The Family On Trial In Revolutionary France
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The novel opens with Aunt Polly scowling the house in search of her nephew, Tom Sawyer. She finds him in the closet, discovery 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 misbehaviour and how she lets him get away with too much.

Tom comes home at suppertime and Aunt Polly3’s face falls when she sees his dirty clothes. She isn’t happy that he skipped school that afternoon and went mushroom hunting. She is also worried that his clothes are still soiled from the mud. Tom’s half-brother, Benjy, uses this moment to show off and make fun of Tom. Aunt Polly is satisfied, for Tom has proven himself to be disobedient.

Tom goes out of the house for a while, and during his absence, the town is visited by a stranger. He is dressed in blue and carries a suitcase. He is a preacher, and he introduces himself to the people of town. Tom and the new arrival are friendly from the start, and eventually, they become close friends.

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