The New Global Rulers The Privatization Of Regulation In The World Economy
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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 nastily on Tom’s mischievous and how she lets him get away with too much.

Tom comes home at suppertime, and the town is full of news about his adventures. During supper, Aunt Polly tells him that he will be dropped school that afternoon and sent to work for a month. Tom’s father is out of town, and his old cronies are still away from town, but his Aunt Polly is satisfied. Tom has sworn the boy to promise never to run away; he has also promised to do as many chores as Aunt Polly wants him to. Tom is fed up with Aunt Polly and eventually decides to do as much work as she wants him to.

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. Tom goes by, and Tom tries to get him to do some of the whitewashing in return for a “white alley,” a kind of meadow. He almost agrees, but Aunt Polly appears and chases him off, leaving Tom alone with his tasks.