

## Huck Finn Part I Notes

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The book starts by Huck plugging his previous book, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, from that book, we know that he and Tom has 6,000 dollars. In these chapters Huck lives at the Widow Douglas plantation, and is being watched over by the Widow Douglas and her sister, Miss Watson.

So the story's main theme for Huck is that regular society is trying to make him civilized, trying to teach him the basics of reading, writing and arithmetic, and for the most part, he doesn't like that. So one night, Huck goes out to smoke, and hears Tom Sawyer's secret call, and they go out, and Huck makes some noise, that alerts Jim, and ultimately they trick Jim into thinking it is nothing, and they go to meet up with some other friends and screw around being a band of robbers and stuff.

Huck returns late into that night, and is scolded by the Widow Douglas, and she tells him about religion and stuff, which he doesn't take at all well to. Later the next day, Huck meets up with Tom, and Tom tells him about superstitions and stuff, more specifically, about a magic lamp.

Huck fears his dad (Only cause he beats him...) and during the day, he sees things that make him believe his father is back in town. He tries to give all his money to the Judge, but the Judge won't take it. Huck then goes to Jim and tries to get his fortune read from Jim's magic hairball. Anyways, what it all leads up to is that Huck finds Pap waiting for him in his room.

Pap is drunk as usual, and beats Huck for having learned to read and write. Pap finds out about Huck's fortune, and eventually wants to have custody of Huck, which he eventually get's partial custody through a second judge (even though the first judge and the Widow didn't want it to happen). Huck continues with his schooling, and even goes to the Widow Douglas's place often, which angers Pap, and he kidnaps Huck and takes him to his own private cabin.

Pap does everything in his power to control Huck. He locks the doors when he goes out and he beats Huck frequently. Despite this, Huck rather enjoys the fact that he doesn't have to be civilized anymore.

However, Huck's happiness is short lived when his Pap comes home and nearly beats him to death, it is when Pap threatens to kill Huck that Huck decides to run away. Huck while gathering wood, finds a canoe, and hides a saw. Whenever Pap leaves, Huck goes to work with his saw, eventually, being able to chop his way out. He slaughters a pig, and uses it's blood to fake his own death, and eventually takes the canoe down river to the uninhabited Jackson Island.

Huck's staged murder worked, and he escaped to Jackson Island. All the towns people believe that Huck has been murdered, and in their ensuing search, nearly kill Huck with a cannon.

Huck enjoy's being by himself, but eventually get's lonely on the island, eventually one night, he finds ashes of a campfire, and upon investigation, find that the ashes belong to Jim. At first Jim thinks that Huck is a ghost, but later Huck proves to Jim that he is still alive.

The two find a nice cavern to live in, they also scavenge off the river picking up stuff including a huge raft (as if that will be used later in the book...). One night, they see a huge wrecked boat float down the river, in which they pull lots of valuables. Jim finds a body, who just happens to be Huck's dad, but doesn't show him the body, and the two leave the boat.

Huck get's sick of fish and all the regular stuff they grab off sinking ships, so he decides to go to the city disguised as a girl. He is found out by some old lady, but convinces the lady that there was a reason he was

dressed as so. Eventually he finds out that Jim is a possible suspect in his own murder, finds out that people are after him, and he goes to Jim, warns him, and the two take off down the river in the raft.

Jim and Huck have been on the river for a couple days, during that time, Jim built a tent on the raft to protect them against the weather. They eventually hit a big storm, and in the storm they come up to a shipwrecked steamboat, which Huck decides, against the wishes of Jim, to board the ship.

On the ship, Huck overhears the plans of two accomplices who plan to eliminate the third member of their gang. Huck then plans to release their boat, so that all three accomplices will be stuck on the sinking ship, however, when he goes to Jim, he discovers, that their boat has washed away, so they would be stranded on the ship.

Huck and Jim take off in the robbers ship, and eventually find their raft. Before that however, Huck told a watchman about the sinking ship, and that there were three people on the ship, and the Watchman reluctantly goes to find and save them.

### **“Interesting” Points/Facts that you should know**

Jim ate Strawberrys while he was alone on the island

Jim/Huck ate catfish on their first day for breakfast

Jim is Ms. Watson’s (son?)

The Town was shooting the cannon, signifies they’re chasing someone?

Catching a bird brings death, chickens/young birds flying a yard apart means it’s going to rain

Bees don’t sting idiots, Huck invested 10 bucks in a cow, died, sold tallow for 1.10

Invested \$5 /w a dude named Bob, promised 35 at end of the year, but bank closed, never got money

Gave 10 cents to **Balam Ass**

Hid canoe in willow trees, found cavern in the middle of the island

Where they are borders Illinois/Missouri, along with Missouri/Mississippi River

Found a dead man in a house on the island, looted the place

Huck killed a rattlesnake and put it on Jim’s bed, his mate came, bit Jim

They used a rabbit as bait to catch a 6 foot 2 catfish

Huck went to town as a girl, town of St. Petersburg

Made people think he was murdered, Town believes that Jim killed Huck

Huck pretended that the town was Goshen, Met Mrs Loftus who saw through his disguise

Said his name was Sarah Mary Williams, then George Elexander Something