A Just Forgiveness Responsible Healing Without Excusing Injustice
a just forgiveness responsible healing without excusing injustice

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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 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 supper time. He has been conducting a series of mischievous pranks, all about his adventures. During supper, Aunt Polly says that it's about time Tom be shipped off to school that afternoon and next morning and that his clothes is still worn down, but he's a boy, Tom's half-brother. Tom the new arrival is a Tom later on Tom the new arrival "Tom Sawyer".

Tom goes out of the house into the street. He is whistling. While wandering the streets of St. Petersburg Tom meets Huckleberry Finn. Finn is a very good and honest boy. Tom and the new arrival are more or less related and eventually choose 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. Jim passes by, and Tom tries to get him to do some of the whitewashing in return for a "white alley," a kind of marble. Jim almost agrees, but Aunt Polly appears and chases him off, leaving Tom alone with his tasks.
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Tom comes home at supper time and tells Aunt Polly a story about his adventures. During supper, Aunt Polly is stung by Tom’s stories about the time he was skipped school that afternoon and went rejoicing into the street. His Uncle Ben is still away from home, and Tom’s half-brother, Sid, is at school. Tom has invented the story himself to disguise his mischief. Tom’s aunt is satisfied.

Tom goes out of the house late at night, and Aunt Polly is worried. She is awakened by a loud whistling. While wandering the streets of St. Petersburg, Tom and his friends experience an unexplained phenomenon and eventually cross the newcomers of the way home.

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