** Miss Caroline is Scout's young first-grade teacher who gets on Scout's bad side by telling her that she can't read with Atticus anymore because he doesn't know how to teach. She also whips Scout on the first day of school because she misunderstands when Scout tells her that Walter Cunningham is poor and that's why he doesn't have a lunch. Miss Caroline had a trying day that day because not only was Scout unintentionally causing her problems, but she also had a run-in with Burris Ewell who cursed her and made her cry before he left the school that afternoon.

**Walter Cunningham jr:** Walter is the son of a local farmer whom Atticus helped with a legal problem regarding his land. The Cunninghams are a poor family who pays their debts with the yield of their crops. Scout gets in trouble for explaining that Walter won't borrow any money for lunch from Miss Caroline because he can't pay her back. After Jem rescues Walter from Scout's abuse on the playground later that day, Walter goes home with them for lunch and gets Scout into trouble again because she questions him when he pours molasses all over his lunch.

**Burris Ewell:** Burris Ewell makes his appearance on Scout's first day of school. Miss Caroline notices a 'cootie' crawling in his hair, and when she sends the filthy child home to bathe and wash his hair, he curses her and tells her that he's done his time by coming to the first day of school. He has been to the first day of first grade for three years, and he never shows up again after that. All of the Ewell kids do this. He challenges Miss Caroline to make him stay and then reduces her to tears with all sorts of horrible insults when she sends him away. He comes from the wretched Ewell family of Maycomb County, which everyone leaves to their own filth and rancor.

**Miss Stephanie Crawford:** Miss Stephanie lives in the same neighborhood as the Finch family. She is a gossip and a busybody tattletale. Miss Stephanie is one of the main sources for stories about Boo Radley.

**Nathan Radley:** Nathan Radley is Boo's older brother who moved back to Maycomb County from Pensacola when his father died.

**Mr. Radley:** Mr. Radley was Boo and Nathan's father, a very religious, strict man who walked to town and back home once a day and never spoke to anyone when they greeted him. He died when Jem and Scout were a few years younger, but Boo didn't even come out of the house then.

**Mrs. Radley:** Mrs. Radley is Boo and Nathan's mother, and her only visible function in the family is to come out onto the porch and sweep occasionally. Mrs. Radley dies just before the cold snap when Miss Maudie's house burns down.

**Mr. Avery:** Mr. Avery is a fat neighbor who tells Jem and Scout that the weather only changes because of bad children like them. So when it snows just a little, Jem (with Scout's help) constructs a snowman that looks just like Mr. Avery.

**Miss Rachel:** Miss Rachel lives next door to the Finch family, and her nephew, Dill, comes to stay with her every summer and becomes close friends with the Finch kids.

**Simon Finch:** Simon was the first Finch in the United States. He sailed across the Atlantic from his Cornwall home because of persecution against the Methodist church, and he ended up in Alabama making money as an apothecary. He built the family homestead known as Finch's Landing and began the Finch family line. He lived to an old age and died wealthy.

**Mrs. Merriweather:** A pious old church member who attends one of Alexandra's missionary teas and proceeds to humiliate Alexandra by going on and on about people who do things thinking they're right when really they're just stirring up trouble in relation to Atticus defending Tom Robinson in court. Miss Maudie, the Finch's neighbor and long-time friend, summarily hushes Mrs. Merriweather.

**Cecil Jacobs:** Cecil Jacobs is Scout's classmate who scares her and Jem as they're walking to the high school pageant on Halloween. On their way home, Scout and Jem believe that Cecil is following them again in an attempt to repeat his prank, but it's really Bob Ewell preparing to kill them to get revenge against Atticus for making him look like an idiot and a liar in court.

**Miss Gates:** Miss Gates was the teacher Scout discovered to be a hypocrite. Miss Gates preached to her class the evilness of Hitler's prejudice but didn't realize the same error in her own heart. Scout remembered that after the trial she'd overheard Miss Gates talking about how right the jury was to put black people back into their place because they'd been getting too high and mighty lately.

**Tim Johnson:** the rabid dog that Atticus mercifully put out of its misery with one shot. Jem and Scout learn from this that their dad is a top marksman.

**Zeebo:** in The First Purchase Church, attended by the black citizens of Maycomb County, Zeebo leads the congregation hymn recitals. He is the eldest son of Calpurnia.

### **FAMILY MEMBERS LIVING OUTSIDE OF MAYCOMB COUNTY**

**Uncle Jack:** Jack is Atticus' younger brother who is a doctor in Boston. He comes to stay with Atticus, Jem, and Scout for a week every Christmas, and the kids love him. It is he who takes Scout aside when she's going through her cussing phase and convinces her to quit because he doesn't like to hear such words.

**Francis Hancock:** Francis is Scout and Jem's cousin. They see Francis at Christmas when they go visit their Aunt Alexandra at Finch's Landing, but they don't really like him very much. The Christmas after Atticus took on the Tom Robinson case, Scout beat Francis up for saying mean things about Atticus, and her Uncle Jack whipped her for it before he heard her side of things.