Front Of The Class How Tourette Syndrome Made Me The Teacher I Never Had
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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 ink, 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 morosely on Tom’s mischief and how she lets him get away with too much.

Tom comes home at suppertime with a black eye and a肿脻; he tells her he was skipped school that morning and went swimming. Aunt Polly is satisfied. Tom’s half-brother, Sid, has about his adventures. During supper, Aunt Polly asks Tom to help her with the evening newspaper, but Tom is busy with his novel about a coming war. While wandering the streets of St. Petersburg, Tom and the new arrival, Becky Thatcher, meet and eventually choose the newspaper all the way home.

When he returns home in the evening, Tom finds Aunt Polly waiting for him. She notices his dirtied 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 money. Jim almost agrees, but Aunt Polly appears and chases him off, leaving Tom alone with his task.
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 naughtiness and how she lets him get away with too much.

Tom comes home at suppertime, exhausted, telling how he had been killed by cold water, and how he had run away from school that afternoon and spent the evening out. Aunt Polly is satisfied. Tom goes out of the house in a huff, but Aunt Polly is too busy whipping to be very cross. Tom is told to go and do errands for Aunt Polly.

The next morning, Tom goes out to whitewash the fence. Aunt Polly is very pleased, and Tom begins to enjoy himself. He makes up a story about a 'White Alley' and takes advantage of the situation to make Aunt Polly do his whitewashing for him. Aunt Polly is taken in, and Tom begins to earn his reputation as a braggart and show-off.
Speaking in front of a class may make your thoughts race and your palms drip with sweat. It's something a lot of students dread, but it's also something almost everyone will have to do at some point.

Based on the true story of Brad Cohen, a young man diagnosed with Tourette Syndrome who defies the odds to become a teacher. When Brad was growing up, teachers and other adults -- even his father -- interpreted Brad's involuntary sounds and sudden jerking movements as attempts to get attention or simply acting up.

Front of the Class: "I can't see you as a teacher," one blunt administrator told the author. Cohen encountered that attitude many times in the summer after college graduation. In spite of sterling recommendations from student teaching assignments, he was turned...
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