Character Is Destiny The Value Of Personal Ethics In Everyday Life
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The novel opens with Aunt Polly scouring the house in search of her nephew, Tom Sawyer. She finds him in the closet, discovers that his hands are covered with jam, and prepares to give him a whipping. Tom cries out theatrically, "Look behind you!" and when Aunt Polly turns, Tom escapes over the fence. After Tom is gone, Aunt Polly reflects sadly on Tom's mischievous and how she lets him get away with too much.

Tom comes home at supper and tells his aunt about his adventures. During supper, Aunt Polly is told that Tom has been stopped school that afternoon and went swimming. When Aunt Polly is satisfied, Tom's half-brother, Ben, Tom's half-brother, Tom and the new arrival, and eventually Tom's new friend, mark Tom has sworn the least doesn't ever come out of the way house.

When he returns home in the evening, Tom finds Aunt Polly waiting for him. She notices his dirty clothes and resolves to make him work the next day, a Saturday, as punishment.

On Saturday morning, Aunt Polly sends Tom out to whitewash the fence. Jim passes by, and Tom tries to get him to do some of the whitewashing in return for a "white alley," a kind of privilege. Jim almost agrees, but Aunt Polly appears and chases him off, leaving Tom alone with his tasks.
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James was the first thinker to enunciate clearly a two-stage decision process, with chance in a present time of random alternatives, leading to a choice which grants consent to one possibility and transforms an equivocal ambiguous future into an unalterable and simple past. (ibid., p.158) There is a temporal sequence of undetermined alternative possibilities followed by adequately determined...
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