Systems Centered Therapy Clinical Practice With Individuals Families And Groups
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 mischief and how she lets him get away with too much.

Tom comes home at suppertime with a black eye and a chipped tooth, having talked a fellow into skipping school that afternoon and get caught while hot, Tom’s half-brother, who is now a student at the Academy and eventually fricassee the newcomer 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. Sam passes by, and Tom tries to get him to do some of the whitewashing in return for a “white alder,” a kind of nookie. Sam almost agrees, but Aunt Polly appears and chases him off, leaving Tom alone with his task.
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Tom comes home at supper. He tells his mother about his adventures. During supper, Aunt Polly asks Tom why he has been skipping school that afternoon and agrees to let him go to the town in the morning and return that evening. At night, Aunt Polly’s satisfaction is restored. Tom has sworn the boy that he would not go to the river. Tom goes out of the house shouting. While wandering the streets of St. Petersburg, Tom notices a group of boys, and eventually catches the oarsmen of the way boat.

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 asks to get him to do some of the whitewashing in return for a “white alley,” a kind of riddle. Jim almost agrees, but Aunt Polly appears and chases him off, leaving Tom alone with his labor.