**A Phone Of Our Own The Deaf Insurrection Against Ma Bell**
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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 theatrically, “Look behind you!” and when Aunt Polly turns, Tom escapes over the fence. After Tom is gone, Aunt Polly reflects sorrowfully on Tom’s mischief and how she lets him get away with too much.

Tom comes home at supper time. His clothes are all torn, his face is black and bloated, his eyes are bloodshot, and his hair is a mere mop. He tells his adventures. Aunt Polly is satisfied. She lies to her head and shrugs her shoulders at Tom’s escapades and how he has been skipped school that afternoon and went fishing, and how he has been everywhere but at home, but she is silent. Tom’s half-brother, Dick, has escaped the debate himself to disguise his injuries, and Aunt Polly is satisfied. Tom goes out of the house to put the finishing touches on the whitewashing. While wandering the streets of St. Petersburg, Tom meets Sid, who is kind and generous.

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 whitewash the fence. Tom pants by, and Tom tries to get him to do some of the whitewashing in return for a “dime apple,” a kind of apple. Aunt Polly refuses, but Aunt Polly appears and chases him off, leaving Tom alone with his tasks.
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