

# Chapter 30 & 31



# Warm-Up: 2/11/20

- What is Huck's most important moment of growth or lesson learned so far? Why do you think so?



# Moral Dilemma

- Great American Paradox
  - Social law vs. Human law
  - Society vs. Self
- For Huck:
  - Stick with the messages he's gotten since birth that Jim is legally property and therefore lesser?
  - Or decide for himself, based on their emotional connection, that Jim is human and valuable?



# You sort it out

- Each group will get a quote with questions
  - What does the quote suggest about Huck's struggle with his dilemma?
  - What different influences does he consider (think about what we've previously discussed)?
  - How does this chapter show the shift from Abyss to Transformation?
- Be ready to share!



# The duke went for him

- “”Yes , sir! I know you do know, because you done it yourself!’

‘It’s a lie!’ – and the duke went for him. The king sings out:

‘Take y’r hands off! – leggo my throat! – I take it all back!’” (201)

- What are the duke and king feeling? How are they acting on it?
- How does this add to the Abyss and the danger Huck and Jim might be in?



# 40 dirty dollars

- “After all this long journey, and after all we’d done for them scoundrels, here it was all come to nothing, everything all busted up and ruined, because they could have the heart to serve Jim such a trick as that and make him a slave again all his life, and amongst strangers, too, for forty dirty dollars” (205)
  - Why, specifically is Huck upset about Jim’s fate? Why is this situation so frustrating at this stage of the story?
  - What do you remember about the significance of the number 40 and slaves?



# My wickedness

- “It would get all around that Huck Finn helped a n\*\*\*\* to get his freedom; and if I was ever to see anybody from that town again I’d be ready to get down and lick his boots for shame....here was the plain hand of Providence slapping me in the face and letting me know my wickedness (205)
  - Whose influence is Huck thinking about here? When did we talk about the idea of Providence before – who taught it to Huck?
  - Why is Huck afraid to let Miss Watson know he was involved with runaway Jim? How would people react?



# Can't pray a lie

- “I about made up my mind to pray, and see if I couldn't try to quit being the kind of a boy I was and be better... I was letting *on* to give up sin, but away inside of me I was holding on to the biggest one of all... You can't pray a lie – I found that out”
  - Why does Huck try to pray about it? Who would have wanted him to pray?
  - When he can't, how does he feel? How would society at this time have viewed deception and stealing? – What's Huck feel is at stake beyond his reputation?





# Thinking over our trip

- “got to thinking over our trip down the river; and I see Jim before me all the time: in the day and in the nighttime, sometimes moonlight, sometimes storms, and we a-floating along, talking and singing and laughing. But somehow I couldn’t seem to strike no places to harden me against him” (207)
  - What memories does Huck go back to? What do they make him feel? What is he realizing about his relationship with Jim?



# Set down and cried

- “Then I set down and cried; I couldn’t help it” (204)
- “I took [the letter] up, and held it in my hand. I was a-trembling, because I’d got to decide, forever, betwixt two things, and I knowed it.... and tore it up” (207)
  - What do these physical actions suggest about Huck’s emotional state? If you didn’t know the situation but saw someone acting this way, what would you assume about how they were feeling?



# Steal Jim out of slavery

- “All right, then, I’ll go to hell’ – and tore it up.  
It was awful thoughts and awful words, but they was said...and said I would take up wickedness again, which was in my line, being brung up to it, and the other warn’t. And for a starter I would go to work and steal Jim out of slavery again” (207)
  - What does Huck decide to do – How does he resolve his conflict? What literary term might this moment be called?
  - Why does he associate this plan with going to hell? (Think about rules of the time)



# Start in on my plan

- Duke: “If you’ll promise you won’t blow [snitch], and won’t let the n\*\*\*\* blow, I’ll tell you where to find him... A farmer by the name of Silas Ph–” (210)
- “I better start in on my plan straight off without fooling around, because I wanted to stop Jim’s mouth till these fellows could get away. I didn’t want no trouble with their kind” (210)
  - What’s Huck’s plan? Why, after everything, will he let the Duke & the King go free?
  - Where does he have to go (look at context, the Duke suggests the beginning of the name)?



# Decision Time

- **DECLARATION:** “All right, then, I’ll *go to hell*” (207)
- Social Law = Jim is property
  - People will judge Huck for freeing him, “Christianity” of the time calls stealing a sin for which Huck could go to hell
- Human Law = Jim is a friend
  - He’s been so good to Huck that Huck can’t deny their human connection and his sincere emotions



# Being Self-Reliant

“All right, then, I’ll go to hell’ – and tore it up.

It was awful thoughts and awful words, but they was said...and said I would take up wickedness again, which was in my line, being brung up to it, and the other warn’t. And for a starter I would go to work and steal Jim out of slavery again; and if I could think up anything worse, I would do that, too; because as long as I was in, and in for good, I might as well go the whole hog” (Twain 207)

“On my saying, What have I to do with the sacredness of traditions, if I live wholly from within? My friend suggested, - ‘But these impulses may be from below, not from above.’ I replied, ‘They do not seem to me to be such; but if I am the Devil’s child, I will live then from the Devil.’ No law can be sacred to me but that of my nature” (Emerson 22)



# Other Emerson connections

- “You can’t pray a lie – I found that out” (Twain 206)
  - “But prayer as a means to effect a private end is meanness and theft” (Emerson 33)
  - What was Huck trying to get out of the prayer? What, then, is the lie?
- “I would go to work and steal Jim out of slavery again” (Twain 207)
  - “As soon as the man is at one with God, he will not beg. He will then see prayer in all action” (Emerson 33)
  - How is Huck putting prayer into action?



# Preparing for the End

- Episode 7 (Ch 32 – 40) & Episode 8 (Ch 41– 43)
  - This is going to take a while, and it may drag in places
- Our purpose in this:
  - Watch how our characters act and their reasons for doing so
  - Collect evidence to help us understand
- When we get to the end:
  - You **MUST** make an educated argument with text evidence
  - Think: Did Twain get it right?





# Look Ahead

- Tomorrow = Quiz & Notes check Ch 24 – 31
- Wednesday = Ch 32 & 33
- Monday 2/24 = final quiz Ch 32 – 43



# Quiz Day



# Warm-Up: 2/12/20

- Pick a word and use it in a sentence:
  - “candid” (190) = honest & straightforward
  - “disposition” (192) = internal qualities
  - “mesmerizing” (203) = interesting to watch
  - “reckon” (209) = figure/understand
  - “blow” (210) = snitch



# Quiz time!

- Turn phones into the organizer
- Have out notes & writing utensil
- When done:
  - Show me Ch 24 – 31 notes
  - Read Ch 32 & 33 for tomorrow

