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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 wistfully on Tom’s mischief and how she lets him get away with too much.

Tom comes home for supper. His uncle, Judge Thatcher, has heard about Tom’s adventures. During supper, Aunt Polly asks Tom whether he has been skipping school that afternoon and what nonsense he has been up to. Tom tells her that his collar is still around his neck, but it’s half burnt. Aunt Polly is satisfied. Tom has sworn the usual oath to disguise his condition and eventually the news comes all the way home.

When he returns home in the evening, Tom finds Aunt Polly waiting for him. She notices his disheveled 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. Jan passes by, and Tom tries to get him to do some of the whitewashing in return for a “white alley,” a kind of marvel. Jan almost agrees, but Aunt Polly appears and chases him off, leaving Tom alone with his塩包.
The novel opens with Aunt Polly scurrying 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 misbehavior and how she lets him get away with too much.

Tom comes home at suppertime in a daze. He tells Aunt Polly about his adventures. During supper, Aunt Polly asks Tom if he went to school at all this week. Tom claims he did, but Aunt Polly knows better. She knows Tom has skipped school that afternoon and spent the evening wandering the streets of St. Petersburg. Aunt Polly is satisfied, and Tom is sent to his room. Aunt Polly is not satisfied, and Tom has earned the threat of a whipping.

Tom goes out of the house in a rage, not happy with the usual threats of a whipping. While wandering the streets of St. Petersburg, Tom encounters a drunk who is overwrought and arrogant. Tom and the drunk exchange insults, and Tom eventually chases the drunk all the way home.

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