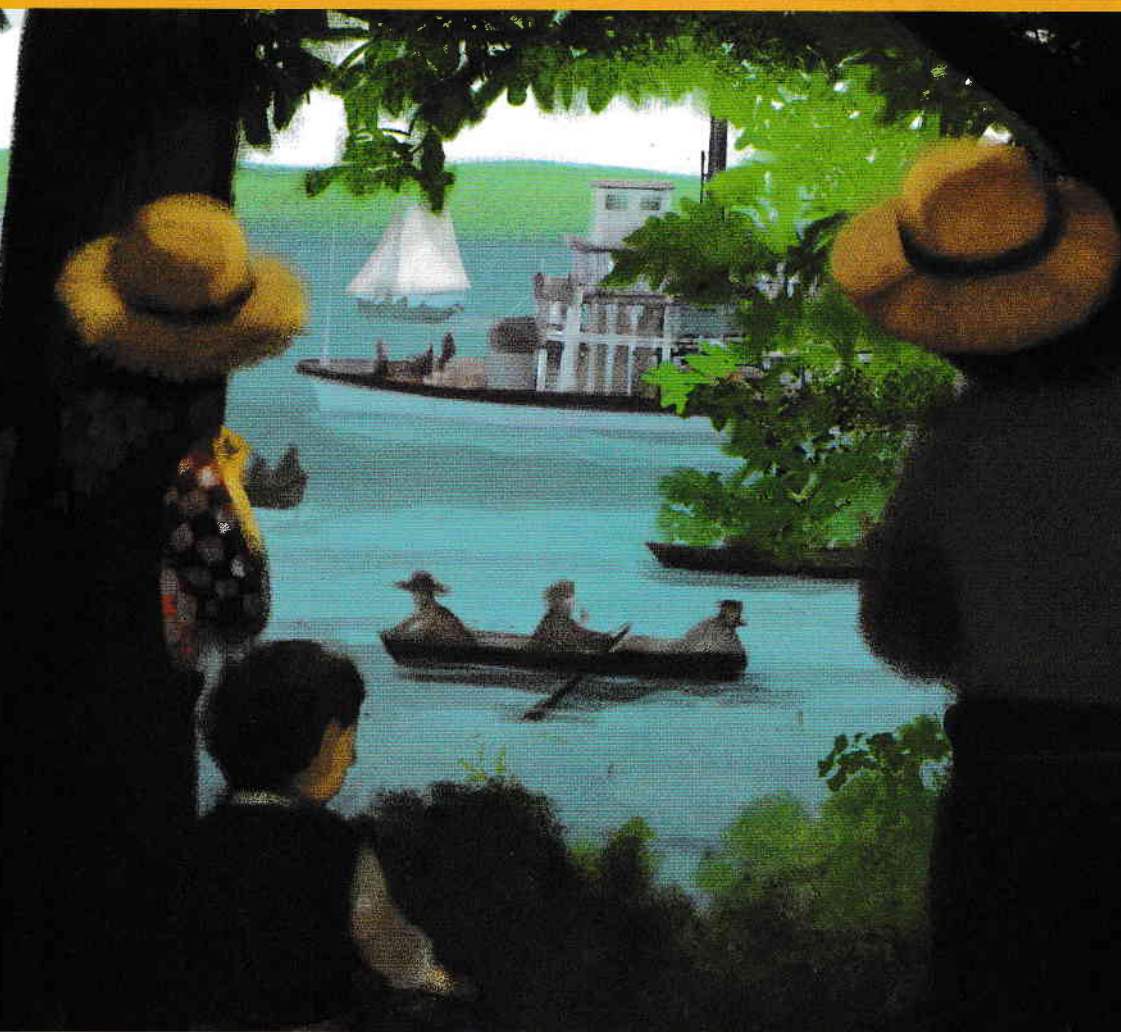


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The Adventures of Tom Sawyer

Mark Twain



Illustrated by Paolo D'Altan

Adaptation and activities by Sally M. Stockton

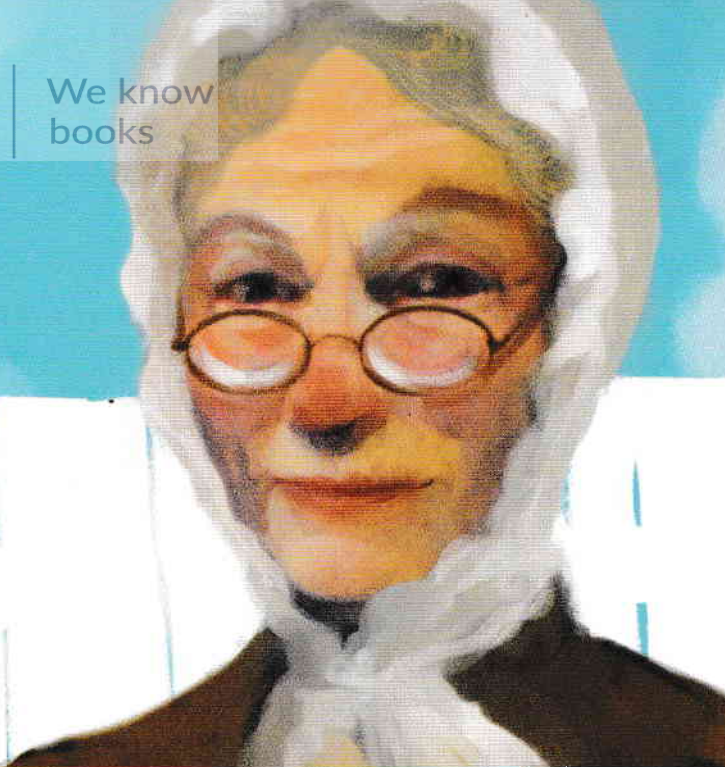
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n. track
end



These symbols indicate the beginning and end of the passages linked to the listening activities.



CHAPTER ONE

Painting the Fence

T

om! Tom!"

There was no answer.

"Where is that boy?" said Aunt Polly, looking everywhere. She looked under the bed but she only found the cat.

"Tom! Where are you" she cried loudly. She opened the door and looked in the garden.

Then she heard a noise behind her. A small boy ran past and she stopped him with her hand.

"What are you doing, Tom?" she asked.

"Nothing," answered Tom, looking at his feet.

"Nothing!" cried Aunt Polly. "Look at your hand and your mouth. I told you many times not to eat the jam."

"Oh, Aunt Polly, look behind you!" said Tom.



track 03

The old lady looked and Tom ran away. Aunt Polly was surprised and then she laughed.

"I'll never learn," she said to herself. "Tom always plays tricks¹ on me and I never learn. He plays new tricks every day. I love Tom, but it's not easy to look after him. Poor Tom, he's my sister's child and she's dead."

She stopped for a moment and then continued, "Well, tomorrow is Saturday and there's no school so Tom must work. He hates working but he must learn to do it."

Tom lived in the village of St Petersburg, on the Mississippi River in Missouri, with his Aunt Polly and his brother Sid. The summer evenings were long and Tom liked walking around the village. One evening he saw a big boy in front of him. He didn't know him and this surprised Tom because he didn't see new people often. This boy had very nice, expensive clothes. "He's got shoes, a new shirt and a tie. And it's not Sunday," Tom thought. "My clothes are old and ugly and I don't have any shoes."

Tom looked at him and the big boy looked at Tom. Tom didn't like him and said, "I can fight you and I will win!"

"Really?" said the boy. "Why don't you try?"

"Well, I can," said Tom, looking at the boy.

"No, you can't," said the boy angrily.

"Yes, I can," cried Tom loudly.

There was silence.

"You're afraid of me," said the boy.

"No, I'm not afraid of you," said Tom.

"Yes, you are."

1. tricks : jokes.

“No, I’m not.”

There was silence for a moment.

Then Tom pushed the boy and the boy pushed Tom. Soon they were on the ground fighting. Tom pulled the boy’s hair and hit him hard. They both fought hard. Then the big boy started crying.

“Stop!” he cried. “Stop!”

“Now, that will teach you,” said Tom and he walked away.

Tom got home late and his clothes were dirty. When Aunt Polly saw him she thought, “What can I do with this boy? Well, tomorrow is Saturday and there’s work for him to do.”

Saturday morning was beautiful and sunny. It was summer and the world was happy. Tom sat in front of the long, dirty fence and looked at it. It was thirty yards ² long and nine feet ³ high. He was very unhappy.

“It’s Saturday and I have to paint this long fence,” he thought. “All my friends are going to laugh at me. It’s going to be a very long day.”

Tom put the long brush in the white paint and started painting. He stopped and looked at his work unhappily, and then he continued painting.

After a few minutes he had a clever idea. He saw his friend Ben Rogers in the street. Ben had a big red apple in his hand and he came to look at the fence.

“You’re working for your Aunt Polly,” said Ben, laughing.

Tom said nothing and continued painting.

“I’m going swimming but you can’t come with me,” said Ben. “You’re working.”

2. **thirty yards** : about 30 metres.

3. **nine feet** : about 3 metres.

“Do you call this work?” asked Tom.

“Of course it’s work. You’re painting a fence,” said Ben.

“Maybe it’s work but maybe it isn’t. I like it!” said Tom happily.
“I can go swimming every day, but I can’t paint a fence every day.”

Ben watched Tom as he painted slowly and carefully. He often stopped and moved back from the fence. He looked at his work and smiled. Ben was suddenly interested in the fence and said, “Can I paint a little, Tom?”

Tom thought for a moment and said, “I’m sorry, Ben. Aunt Polly wants me to do it because I’m very good at painting. My little brother Sid wanted to do it, but he’s not good at painting.”

“Oh, please, Tom,” said Ben. “Please, let me paint! I’m very good at painting too. Here, you can have some of my apple.”

“No, Ben, I can’t...” said Tom.

“Then take all of my apple,” said Ben.

Tom was happy but he didn’t smile. He gave Ben the brush and sat down to eat the apple.

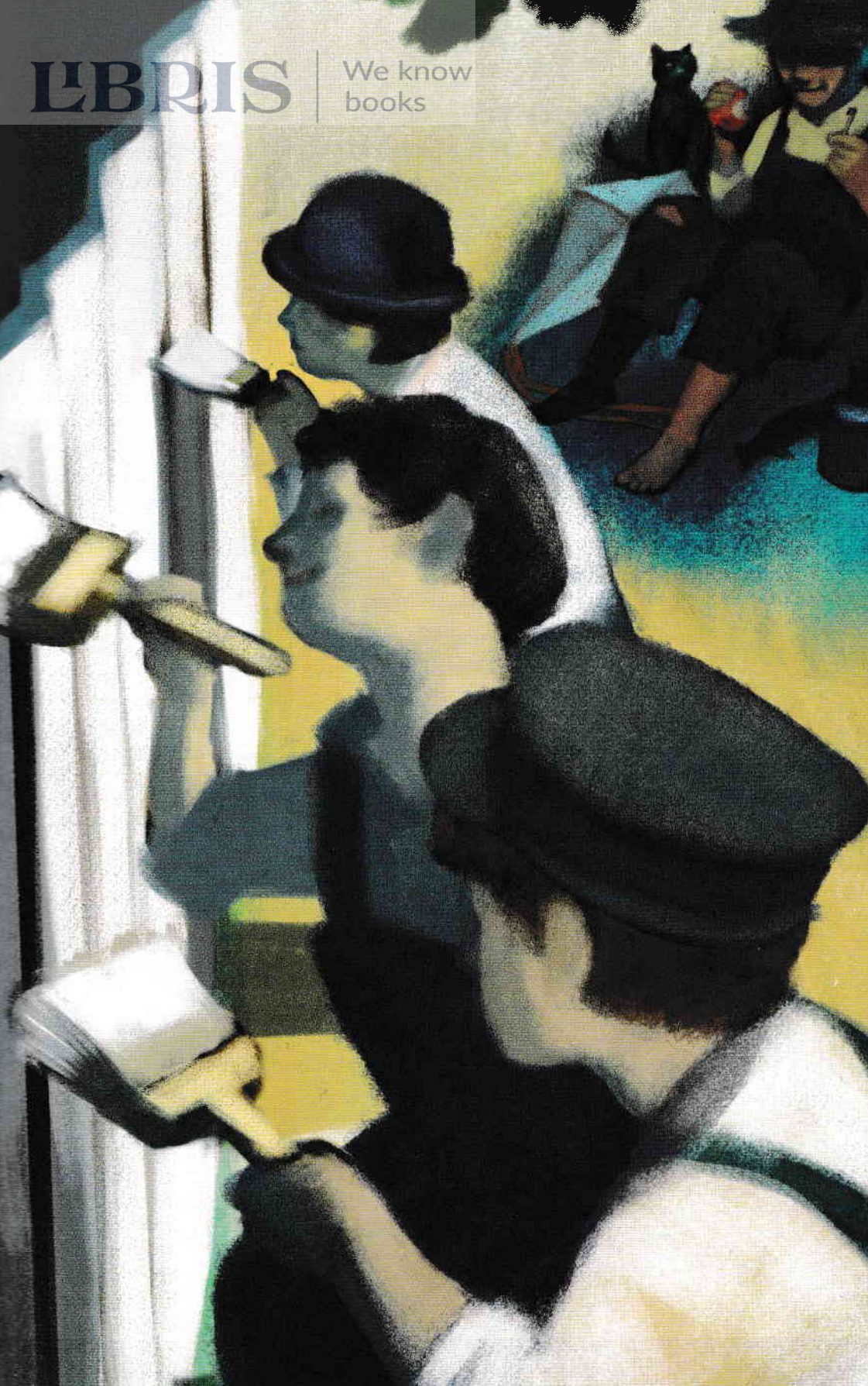
Tom’s other friends came by. At first they laughed at him, but soon they all wanted to paint the fence. Billy Fisher gave Tom a kite and Johnny Miller brought him a dead rat. His other friends gave him an old knife, a cat with one eye, an old blue bottle, an old key and other interesting things. His friends painted the fence and Tom now had a lot of interesting things. He took these new things and went home.

“Aunt Polly, can I go and play now?” he asked.

When Aunt Polly saw the beautiful white fence she was very pleased. She gave Tom a big apple and said, “Good work! Go and play, but don’t be late for dinner!”

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UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT



1 COMPREHENSION CHECK

Read these sentences about Chapter One. Choose the correct answer – A, B or C. There is an example at the beginning (0).

0 Aunt Polly told Tom

- A ☐ not to go in the garden.
- B ☐ to wash his hands and mouth.
- C ☒ not to eat the jam.

1 Tom is Aunt Polly's

- A ☐ nephew.
- B ☐ niece.
- C ☐ son.

2 Tom met a big boy in the village

- A ☐ and they became friends.
- B ☐ and they started fighting.
- C ☐ who had old, ugly clothes.

3 Tom didn't like

- A ☐ working.
- B ☐ fighting.
- C ☐ eating jam.

4 On Saturday morning Tom

- A ☐ went swimming with Ben.
- B ☐ played a trick on his friends.
- C ☐ happily painted the fence.

5 Tom's friends painted the long fence

- A ☐ and they gave him some interesting things.
- B ☐ because they could not go swimming.
- C ☐ because Aunt Polly gave them apples and cakes.

SHE OPENED THE DOOR AND LOOKED IN THE GARDEN

We form the Past Simple of regular verbs by adding **-ed** to the verb.

e.g. work = *worked*, talk = *talked*, help = *helped*

Some verbs end in a **consonant + -y**. We remove the 'y' and add **-ied**.

e.g. study = *studied*, carry = *carried*, hurry = *hurried*

But if verbs end in a **vowel + -y**, the -y does not change.

e.g. stay = *stayed*, play = *played*, enjoy = *enjoyed*

2 THE PAST SIMPLE: REGULAR VERBS

A Complete the sentences with verbs from the box using the Past Simple.

start hurry want study carry push laugh play

- 1 Tom a lot of tricks on Aunt Polly.
- 2 Tom math for an hour and then went outside to play.
- 3 Ben painting the fence at ten o'clock.
- 4 The boys because they were happy.
- 5 The big boy Tom to the ground.
- 6 Aunt Polly home because she was late.
- 7 Tom his bag home.
- 8 All the boys to paint the fence.

B Unscramble the verbs and put them in the crossword in the Past Simple form.

- 1 YCR
- 2 TYR
- 3 TANPI
- 4 OCYP
- 5 OLKO
- 6 NPEO

