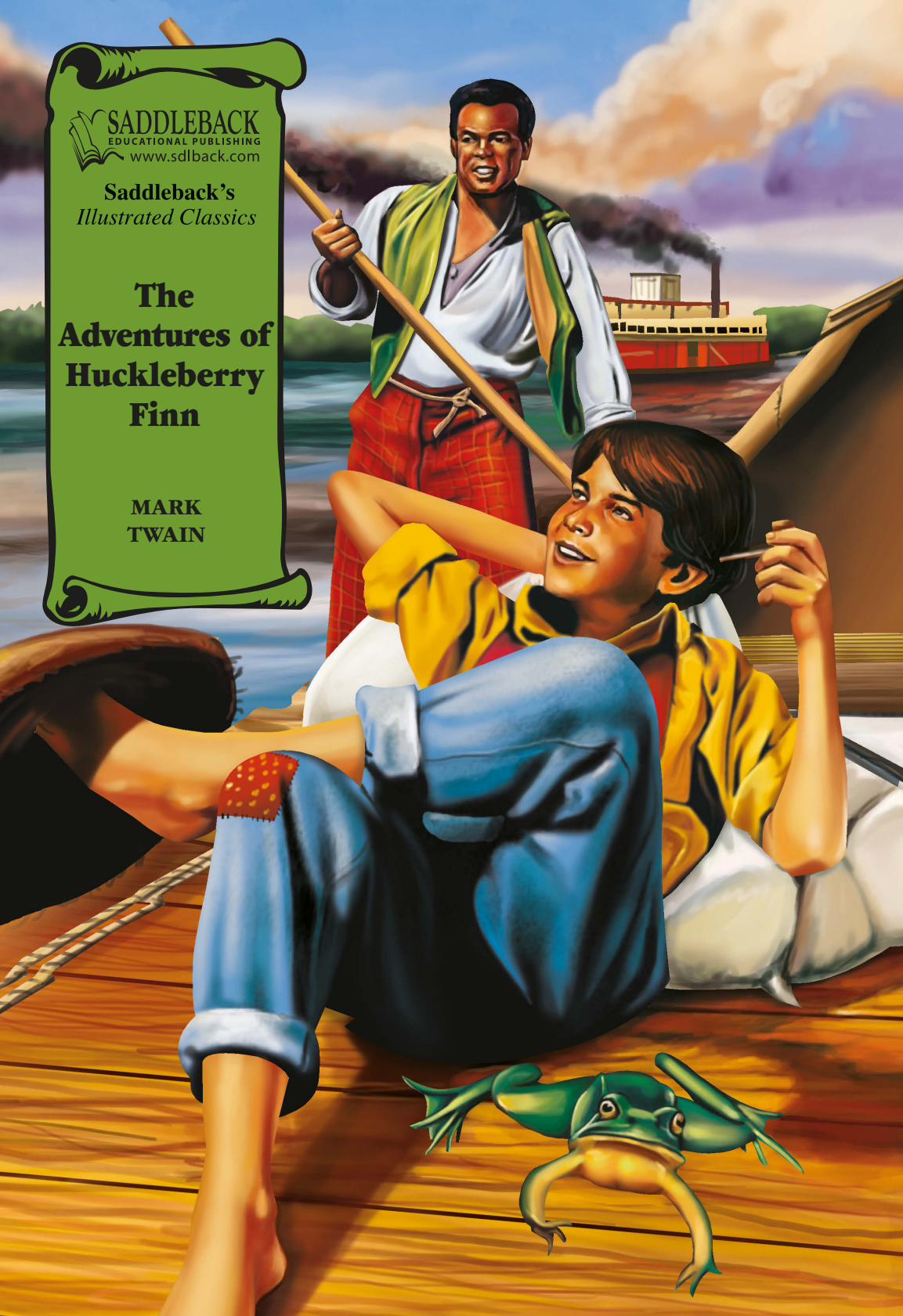




Saddleback's  
*Illustrated Classics*

# The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

MARK  
TWAIN



THE ADVENTURES OF

# Huckleberry Finn

*Mark Twain*

## THE MAIN CHARACTERS



Jim



Tom Sawyer



Huckleberry Finn

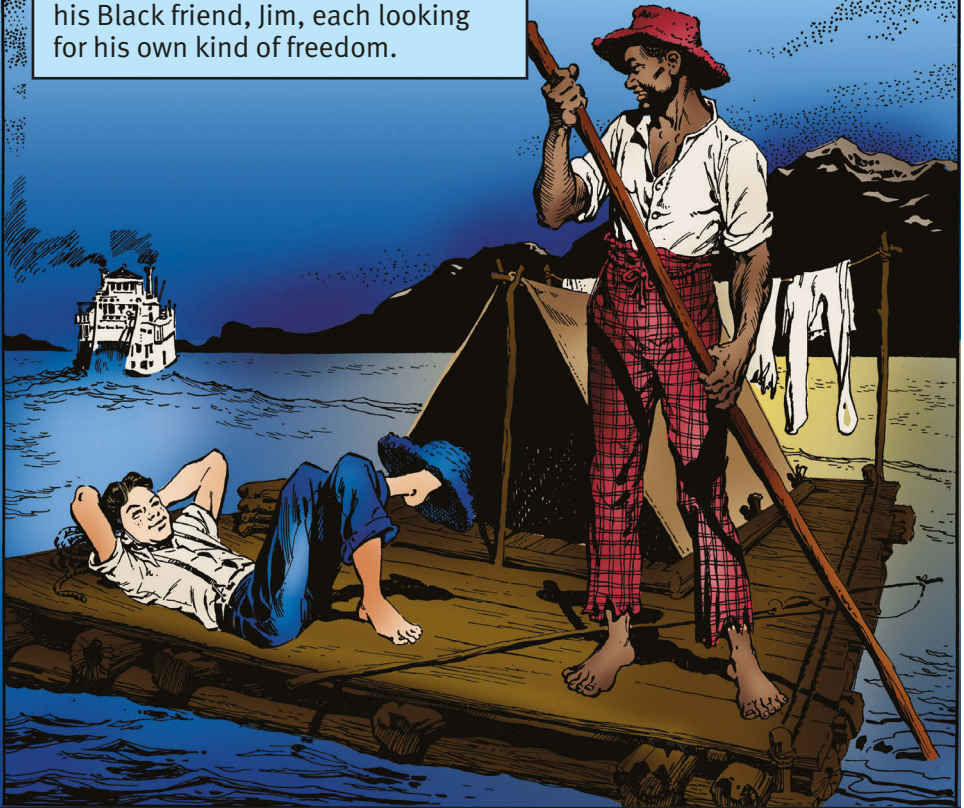


Widow Douglas



Pap

Huck Finn was a drop-out. He didn't like sleeping under a roof and wearing nice clothes and staying clean and doing things on time. He did like getting dirty and sleeping in the woods and playing hookey from school. So he ran away to float down the Mississippi River on a raft with his Black friend, Jim, each looking for his own kind of freedom.



"There wasn't no home like a raft. Other places seem so crowded and stuffy. You might say the days swum by, they slid along so quiet and smooth and lovely. Nights we had the sky up there, all speckled with stars, and we used to lay on our backs and discuss about whether they was made or only just happened. Jim, he said they was made; I judged it would have took too long to make so many. Jim said the moon could 'a laid them. I didn't say nothing against it because I've seen a frog lay most as many."

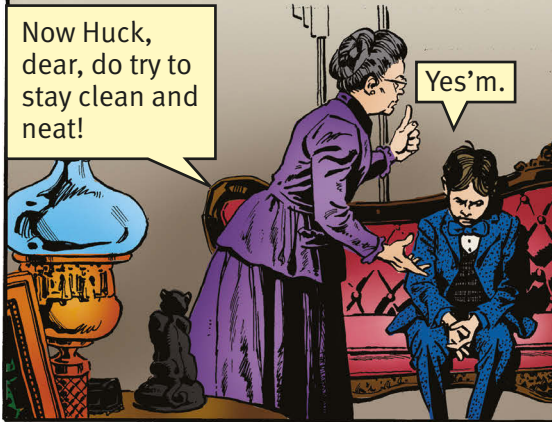


When Pap was around, I mostly lived in the woods. But after he went away the Widow Douglas took me for her son and said she would civilize me. It was rough.

I had to wear nice clothes all the time.

Now Huck,  
dear, do try to  
stay clean and  
neat!

Yes'm.



I had to come to meals on time.

Can't I go  
a-swimming?

Not now. . .  
supper's ready.



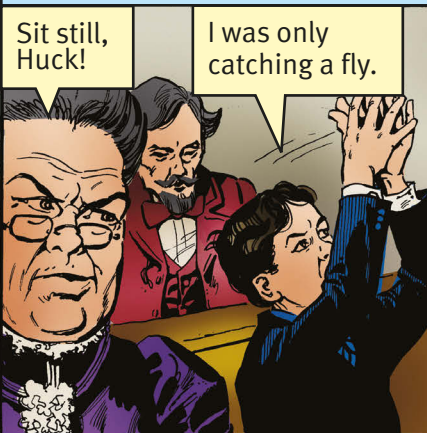
But I couldn't  
eat till the  
Widow prayed  
some over  
the food.



On Sundays I had to wear shoes  
all day, and go to church!

Sit still,  
Huck!

I was only  
catching a fly.



Did you ever notice, if you're  
anywhere it won't do for you to  
scratch, you will itch all over?

Don't scratch in  
church, Huck!

But I itch in  
church!



Then her old maid sister, Miss Watson, came to live with her and she was worse.

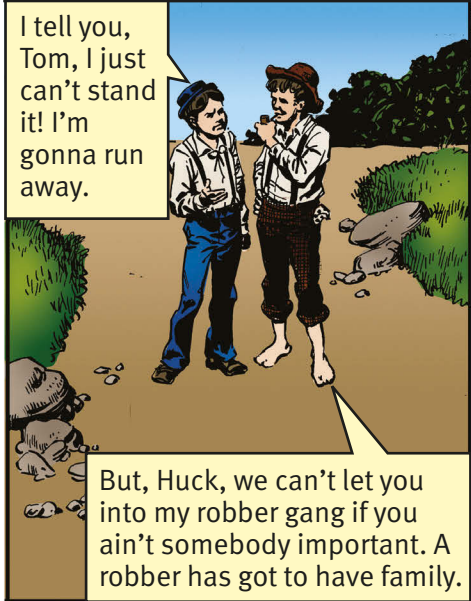
Don't bend over like that, Huckleberry! Sit up straight!



Yes'm.

It was terrible living with them. But I stayed for one reason.

I tell you, Tom, I just can't stand it! I'm gonna run away.



But, Huck, we can't let you into my robber gang if you ain't somebody important. A robber has got to have family.

All right, Tom. I'll stick it out a while longer if you'll hurry and start the robber gang.

You bet! I'll get the boys together and we'll meet some night at midnight.



So one night after I heard the town clock strike twelve times, a twig snapped outside.



Mee-yow!

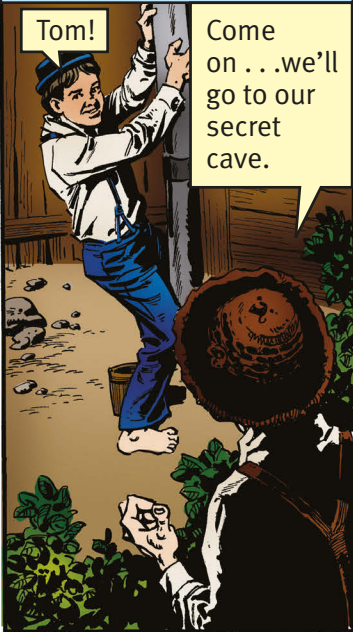
Mee-yow!



I climbed out of the window onto the shed and slid to the ground, and there was Tom.

Tom!

Come on . . . we'll go to our secret cave.

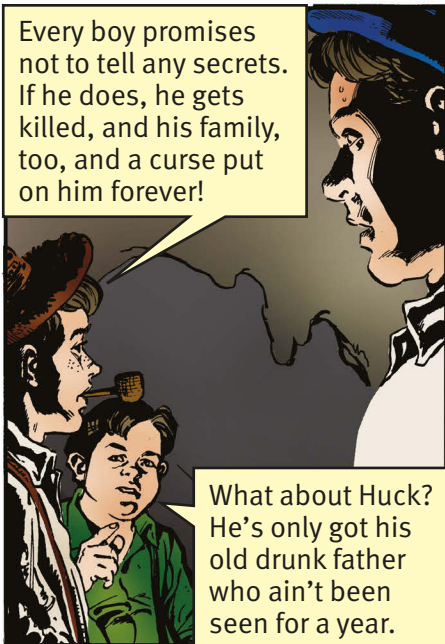


Now we'll start this band of robbers and call it Tom Sawyer's Gang. Everybody has got to take an oath!

What's the oath?



Every boy promises not to tell any secrets. If he does, he gets killed, and his family, too, and a curse put on him forever!



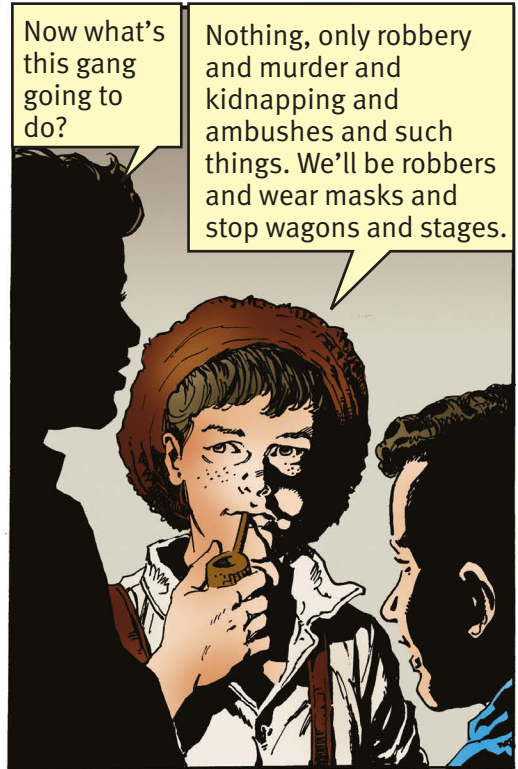
What about Huck? He's only got his old drunk father who ain't been seen for a year.

Everybody has to have somebody to kill.

Yes, or it wouldn't be fair and square to the others.



Everybody was bothered and I was almost ready to cry. Then I thought of a way.



We played robber now and then about a month, and then I quit. All the boys did. We hadn't robbed nobody, hadn't killed any people, but only just pretended. I couldn't see no reason in it. It was just boring. And there I was stuck with regular hours and going to school and Miss Watson.

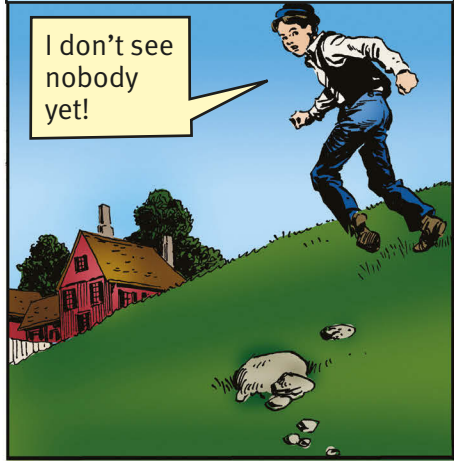
One morning at breakfast I spilled the salt. I reached for some to throw over my shoulder to keep off bad luck, but Miss Watson was ahead of me.



So I knew something bad was going to happen. And when I went outside, I saw somebody's foot-prints in the soft dirt.



In a second I was running down the hill to Judge Thatcher's. He took care of my share of the robber money Tom and I found last year.



I want to give you my six thousand dollars, Judge. . . all of it!



Don't ask questions! Just take it. . . please!



Sign this paper, Huck, and I will keep the money safe for you.





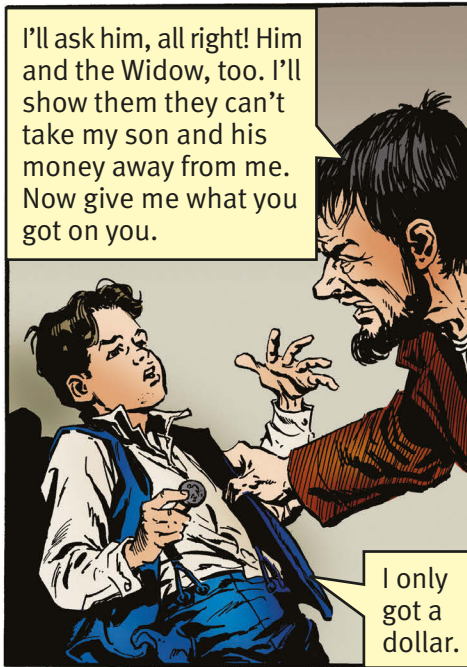


And they tell me you can read and write! Think you're better than your father now, don't you, because he can't!



And they say you're rich, too! That's why I come. You get me that money tomorrow!

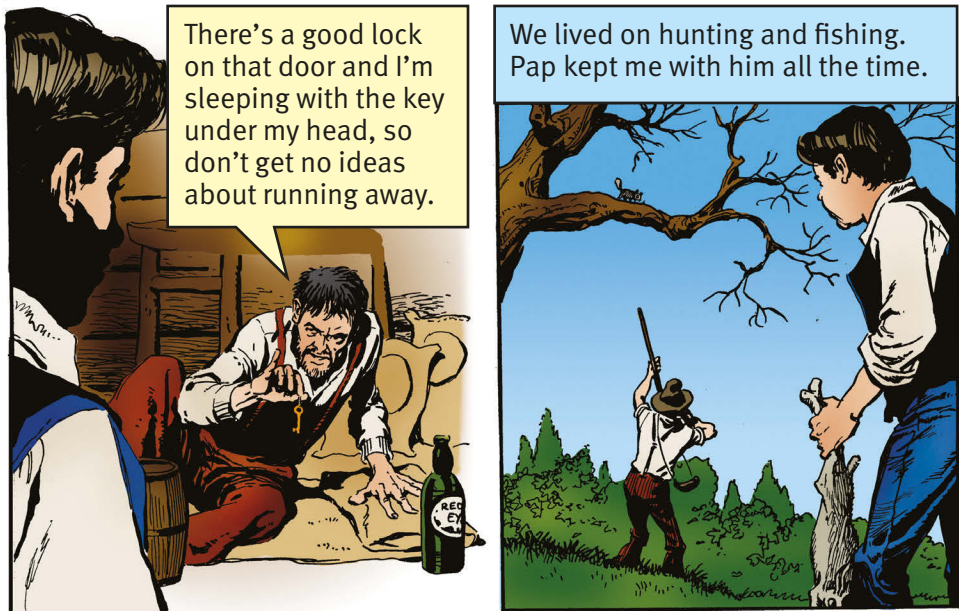




Well, the old man went for Judge Thatcher in court to make him give up that money. The law-trial was a slow business. Meanwhile every time Pap got any money he got drunk and caused trouble and got jailed. This was fine with him. I hadn't wanted to go to school before, but I went now to spite Pap. He caught me a couple of times and whipped me.

He got to hanging around Widow's too much, and she threatened to make trouble. So one day in spring he waited for me.







# The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

*“Mark Twain’s highest achievement; a delightful, humorous narrative...Huck Finn is immortal!”*

*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* takes place on the Mississippi during the late 1800s...when the riverboat and small towns along the river were adventurous, exciting, and romantic.

The characters and characterizations are unforgettable. Pap, Huck’s drunken father, kidnaps his own son. Jim, Miss Watson’s enslaved person, and Huck become best friends—Jim running to freedom, while Huck is rebelling from civilization. Their adventures, both humorous and cruel, will keep readers on the edge of their seats.

*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* is an all-time timeless classic.



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