



7960 Niwot Road, Suite B-3, Niwot, CO 80503

### Beyond Bestsellers Book Discussion Group

Discussion Questions for Go Set a Watchman by Harper Lee

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

1. At many points in the book, the concept of being able to see clearly (or not) is brought up.
  - a. A wife sees and understands through what her husband tells her
  - b. Maycomb sees and accepts Jean Louise through her family and history growing up in the community
  - c. Atticus sees Negroes as a race of backwards people and feels that they need to be able to share the responsibilities of citizenship in order to enjoying its privileges.
  - d. Do you see the title as a call for impartial observance?
2. The turning point in the story starts with a slap and follows with a large shot of whisky. Only then can Jean Louise be dispassionate about the preceding days' events. What do you think of the method and the outcome?
3. Jean Louise is finally able to see and accept her father because she has 'birthed' into her own person. Is there some universal truth about knowing oneself that allows a person to be more generous and self-possessed when dealing with others who may have conflicting viewpoints?
4. After Jean Louise 'transforms' do you sense a loss of the passionate young woman we meet in the beginning of the story?
5. Do you think she will marry Henry and live in Maycomb?
6. Are there any lessons learned from this book that could be applied to our current political situation and how we deal with the opposite side?