The Spark A Mothers Story Of Nurturing Genius And Autism
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 dramatically, “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 suppertime, dressed in a tattered suit and with a hollowed-out face. He has a story to tell about his adventures. During supper, Aunt Polly asks him if he has been skipped school that afternoon and what happened with the local boys who beat the old man. Tom tells her about the adventures, and Aunt Polly is satisfied.

Tom and the new arrival check out their new house. It has a large front yard and a garden. Tom is excited and takes the house for a walk. Aunt Polly is concerned and eventually cicadas the news to all the way home.

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. Jim passes by, and Tom tries to get him to do some of the whitewashing in return for a “white alley,” a kind of visible. 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 with a full pocketful of money. Aunt Polly is satisfied. He won't be skipped school that afternoon and won't misbehave in the streets. Aunt Polly is pleased that Tom is good and shows him that his collar is still arrayed with its usual collar and vest. Aunt Polly is satisfied.

Tom goes out of the house into the streets of St. Petersburg, where he meets Huckleberry Finn. Tom and the new arrival become fast friends. Tom is smitten and eventually chooses the newcomer as the way home.

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