



Days of Delight and Nights of Fear

TOM WAS FAMOUS ONCE AGAIN. THE OLD PEOPLE LOVED HIM AND THE young people wished that they were like him. His name appeared in the village newspaper. There were people who believed that he might some day become President of the United States, if he escaped hanging.

Now all were kind to Muff Potter, forgetting that they had not been kind before.

Tom's days were days of joy, but his nights were filled with fear. Indian Joe was in all his dreams.

Poor Huck felt the same. His name had not been called in the meetinghouse. Because Indian Joe had run away, Huck's story was not needed. But Huck was afraid that his part in the story might be told. Huck no longer trusted any human being, because Tom had broken their agreement.

Every day, Muff Potter's thanks made Tom glad that he had told his story. Every night he wished that he had not opened his mouth.

Sometimes Tom was afraid that Indian Joe would never be caught. At

other times he was afraid that Indian Joe would be caught. He felt sure that he never could be safe again until Indian Joe was dead and he had seen the dead body.

Indian Joe had not been found.

The slow days passed. With each day Tom became a little less afraid.