



The Farmers Register



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Tom was convicted under false charges. He did not rape Mayella Ewell and did not beat her. It was Mr. Ewell who beat Mayella since he can use both his arms, and Tom can only use his right. Tom was a nice man and worked for me, Link Deas. He picked cotton in my fields for me. He never gave any problems on or off the job.

When Tom was convicted he was given a kind of unfair trial. All of the jury members were white men and probably didn't like black men very much. Also, they all voted guilty even after all that went on in the courtroom. The jury, however, took three hours to decide whether he was guilty or innocent. They even voted guilty when I stood up for him during the trial.

Tom's left arm was completely useless and, therefore could not have raped Mayella. His arm was useless because it got caught in a machine and got the muscles stretched out. Mayella's right eye was bruised which means someone who could use their left hand had to beat her. Tom couldn't have hit her. Mayella's father, on the other hand, can use both his hands and could have beat her up.

Mayella said Tom raped her because she tried to kiss him and when her father saw her and Tom. Then, Tom ran out of the house. Also, Bob never had a doctor check Mayella since he was the one who beat her. The only reason Mayella lied was so people wouldn't be ashamed of her for kissing a black man. She thought that she needed to get rid of the evidence by getting rid of Tom. But the jury was too self-centered and too proud to choose the word of a black man over a white man no matter who the white man was.

In Atticus's closing statement he describes what really happened to Mayella and why she punished Tom. Tom was in trouble with the law before. He got into a fist fight with another man and had to go to jail for thirty days because he couldn't pay the fine. Mayella had asked Tom to help her a few times and Tom was happy to help as long as she didn't pay him. Mayella's brothers didn't help her at any time. But when she gave them money for ice cream she asked Tom to come inside to help her, then she tried to kiss him but Tom resisted. When her father came home and saw her and Tom, he beat Mayella and called the sheriff. Bob told the sheriff that

Tom raped her, even though he was the one who beat her. So in the end Tom was found guilty by all the jury members and sentenced to death. Also, Mr. Ewell gets away with beating Mayella when she tried to kiss Tom. Even after Atticus defended him and showed some good evidence that Tom is innocent. The jury was too racist to take the word of a black man over a white mans.

