



[Huck Finn Dialectic Journal](#)

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Chapters 17-18

P. 105 "We said there warn't no home like a raft, after all. Other places do seem so cramped up and smothery, but a raft don't. You feel mighty free and easy and comfortable on a raft." (Irony)

This passage shows immense irony. During these two chapters, Huck and Jim encounter a Shakespearean cliché story between the Grangerfords and the Sheperdsons. Those families were fighting for a long time for unknown reasons, kind of hinting an allegory to Romeo and Juliet in my opinion. These families were both rich and went to church, making Huck admiring these "civilized" families. However, upon finding the violence, he noticed that big homes and "civilized" families were brutal reality and not as good as the raft.

Through his experience, he faces great amounts of irony. These families followed most rules Miss Watson taught Huck, but the violence and bloodshed among each other for unknown reasons. This made him doubt humanity and what he learned from Miss Watson. Also, people viewed him as not civilized, travelling in the southern Mississippi River on a raft with an African American. However, in my opinion, Huck thought that civilization was on the raft, where it was tranquil and safe, and the riverbank and land represented danger, showing another part of irony. Using irony, I can see how Huck develops as a character throughout the story. I feel really bad for Huck right now. Poor kid.