

Tom Sawyer



Scene 1: Town. Fence

It's a clear summer morning. The roosters are singing, the town is waking up. We see TOM by a white, partially painted fence, wearing a straw hat, overalls and a white T-shirt.

AUNT POLLY

TOM SAWYER! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

TOM

Ouch, ouch, ouch! You are hurting me!

AUNT POLLY

If you were a good boy, you wouldn't have to do this! Remember, painting this fence is your punishment! So grab the paint, and your brush and GET TO WORK!

TOM

That is not fair, Aunt Polly! What did I do?

AUNT POLLY

You missed school yesterday!

TOM

I mean... apart from that!

AUNT POLLY

You threw a spider at your teacher and you made her cry!

TOM

School is boring! I want to travel, to go on adventures, to find a pirate treasure...

AUNT POLLY

I do not care! I work all day so you can GO TO SCHOOL. Forget about adventures. Keep painting!

AUNT POLLY

And if I catch you missing school again, I will *destroy you*.

Tom Sawyer starts to laugh.

AUNT POLLY

I'M SERIOUS!
Now, to make sure you don't stop working...

AUNT POLLY turns around, looking for something in her purse. It's a portrait of herself.

TOM

Oh, wow.

AUNT POLLY

I know! I look beautiful, don't you think?

I will leave this picture of myself right here so you REMEMBER that THIS IS YOUR PUNISHMENT.

I almost forgot! I don't want you outside at night!

Two bad men robbed a bank! Look!

They are *free and really*, really DANGEROUS! So be careful!

TOM

Okay, Aunt Polly... I won't get out of the house.

AUNT POLLY

I hope you are not lying to me, Tom, or your next punishment will be painting THE WHOLE HOUSE.

AUNT POLLY exits.

TOM

This doesn't look like Aunt Polly at all. But I know how to fix it. Let's see...

TOM starts drawing on the picture.

TOM

Horns, because she is a demon.
Bigger teeth, because she looks like an animal.
And a moustache, so she can look pretty.

I am so good at drawing... Now it really looks like Aunt Polly!

In walks HUCK, whistling, just walking around.

TOM

Huckleberry Finn!

HUCK

Do I know you?

TOM

My friend! How are you doing?

HUCK

Who, me? Are we friends?

TOM

Of course we are! You know me from school! I'm Tom Sawyer... your best friend!

HUCK

I don't think you come to school very often...

TOM

Huckleberry, can I call you Huck?

HUCK

Uh... No.

TOM

Great! Thank you, Huck! Now tell me, wouldn't you like to paint this fence for me?

HUCK

Why would I want to do that?

TOM

Because... I FOUND A TREASURE!

HUCK

What?

TOM

I went out on an adventure... and I found a real pirate treasure.

HUCK

Pirate?

TOM

Yeah, like... You know. Arr!

HUCK

I know what a pirate is! But did you say treasure?

TOM

Yes! Tons of gold. So much gold! But you can't tell anyone, okay? It's a secret!

HUCK

Wait, wait, wait... Gold? REAL gold? Really?

TOM

Yes! And if you paint this fence, I will give you half of the treasure that I found. What do you think?

HUCK

If I was rich, no one would care about the giant pimple on my face...

TOM

The giant WHAT?

HUCK

Aw, this is so embarrassing...
I have had a giant PIMPLE on my face for months.

TOM

Can I see? ... EW!

HUCK

I know! I hate it! It's horrible, and it's so big!

TOM

Then you know what to do...

You can become a rich man... and your pimple... will not be a problem anymore. No one is brave enough to look a rich man in the face!

HUCK

That is my dream... Okay, I will do it!

Thank you, Tom! You are a real friend.

TOM

Good choice! You are very smart, Huck.

And don't forget to paint both sides! Okay?

HUCK

Okay!

Scene 2: Town. River

TOM

The anchor is ready... The sails are ready... The boat is almost ready for the adventure!

HUCK

You! TOM SAWYER!

HUCK

You are a bad person!

TOM

Me? Why? What did I do?

HUCK

You lied to me!

TOM

When did I ever lie to you? I have never lied to anyone in my life.

HUCK

You told me you had found a treasure! But your Aunt Polly saw me painting the fence, and said you don't have any money. You are poor!

TOM

Ooooh... *That* lie.

HUCK

Yes, *that* lie! She called me an idiot.

HUCK

Why don't you say you're sorry?

TOM

Because I am not sorry!

HUCK

Well... You should be! I will make you sorry.

TOM

Wait! Wait a second! Don't get mad, calm down.

HUCK

I AM NOT MAD! I AM CALM! I AM TOTALLY CALM!

TOM

Okay... Let me explain something to you. It's true that I do not have money... yet!

HUCK

Yet? So you WILL have it?

TOM

I WILL have it... in the future.

HUCK

But you don't have it NOW?

TOM

What part of "I WILL HAVE IT IN THE FUTURE" do you not understand?

HUCK

You have 10 seconds to explain this... before I punch you in the face.

TOM

What? Don't be like that!

HUCK

9. 8. 7...

TOM

Oh please, you are being ridiculous.

HUCK

6, 5, 4...

TOM

Okay, stop. Do you see the boat?
I made it myself and I will use to find a treasure!

HUCK

What treasure?

TOM

A treasure that some pirate hid around the town, a long, long time ago.

HUCK

But this is a RIVER, not the SEA. There are no pirates here.

TOM

Of course there are pirates in rivers. They are river pirates! But anyway, you can come with me to look for treasure, and if we find it, we will share it.

HUCK

Half of the gold for you and half of the gold for me?

TOM

Yes. 50/50. It's a promise. Come on.

I just remembered something! They say that if you grab a rock from the graveyard at midnight, and rub it on your pimple, like this... the pimple will disappear.

HUCK

Really? That sounds strange. How do you know?

TOM

A friend of a friend. Of a friend. Of a friend. Of a friend did it.
And the pimple disappeared!

HUCK

But the graveyard is scary... And someone told me there
are ghosts there!

Also, my parents told me there are dangerous criminals
running around at night...

TOM

Aunt Polly told me the same thing, but who cares? Don't be
scared.

Don't you want to have a beautiful face without pimples?

HUCK

Okay, but if there is a ghost...

TOM

I will save myself and leave you behind.

HUCK

Haha, really funny joke. Okay, I will give you a chance.
Let's go to the graveyard tonight.

TOM

Yeah. Totally a joke.

Scene 3: Graveyard

HUCK

Maybe... Just maybe... This wasn't a good idea.

TOM

Why not? Are you scared?

HUCK

Leave me alone! Help me look for the cure for my pimple.
And remember...
We are partners. You promised!

How big should the stone be? Bigger than my hand?
Bigger than my head?

What happened? I think I heard a cat screaming-12.

TOM

Shh! Be quiet, or someone will hear us!

HUCK

Oh my god! Is that A BODY? Is that... a DEAD PERSON?

Oh my god, oh my god! We need to leave NOW.

TOM

Who do you think he is? What was he doing here, in the graveyard?

HUCK

Maybe he is a vampire!

TOM

A vampire? Don't be stupid!
He is in a graveyard. He is OBVIOUSLY a zombie.

HUCK

Or maybe he was looking for a cure for pimples, like us! And something happened to him! Something BAD.

TOM

What is that? Is that a bag?

HUCK

What is it?

TOM

Gold! It's a treasure!

HUCK

Is it real?

TOM

Ew! It tastes really bad.

HUCK

Why did you bite it?

TOM

I don't know. Everybody does it in the stories.
See, Huck? I told you we would find a treasure! Didn't I tell you?

HUCK

Just think about what we can do with this money.

TOM

I will buy a bigger boat.

HUCK

I will buy a new face!

TOM

And I will never have to go to school again!

HUCK

What is that?

TOM

Someone's coming! Hide, quick!

TOM, HUCK

Shh!

HUCK

Tom, look at him! He is a monster! So ugly!

TOM

Aunt Polly told me about two bank robbers. They stole a lot of gold and ran away! They must be the bank robbers!

HUCK

Who, the ugly man?

TOM

And the dead one!

HUCK

Are they bad people?

TOM

They ROB BANKS. Yes, they are bad! They are CRIMINALS. They are cool... but also bad.

HUCK

What do we do now?

TOM

RUN!!!

HUCK

Wait for me!!

Scene 4: Town. River

HUCK

IS HE STILL FOLLOWING US?

TOM

I DON'T KNOW!

HUCK

DID HE SEE OUR FACES?

TOM

I DON'T KNOW!

HUCK

This is bad. This is really bad. We are in DANGER.
Did you see that man?

TOM

Yes, I was there!

HUCK

Did you hear him?

TOM

Yes, I heard him. Because I was there!

HUCK

And did you see his face?
He had... terrible yellow teeth, HORRIBLE pimples like me
and... and a big deformed head!

TOM

That wasn't his head, it was a hat, you idiot!

HUCK

...Oh. But he did have pimples!

TOM

No he didn't!

HUCK

Shouldn't we hide from that man? He could find us any minute!

TOM

No, we have to draw him before we forget his face.
Then we can hide. This is important.
That man had a big dirty hat. He had a scar on his cheek,
under his eye. A long beard, black teeth and big, red eyes.

HUCK

He had bigger teeth than this. And a longer beard. He also had
smaller eyes, and dirtier teeth.

TOM

Stop criticizing my drawing.

HUCK

Oh, oh, also his scar was higher than that, over his brow. On his forehead. Right here!

TOM

I know where the scar was.

HUCK

And his lips were bigger too!

TOM

Stop bothering me, Huck. I'm really good at drawing. I could be an artist.

HUCK

Yes, it is good. Except for the teeth, the beard, the scar, and the lips.

TOM

Oh, yeah? You think you can draw better than me? You do it then!

HUCK

Fine!

TOM

NO! IT'S MINE!

HUCK

You asked me to do it! Give it to me!

Suddenly, they hear the same steps and grunts as before.

HUCK

It's the same man! The bank robber! What do we do?

TOM

The boat! Come on, quick quick quick! The wind will help us get away!

HUCK

Wait, is this boat ready for the river? Are you sure we can use it? I don't want to have an accident!

TOM

If you don't like my boat, you can stay here! Or you can grab a paddle and row so we can get away!

TOM

COME ON, PADDLE!

HUCK

I'M PADDLING, I'M PADDLING.

Scene 5: River. Cave

TOM

Instead of a dog, I could... buy a pet tiger. A tiger... that I will keep as a pet.
I will also buy a house by the beach... I will keep my tiger there. Tigers like the beach, right?

HUCK

Tom... Do you think the bad man is following us?

TOM

How? He doesn't have a boat. It's impossible.

HUCK

But we have his gold... If someone had stolen your treasure, wouldn't you follow them?

HUCK

Hey, listen to me! Give me that.

TOM

Do not touch my gold, it's MINE! My treasure!

HUCK

Tom...

TOM

What?

HUCK

Is it normal that there is water?

TOM

We are in a river, Huck. Of course there is water.

HUCK

No, I mean... Is it normal that there is water INSIDE the boat?

TOM

We are sinking! We are going down!

HUCK

What! Why?

TOM

The treasure must be too heavy for my boat! We need to stop! Turn left! Left! Left!

HUCK

I'm rowing left!

TOM

Your other left!

HUCK

There is only one left!

TOM

Yes, and it's the OTHER left! Come on, or we'll sink!

After a great effort, TOM and HUCK manage to reach the shore, where there is a big cave to the side.

HUCK

I think... the treasure... is too heavy... to carry by boat.

TOM

Oh, really? Do you think so?

HUCK

Yeah... We can't go back home with it. We would sink to the bottom of the river. What do we do, Tom?

TOM

We could bury it in the ground! Like pirates used to do!

HUCK

But we are not pirates.

TOM

We could be! Now help me.

TOM and HUCK crouch down and start digging.

HUCK

What do we do after we bury it?

TOM

Return home and don't tell ANYTHING to ANYONE.

HUCK

Are we going to leave the treasure here?

TOM

Yes, but we will come back to pick it up later, when there is not a bad man looking for us. We can come with a horse and take it.

HUCK

But Tom... How do I know you will not come back alone, steal the treasure from me and just keep it for yourself?

TOM

How dare you? I would never do that. We will share it. We found it together, and we have to dig it up together.

HUCK

Do you promise?

TOM

I promise.

HUCK

Do you swear?

TOM

I swear.

HUCK

It's a deal.

TOM

It's a deal.

HUCK

Okay, we can go now.

TOM

Wait! We need to make sure we leave no trace! Nobody can know the treasure is here!

Huck, clean everything up! It has to look like we were NEVER here.

HUCK

Now it looks like we were NEVER here. We can go back!

TOM

Wait!

HUCK

What now? I wanna leave, I'm so hungry!

TOM

Don't you want to explore the cave before going back? Maybe there are monsters... or more treasure!

HUCK

You want to explore the cave NOW? What if the man finds us and then closes the exit?

We would be stuck inside! We would get lost and stay there FOREVER. It would be awful!

TOM

Why are you always so scared? We will do it next time. But you need to live a little, Huck. Stop being so afraid.

HUCK

Easy for you to say. You are not afraid of anything. Even when you should be.

TOM looks back towards the cave with longing, disappointed.

TOM

I will go back to that cave. I promise.
Are you sure we didn't leave anything?

HUCK

I am TOTALLY sure. We didn't leave anything. Not a thing.
NOPE.

NOTHING AT ALL!

Scene 6: Town. Funeral

There's a big CHURCH SIGN that reads:

"TODAY AT CHURCH:
THE FUNERAL OF TOM SAWYER
AND HUCKLEBERRY FINN"

HUCK

Wow, I am so hungry! I hope my parents have cooked something good. Like a pizza... or pizza... Or maybe a pizza! Did I already say pizza?

TOM

Yes, you did.

HUCK

I really want pizza. Do you think my parents know?

TOM

Know what?

HUCK

That I haven't been home in days!

TOM

I am sure they have no idea.

Shhhh. Do you hear that?

HUCK

Hear what? I don't hear anything.

TOM

Wait here.
Do not move.

PRIEST

Brothers and sisters, we are here today for the funeral of two young boys, Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn, who disappeared a few days ago. These young boys were intelligent, brave and good.

PRIEST

But they were also really BAD students. They always got into trouble and they didn't know how to STUDY, or COUNT or DRAW...

PRIEST

...but they were always full of life. This town will miss them, and so will their families.

TOM

I have good news and bad news. Which news do you want to hear first?

HUCK

Good news and bad news?
What should I do? I always pick the wrong one!

TOM

I will choose for you, then.

HUCK

No, no! I will choose... Bad news!

TOM

Okay, bad news, everyone in town thinks we are DEAD.

HUCK

Everyone? My parents too? This is terrible! What's the good news?

TOM

They are throwing a party in our honor!

HUCK

You mean our funeral? That's not a party! IT'S A FUNERAL!

TOM

Yes it is a party. Look! Look!
Many people. Music. A man on a stage... Doesn't that sound like a party?

HUCK

Oh wow! It *is* a party!

PRIEST

This funeral is now over. Everyone can go back to their homes and cry for Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn, who were too innocent for this tragedy.

TOM

The party is over.

HUCK

What do we do now? Our families think we are DEAD.

TOM

This is our chance. We are free! We can go on adventures. Take the treasure and become pirates!

HUCK

But I don't want to leave my parents.

TOM

What? Why not?

HUCK

They clean my clothes... They cook for me... They wake me up in the mornings...

TOM

I could wake you up in the mornings.

HUCK

You would PUNCH me in the face in the mornings.

TOM

...Yes! To wake you up!

HUCK

Listen, Tom... You are my best friend.

But I want to see my parents and tell them I am not dead.

TOM

I can't believe you. I can't believe... how BORING you are, Huck!

HUCK

We can pick up the treasure next week.

TOM

Just... Whatever. Do what you want. Who cares? I don't. I don't care at all. Do you hear me, Huck? I don't care.

I DON'T CARE AT ALL!

Scene 7: Town. House

AUNT POLLY is sleeping on her bed, snoring noisily.

TOM

Uhhhh.... Aunt... Pol-

AUNT POLLY

YOU WILL NOT STEAL FROM ME, CRIMINAL!

TOM

Aunt Polly, it's me! It's Tom! Tom Sawyer!

AUNT POLLY

Tom...? Is that you?

TOM

Yes, it's me... I'm not dead, Aunt Polly...

TOM

Ow! Why did you hit me again?

AUNT POLLY

I thought you were dead!

I even bought a casket for you and it was really expensive!

TOM

Why did you think that? I left only two days ago!

AUNT POLLY

Your boat had disappeared! We thought you had ran away on it, and the river is very dangerous, Tom! And you are just a baby!

TOM

I am not a baby! And I can swim very well!

AUNT POLLY

And then the police found A DEAD BODY in the graveyard! I was so scared!

TOM

They found a body?

AUNT POLLY

Yes! He was one of the TWO bank robbers who escaped weeks ago!

The dead man was the friend of a terrible criminal called Joe!

TOM

We saw him!

AUNT POLLY

They robbed a bank together, but then Joe wanted to keep all the money for himself.

So he killed his friend! And then you disappeared...

And We thought Joe had found you outside and... and...

TOM

He found me! This is why Huck and I disappeared!
We saw Joe in the graveyard!

AUNT POLLY

What?

TOM

We saw Joe! He had a big dirty hat, a scar on his cheek,
under his eye. A long beard, black teeth and big, red eyes.

AUNT POLLY

A hat, a scar, a beard, black teeth and red eyes?

TOM

Yes!

AUNT POLLY

That sounds ridiculous! You have too much
imagination, Tom.

You need to stop reading pirate stories... What you need to
do is STUDY.

Now you will help me return the casket, tell your teacher
you are not dead and, of course... you will finish painting
the fence.

AUNT POLLY

TOM! COME BACK HERE, NOW!

TOM

Sorry, Aunt Polly! I have to go! I love you, bye!

AUNT POLLY

This naughty child... Always running away...

Scene 8: River. Cave

*TOM is on his boat, rowing alone. He reaches the shore
next to the same cave as before. He finds the place all
dug up, the gold gone.*

TOM

My treasure! Someone took it!
My house by the beach! My pet tiger! This is a tragedy!

JOE comes out of the cave.

JOE

Is anyone there?

*Joe walks back into the cave.
TOM does a breathing exercise before getting into the
cave, following JOE.*

TOM

You can do this, Tom! You can do this. Come on!

Scene 9: Cave

There's a lantern on the floor.

TOM

A lantern! Perfect! This will light my way... I didn't see a skull. I didn't see anything. It was just my imagination...

TOM

Oh my god, you scared me TO DEATH.

HUCK

I knew you would try to steal our treasure!

TOM

What?

HUCK

You promised we would share the gold! You promised we would get it back together!

But I KNEW you were lying. I knew it, I knew it, I knew it!

TOM

This is not what it looks like. Listen to me...

HUCK

And now you're lying again!

TOM

Come on, Huck. Have I EVER lied you?

HUCK

Yes! Always! All the time!

TOM

Oh, right... Wait a minute... How did you get here so FAST?

HUCK

I RAN! ALL NIGHT! AND NOW I'M SO TIRED!

TOM

Hey, you need to calm down!

I only came here because we left the drawing! That is YOUR FAULT. You had ONE JOB and you did it WRONG.

And because of that, Joe, the bank robber, has found our treasure!

HUCK

Now you are blaming me? Do you think I am stupid?

TOM

Yes! I mean... A little bit. Anyway, it's true! I came here for the portrait, but Joe found it first.

HUCK

You could have told me! We could have come together!

TOM

I would have told you, if you weren't a scared, stupid, boring, UGLY little boy.

HUCK

What?

TOM

You are always so scared of everything, Huck, maybe you should just go home to your mommy and cry.

TOM

Wait wait... Where are we?

HUCK

I... am not sure. I can't see the entrance anywhere.

TOM

Oh no...

HUCK

..."Oh no", what? "OH NO", WHAT?

TOM

...I think we're lost.

HUCK

Oh, no.

Scene 10: Cave. Part II

HUCK

Do you have another chocolate bar?

TOM

You ate all of them.

HUCK

Why don't you have more?

TOM

I had more, BUT YOU ATE ALL OF THEM.

HUCK

What do you think the people in town are doing right now? My parents? Your Aunt Polly?

TOM

Probably throwing another party for us.

HUCK

Another funeral!

This means that no one is going to come to look for us. We are alone. We are never getting out.

TOM

Do not panic! We will find a way out.

HUCK

We have already tried and we haven't found anything! I'm sorry, this is all my fault.

TOM

Not everything. I'm sorry too. I'm sorry that I called you a scared, stupid, boring, UGLY little boy. It's not your fault you're ugly.

HUCK

Thank...you?

TOM

Come on, let's find a way out. We can do it together.

HUCK

What will happen when we eat all the food?

TOM

We will have to eat each other.

HUCK

Do not eat me, Tom. I taste horrible. Do not eat me.

Tom, I am serious. You will not eat me, right?

TOM

Shhh! Look!

HUCK

It's Joe! Oh my god!

TOM

I told you not to panic! Do you hear that?

He's SLEEPING! Joe killed his friend, and now he's all alone. It's two against one! We can get the treasure and run away!

HUCK

But we don't know where the exit is!

TOM

We will find it AFTER we get the gold.

*TOM leaves the lantern on the floor and grabs the bag.
He hands it to HUCK.*

HUCK

Why do I have to take it?

TOM

You are very strong. You can carry the gold.

TOM

Oh my god, really?!

HUCK

It's too heavy! My weak legs can't do it!

TOM

OH MY GOD HE'S WAKING UP

HUCK

Didn't you say to me "DO NOT PANIC"?

TOM

You can panic now. PANIC!

TOM

RUN RUN RUN

HUCK

I'M RUNNING

HUCK

I can see light! We found the exit!

TOM

Don't stop! Don't stop, don't stop!

Scene 11: River. Cave

TOM

Help me block the entrance!

TOM

YEAH! WE DID IT! Joe is trapped inside FOREVER!
We are safe. Give me five!

TOM

What's wrong?

HUCK

I lost the treasure... All the gold is inside that cave, with
Joe. We will never be rich now.

TOM

I know.

HUCK

My face without pimples... Your house by the beach...
Your pet tiger.

TOM

I know! My pet tiger! But the most important thing, more
important than any treasure...

HUCK

What? What?

TOM

...is that we are alive.

HUCK

Yes, I guess that's true...

TOM

And we are alive together! Which is also important.

HUCK

Is it really?

TOM

Of course! Don't you think so?
We're best friends, right? We don't need the
treasure, we just need each other.

TOM

And remember, I do this because I love you.

HUCK

Do what?

HUCK

Ow! My Pimple! You popped it! How does it look?

TOM

You, my friend... look beautiful.

HUCK

You could have done this DAYS AGO, WEEKS AGO.

TOM

But I've done it now! Aren't you happy?

HUCK

Actually... I am!

TOWN PEOPLE

TOM! HUCKLEBERRY! TOM SAWYER! WHERE ARE YOU?

HUCK

It's the town! They're looking for us!

TOM

That's good!

AUNT POLLY

TOM! HUCKLEBERRY! When I find you I'll teach you discipline. You will paint fences until you are 100 years old.

TOM

...That's bad.

HUCK

Should we go talk to her? Explain to her what happened?

TOM

Yes, yes, we should... Or...

HUCK

Or...?

TOM

Or we could... maybe... perhaps.... Jump into the boat and look for another treasure.

HUCK

What about our families?

TOM

When they prepare another party for us...

HUCK

Another FUNERAL...

TOM

We will appear like heroes at the last minute, carrying a bag full of gold. What do you think?

TOM

Last one to the boat is an idiot!

HUCK

Hey! You are cheating! It's not fair!

They both run and jump into the boat, and start rowing downstream.

Together, they exit the stage.