

MARK TWAIN'S

THE ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER

A GRAPHIC NOVEL



BY HALL & STRICKLAND

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ABOUT MARK TWAIN

Mark Twain was born in Hannibal, Missouri in 1835. An adventurous young man, Twain traveled around the United States. He worked as a Mississippi riverboat pilot, a miner, and a reporter. When Twain wrote *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* in 1872, most other books presented boys as purely good or evil characters. Twain wanted his boy hero, Tom Sawyer, to act like a real boy, so he based the book on his own boyhood adventures in Missouri.

Set sometime between 1830 and 1840, the story shows small-town life along the Mississippi River. At the time of the story, steamboats changed the way people and goods traveled. Before the invention of steamboats, it often took months to travel between the major river ports of New Orleans and Minneapolis. However, steamboats could make this journey in just ten days.

Throughout *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, Twain presented the kinds of people he knew from his hometown. Some of these people were important figures in the town, like Judge Thatcher. Others, like Muff Potter, were poor drifters who were drawn to schemes for getting rich. The one character who seems different from the rest is Injun Joe. The word "Injun" is a slang word for "Indian" or "Native American." Mark Twain didn't know much about Native Americans, so he based Injun Joe on stereotypes, or unfair beliefs, that many Americans held during that time.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Tom Sawyer



Joe Harper



Huckelberry Finn

Aunt Polly



Injun Joe



Muff Potter



Doc

Becky Thatcher



TOM IN TROUBLE



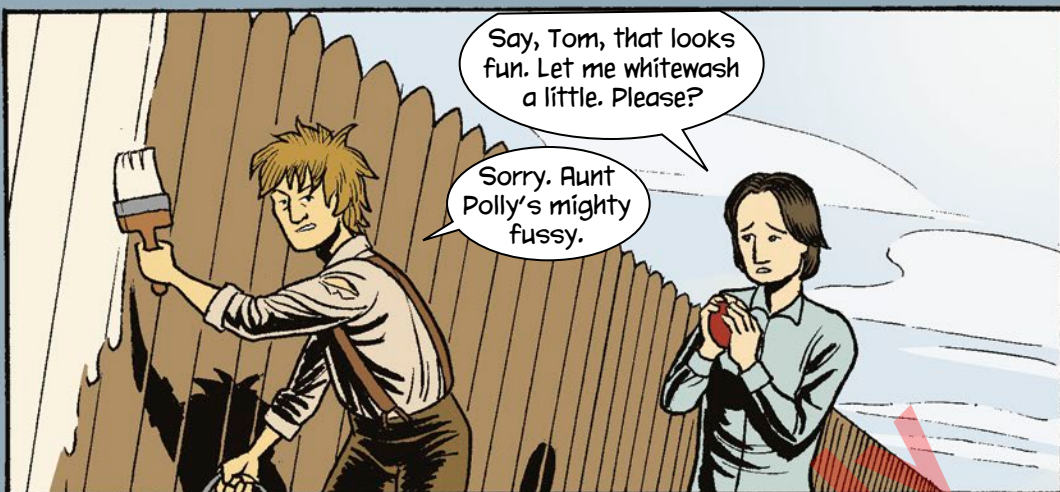
Tom's **punishment** was to spend Saturday painting the fence. When Ben Rogers came along, Tom got an idea.

You got to work, huh?

What do you call work?

Why, ain't painting work?

Maybe it is, and maybe it ain't. All I know is, it's fun. A boy doesn't get a chance to whitewash often!

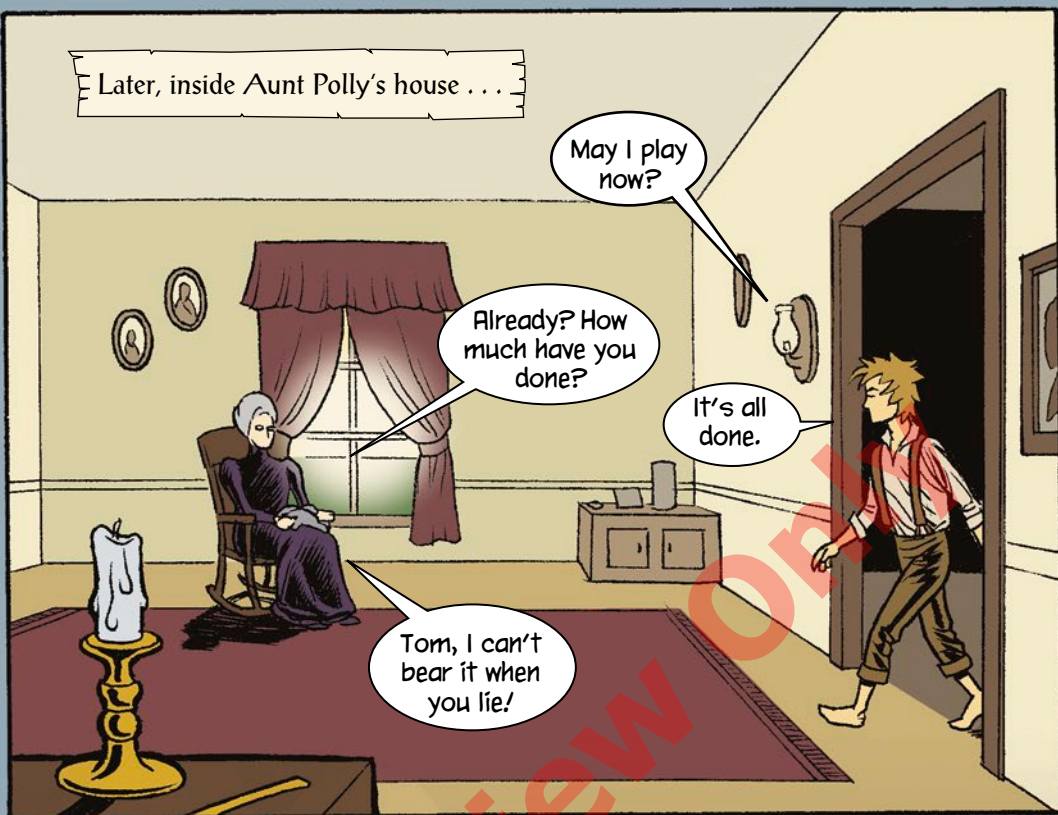


Tom found other victims after Ben. Each traded a prize for a chance to paint.

The best way to make someone want something is to make it hard to get!



Later, inside Aunt Polly's house . . .



May I play now?

Already? How much have you done?

It's all done.

Tom, I can't bear it when you lie!



Well, I never! You sure can work when you want to!

After a friendly game of war with his pals, Tom headed home. Outside the Thatcher house, he spotted someone he had never noticed before.

She's the prettiest girl I've ever seen!



Tom put the flower inside his shirt, near his heart – or maybe his stomach. Tom wasn't exactly sure where his heart was.

