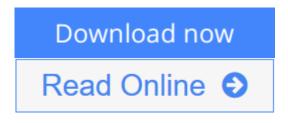


## I Am Scout: The Biography of Harper Lee

By Charles J. Shields



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*To Kill a Mockingbird* is one of the most widely read novels in American literature. It's also a perennial favorite in highschool English classrooms across the nation. Yet onetime author Harper Lee is a mysterious figure who leads a very private life in her hometown of Monroeville, Alabama, refusing to give interviews or talk about the novel that made her a household name. Lee's life is as rich as her fiction, from her girlhood as a rebellious tomboy to her days at the University of Alabama and early years as a struggling writer in New York City.

Charles J. Shields is the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Mockingbird: A Portrait of Harper Lee*, which he has adapted here for younger readers. What emerges in this riveting portrait is the story of an unconventional, high-spirited woman who drew on her love of writing and her Southern home to create a book that continues to speak to new generations of readers. Anyone who has enjoyed *To Kill a Mockingbird* will appreciate this glimpse into the life of its fascinating author.

I Am Scout is a 2009 Bank Street - Best Children's Book of the Year.

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#### **Editorial Review**

Review

"An absorbing and easy narrative style." ?Kirkus Reviews

"A fascinating look at the unconventional Lee." ?Booklist

"A surprisingly fascinating read." ?School Library Journal

"A page-turner." ?ElleGirl

"Readers will come away with the sense not only that they know the writer of [*To Kill a Mockingbird*,] but also that she is someone that they would quite like." *?The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books* 

#### About the Author

**CHARLES J. SHIELDS** is the recipient of a Quill Award Nomination for *Mockingbird: A Portrait of Harper Lee*. He has been a teacher, a reporter for public radio, and a journalist, and is the author of several nonfiction books for young readers. He and his wife reside in Barboursville, Virginia.

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