to each Asian country, and the confounding requirement that their ethnicity rather than nationality be factored into the equation. Thus, a British national with one parent of Chinese ancestry would be counted toward the limited allotment for China, not toward the British nationality quota. Although spouses and children of U.S. citizens were not subject to the quota system, immigration policy in effect continued to favor northern and western Europeans.

In the 1950s, pressure grew to eliminate racial bias in immigration policy, but only after John F. Kennedy became President did the subject gain serious attention. Following Kennedy's assassination, his successor, Lyndon B. Johnson, pushed for passage of legislation envisioned by JFK. Gjelten provides a fascinating glimpse into the behind-the-scenes politics that led to the passage of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 (the Hart-Celler Act), which President Johnson signed at the foot of the Statue of Liberty. This legislation is significant in that it eliminated the national origins quota system and gave preference to immigration based on family connections and skills, opening up the country to immigrants previously underrepresented, from Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America. As LBJ observed at the signing ceremony, "This system violated the basic principle of American democracy—the principle that values and rewards each man on the basis of his merit as a man. It has been un-American in the highest sense, because it has been untrue to the faith that brought thousands to these shores even before we were a country. Today, with my signature, this system is abolished."

A new chapter relating to immigrants and the growing diversity of our nation's population began with passage of that 1965 legislation. To be sure, it has not been a smooth process, as Gjelten painstakingly notes in his discussion of first, second, and third generation immigrants in Fairfax County, Va., and their interest in and ability to become engaged in civic affairs, both at the local and national levels. At the same time, Gjelten points to the backlash against immigrants engendered by the Sept. 11 attacks, which often masked a concern about the browning of America.

Such outcries ignore the positive features of an increasingly pluralistic society. For Gjelten, a society that guarantees freedoms while even respecting diversity has much to offer. He approvingly cites political scientist Robert Putnam's comment "that at the end we shall see that the challenge is best met not by making 'them' like 'us,' but rather by creating a new, more capacious sense of 'we.'"

A Nation of Nations offers a rich and insightful introduction to the immigration debate underway in this election season. It provides some sorely needed background, including a review of relevant U.S. history and immigration legislation and policies as well as the personal stories of several immigrant families who arrived from Korea, Bolivia, and Libya after passage of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965. We learn about their struggles and triumphs and in the process watch the Other slowly transform into a fellow human being, yet another member of our society. For me, the personal stories were the most telling and compelling in conveying the immigrant experience and the meaning of the great American experiment. ⊙

R. Mark Frey is an attorney based in St. Paul, Minn., who writes extensively on immigration law and policy. He is an active member of the Federal Bar Association's Immigration Law Section and the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), presently serving on AILA's Asylum and Refugee Committee. Frey has practiced immigration law for more than 25 years, with an emphasis on political asylum and other forms of humanitarian relief, family and marriage-based immigration, removal defense, appeals, H-1B and religious worker visas, and naturalization.

Go Set a Watchman: A Novel

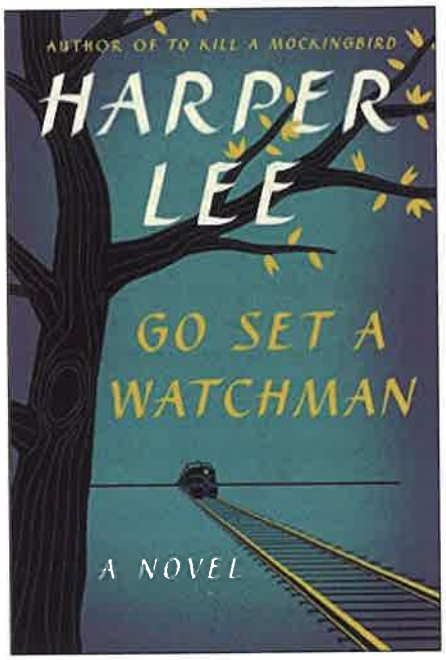
By Harper Lee

HarperCollins Publishers, New York, NY, 2015.
288 pages, $27.99 (cloth), $18.99 (paper).
Reviewed by Ryon McCabe

The late Harper Lee's "new" novel, *Go Set a Watchman*, really made me mad!

I am a huge fan of Lee's novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*. I studied it in high school, college, and law school. I have also read the novel for pleasure at least half a dozen more times in the past 20 or so years since law school. I have even listened to Sissy Spacek's audiobook version, which I highly recommend.

I even have a framed photograph of Atticus Finch, as played by Gregory Peck, hanging on the wall of my law office. It is of



a courtroom scene, with Atticus standing in front of the jury at the Maycomb County Courthouse, with the segregated gallery behind him. I am not alone in my hero worship of Atticus. In 2012, the American Film Institute rated Atticus Finch as the number one movie hero of all time, beating out Superman, Spiderman, Luke Skywalker, and even James Bond.

What makes Atticus so special to millions of us? I can only speak for myself, but my appreciation for Atticus has grown over the years. In high school, *To Kill a Mockingbird* was to me a novel about race. By defending Tom Robinson against false rape charges, Atticus Finch stood alone as the conscience of his community, exposing the flaws and injustices of the racist society in which he lived.

In later readings, *To Kill a Mockingbird* became a novel about law and the practice of law. Atticus was the consummate lawyer's lawyer, trusted by his clients to handle their most important affairs. He demonstrated outstanding courtroom skills. Remember his understated, yet devastating, cross-examination of Bob Ewell. What trial lawyer wouldn't love that?

In more recent readings, *To Kill a Mockingbird* speaks to me about fatherhood. Written from the viewpoint of Atticus' daughter, an eight-year-old named Scout, the book shows Atticus through the eyes of his children. He is a pillar of the community, a member of the state legislature, and a busy trial lawyer, yet he always has time for his children. He reads to them every night and stays at their bedside during sickness.

A strong but humble man, he teaches his children by example. He loves them deeply and they adore him in return.

To Kill a Mockingbird takes place during the Great Depression. *Go Set a Watchman* picks up with the same characters in the 1960s. Scout is now 26 years old, unmarried, and living in New York City. She journeys home to Maycomb to visit her father, now 72 years old and living with her Aunt Alexandra. Dear old Calpurnia has retired. Jem is dead (what the heck?). We meet a new character, Henk, a young lawyer in Atticus' office and would-be romantic interest for Scout.

On her visit home, Scout learns that Atticus, the same Atticus who, in the real world, launched a million high school essays on the evils of racism, is actively involved in a Maycomb "Citizens' Council," which is opposing the efforts of the NAACP to desegregate dear old Maycomb County. Atticus even decries the "Yankee" lawyers whom he says will use every "trick at their disposal" to interfere with life in Macomb. Worst of all, Scout learns that Atticus, in his youth, was once a member of the Ku Klux Klan!

What? Atticus was working *against* the NAACP? And a member of the Klan? Yessum, all true. If you are like me, this comes as quite a shock. I have a picture of the guy in my office, after all.

The reader's first stage is denial. *Go Set a Watchman* was released amid great controversy. According to some reports, it is not a new novel at all but a *very* rough first draft of what later became *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Smart editors, upon reading *Go Set a Watchman*, allegedly told Harper Lee to keep working and focus more on the flashback scenes when the protagonist was a young girl. Lee kept working, and eventually came up with a masterpiece, *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Lee said many times during her life that she had written only one novel and that she had no plans for another. Critics have argued, therefore, that *Go Set a Watchman* is nothing more than a money grab, released late in Lee's life. The publishers knew that *To Kill a Mockingbird* fans would flock to this novel with all the eagerness of a Harry Potter fan lining up for book seven.

Does this mean that we should just ignore *Go Set a Watchman* and pretend that its portrayal of Atticus is not real? I am not sure we can do that. As much as we love Atticus Finch, we fans do not own him. He is Harper Lee's creation. She knows his backstory, and she, not us, has the right to decide whether he ever belonged to the Ku Klux Klan.

After denial comes anger. Scout goes through the same process. She is so emotionally overwhelmed by the discovery of her father's activities that she becomes physically ill. In a climactic scene, she confronts Atticus and calls him a liar and a hypocrite (you tell him, Scout!). She vows to leave Maycomb County forever.

It takes Atticus' brother, Uncle Jack, to calm things down and explain to Scout that her real problem has nothing to do with the NAACP or the Klan. These things are "incidental" to Scout's real problem.

The novel then reveals its true theme: the father-daughter relationship between Atticus and Scout. As Uncle Jack explains to Scout, "every man's watchman is his conscience." He adds:

"You, Miss, born with your own conscience, somewhere along the line fastened it like a barnacle onto your father's. As you grew up, when you were grown, totally unknown to yourself, you confused your father with God."

Uncle Jack says that Scout never saw Atticus "as a man with a man's heart, a man's failings." He concedes this was understandable, given that Atticus "makes so few mistakes, but he makes 'em like all of us." Because Scout adored her father so much and admired him so deeply, she assumed that Atticus' conscience would always coincide with her own, that his opinions would always be her opinions. Scout had become "an emotional cripple," always leaning on Atticus for the right answer.

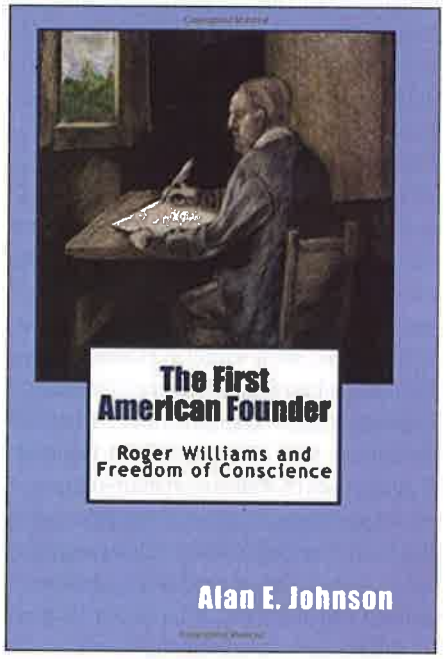
For Scout, the emotional climax of the novel comes not from the discovery that she disagrees with Atticus about the NAACP, but that she disagrees with him about anything at all. In short, she discovers that Atticus is not a perfect being, that he is not God. She needs to set her own "watchman" to guide her conscience and can no longer rely on Atticus.

Wow. Where does that leave the rest of us? Apparently, the top movie hero of all time is not perfect. Atticus Finch is just a human being like the rest of us.

And that brings me to the final stage of grief: acceptance. Like Scout, we need to set our own watchmen. We cannot rely solely on Atticus Finch.

Anybody have a picture of James Bond that I can hang in my office? ⊙

Ryon McCabe is a trial lawyer in West Palm Beach, Fla. He is a former assistant U.S. attorney and a partner with McCabe Rabin, P.A., where he specializes in securities and qui tam whistleblower cases.



The First American Founder: Roger Williams and Freedom of Conscience

By Alan E. Johnson

Philosophia Publications, Pittsburgh, PA, 2015. 624 pages, $23.99.

Reviewed by Neysa M. Slater-Chandler

As writers search for new or different ways to interpret documents and events leading to our nation's founding, Roger Williams may be seeing a resurgence in interest. In fact, this is the second book on Williams that I've reviewed for *The Federal Lawyer* in the past couple of years.

The first was John M. Barry's engaging *Roger Wiliams and the Creation of the American Soul*, which I reviewed in the April 2014 issue. Having read that book, Alan E. Johnson's *The First American Founder* left me craving a little more of the "American Soul" that Barry uncovered in 2012. This is not to say that Johnson's new book is not worth reading. His background as an attorney is evident in the thoroughness of the material presented and analyzed, and