

Credits:

Chapter 4, from *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, by Mark Twain.

Read by Carole Bos, creator of Awesome Stories.

In-text images, by Edward W. Kemble, appear in the original edition of Mark Twain's "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn." A young artist at the time of this commission, Kemble's career received a significant boost from his Huck-Finn work.

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Adventures-of-Huck-Finn-by-Mark-Twain-Chapter-5-Audio-0)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Adventures-of-Huck-Finn-by-Mark-Twain-Chapter-5-Audio-0>

See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Adventures-of-Huck-Finn-by-Mark-Twain-Chapter-5-Audio-0)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Adventures-of-Huck-Finn-by-Mark-Twain-Chapter-5-Audio-0>

Questions 2 Ponder

How Does Too Much Alcohol Impact Our Lives?

Huck Finn has an alcoholic father whom the boy calls "Pap." Huck's thoughts about Pap cause him to anticipate problems for which he tries to find a solution before the problems materialize.

What is the impact of Pap's drinking on Huck's life? What can Huck do about it?

Huck used to be really scared of his father, but during the visit in Chapter V, Huck is surprised that he is no longer so afraid. What helped Huck to no longer be so terrified of his father?

Why Would Anyone Treat a Child Badly?

Huck Finn has a father who seems not to understand how to love his son. Upset that his boy is in school, Pap tries to destroy a prize Huck won for doing so well at school.

Why is Huck's father so upset that his son is in school, learning to read and write?

Why does Pap want Huck to leave school?

Why does Huck's father try to destroy the prize which Huck has won for doing his lessons so well? How do you think it made Huck feel when his father did that?

Do you think it's important to praise a child who does really well in school or succeeds at something else, such as sports? Explain your answer.

How Difficult Is It for a Court to Decide Custody Issues?

When a court decides custody issues, in real life, it is not an easy matter. It is also not easy for Huck Finn when the sitting Judge issues his ruling on Huck's custody.

Judge Thatcher and the Widow Douglas try to convince the court to give them custody over Huck, but the deciding Judge disagrees. He doesn't know about Pap's past history and believes that Huck's father should have custody over his son.

Do you agree with the Judge's decision? Why, or why not?

The new Judge doesn't know about Mr. Finn's history and reputation. Would it have made a difference, if he did? Why, or why not?

After the new Judge takes Pap into his home, and tries to help him, Huck's father goes back to his old ways. Why does that happen?

Once the new Judge realizes that the Widow Douglas and Judge Thatcher were right about Mr. Finn, and what is in Huck's best interests, what should he do about Huck's custody?