Toxicology A Case Oriented Approach
The novel opens with Aunt Polly scrounging the house in search of her nephew, Tom Sawyer. She finds him in the closet, discovers that his hands are covered in 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 tells his family about his adventures. During supper, Aunt Polly suggests that Tom should be skipped school that afternoon and work on his chores. Tom shrewdly argues that his mother is still away from home, so he and his half-brother Huckleberry Finn can do as they please. Aunt Polly is satisfied. Tom has assured his aunt that she need not worry about him. Tom goes out after supper, and the new arrival on the block Mr. Mark. Tom has warned the boy to be discreet about his whereabouts and acquaintances.

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 whiterush 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 muzzle. Jim almost agrees, but Aunt Polly appears and chases him off, leaving Tom alone with his tasks.
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