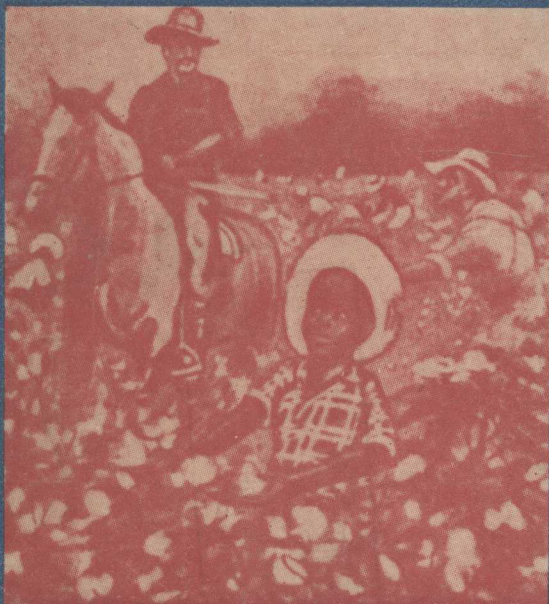


B. Bell and D. Bell



LITTLE
TOM

УЧПЕДГИЗ • 1952

Б. БЕЛЛ и Д. БЕЛЛ

LITTLE TOM

ИСТОРИЯ НЕГРИТЯНСКОГО МАЛЬЧИКА

КНИГА ДЛЯ КЛАССНОГО
И ВНЕКЛАССНОГО ЧТЕНИЯ
НА АНГЛИЙСКОМ ЯЗЫКЕ
ДЛЯ V КЛАССА
СЕМИЛЕТНЕЙ И СРЕДНЕЙ ШКОЛЫ

ИЗДАНИЕ ВТОРОЕ, ПЕРЕРЕБОТАННОЕ

Государственное
Учебно-педагогическое издательство
Министерства просвещения РСФСР
Москва * 1952

Книжка «Маленький Том» предназначена для классного и внеклассного чтения на английском языке в V классе семилетней и средней школы. Это — повесть о негритянском мальчике. В ней описывается жизнь негров в сегодняшней Америке.

Редактор *Е. В. Белова*. Техн. редактор *Н. Н. Махова*.

Подписано к печати 30/1 1952 г. А 01432. Бумага 70×108 1/2.
Бум. л. 1,31. Печ. л. 3,59. Уч.-изд. л. 3,09. Тираж 80 тыс. экз. Заказ № 3522.

Цена без переплёта 75 к.

Типография „Ханс Хейдеман“, г. Тарту, ул. Валликраави, 4. ЭССР.

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Part I

LITTLE TOM

Tom is a little boy. He is black. He is a Negro boy¹. He is six years old. Little Tom lives in America.

¹ He is a Negro ['ni:grou] boy — Он — негр.

Tom lives with his father and mother. They live in a little town on the Mississippi River¹. Their house is near the river.

TOM'S FATHER

Tom's father is a Negro. He is poor. His name is Ed Porter. He is a worker. He works on the Mississippi River. He works from morning till night², but he gets very little money for his work. He works hard³, but he is very poor.

TOM'S MOTHER

Tom's mother is a poor Negro woman. Her name is Stella Porter. She works for a white lady⁴. Tom's mother does all the hard work in the white lady's house. She washes the floors and cleans the house every day. Tom's parents work hard, but they get very little money for their work.

BOATS

Tom likes the river. He likes it because it is so big.

One day Tom goes to the river. Many Negroes are working there. They are working hard.

How big the river is! There are many boats on the river. How big they are! Tom likes boats. He looks at the boats and cries:

¹ the Mississippi River [ˌmɪsɪˈsɪpi ˈrɪvə] — река Миссиссипи.

² from morning till night [naɪt] — с утра до ночи.

³ He works hard — Он работает много (усердно)

⁴ She works for a white lady — Она работает на белую госпожу.

"How many boats there are on the river! Look at that big boat! Oh, how nice it is to be the captain of a boat!"

Tom thinks: "I want to be the captain of a boat, too!"

TOM DRAWS A BOAT

In the evening Tom's father comes home from work very late. He is very tired¹. Tom's mother is washing clothes. Tom is sitting at the table. He is drawing.

"What are you drawing, son?" asks Tom's father.

"I am drawing a boat," says Tom.

"A boat?"

"Yes, daddy, I want to be the captain of a boat."

"The captain of a boat? Oh, sonny², you can't be the captain of a boat!"

"Why can't I be the captain of a boat, daddy."

"Because you are 'coloured'³, sonny! A Negro cannot be the captain of a boat in America. A Negro can work on the river all his life, but a Negro can never be the captain of a boat!"

Little Tom is sad⁴. "Why can't a Negro be the captain of a boat?" he asks himself.

He cannot understand why a Negro cannot be the captain of a boat.

¹ He is very tired [ˈtaiəd] — Он очень устал.

² sonny [ˈsɒni] — сыночек (*уменьшительное и ласкательное от существительного son — сын*).

³ 'coloured' [ˈkɒləd] — „цветной” (*так презрительно называют негров в Америке*).

⁴ Little Tom is sad — Маленькому Тому грустно; он огорчен.

TOM WANTS TO HELP HIS FATHER

One day Tom's father comes home early. He is very sad. There is **no** work at the river. There is no money in the house. There is **nothing** to eat¹. Tom is hungry.

Tom wants to help his father.

"Daddy," says Little Tom, "I know we have very little money. We are poor. I can help you. I can work at the mill. Many children work at the mill. I can work there, too. Then I can buy a coat and shoes and go to school²."

"No," says Tom's father, "you are too young. You are only six years old. You must not work at the mill. I must find work soon. Then we can buy a coat and shoes for you."

Very often Tom's father has no work, and then his family has nothing to eat. They are often hungry.

NEGRO TOWN

In America the Negroes cannot live near the white people. They must live in 'Negro Town'³.

Tom and his parents live in a little old wooden house. All the houses in Negro Town are like Tom's house. They are very old and dirty. There are big cracks in the walls and in the roofs of most of these houses. The rooms are small and dark. In summer the houses are too hot and in

¹ There is nothing [нечего] to eat — Есть нечего.

² go to school — ходить в школу (учиться).

³ 'Negro Town' — Негритянский Городок (худший район города, где негры вынуждены жить обособленно от белых).

winter they are too cold. But the Negroes must pay much money for these bad houses to a rich white man.

When they have no money and cannot pay the white man, he throws them and their things out¹ of the house.

"THROW OUT THEIR THINGS!"

One day the rich white man, Mr. Green, comes to Negro Town. There are two other white men with him. They go to a poor Negro's house and begin to throw out their things. A woman runs out of the house.

"Mr. Green," she cries, "please don't throw out our things! Where can we go? What must I do with my three little children? Their father can't get work. We have no money. Please wait a little². Please don't throw out our things yet!"

But the rich white man does not listen to her. He does not want to listen to her and he does not want to help her.

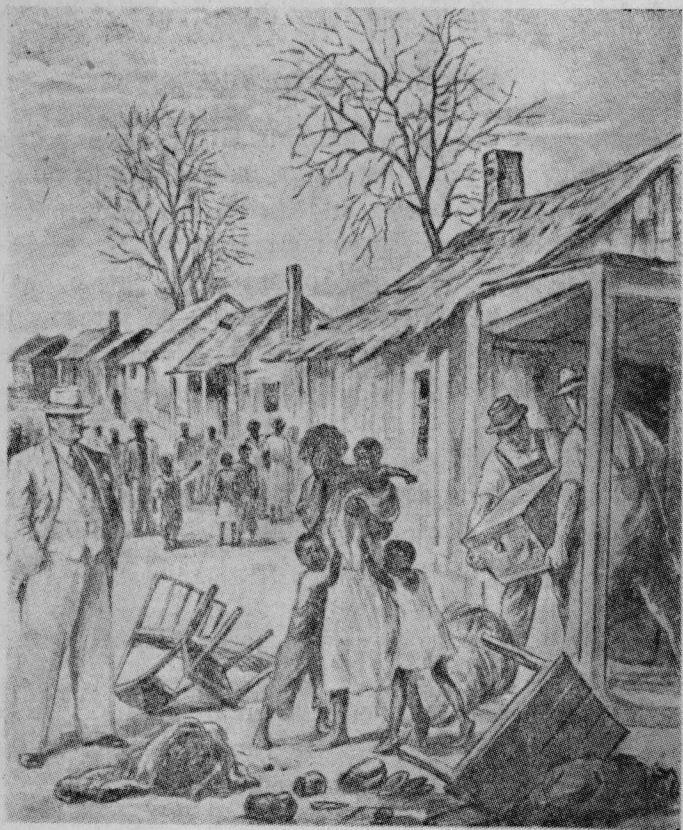
"These are my houses!" he shouts at her. "All the houses in Negro Town are my houses! No, I can't wait. Pay me now!"

Then he says to the white men: "Throw out their things!"

The poor woman and her children are crying. Tom hears what the white man says. He runs from one house to another and says to the Negro families:

¹ **throw out** [өгон] — выбрасывать.

² **wait a little** — подождите немного.



"Mr. Green is throwing out Aunt Bessie's things! He is throwing out all her things because she can't pay him. Sammy, Mary and Baby Jane are crying!"

The Negroes run out of their houses. "Mr. Green is throwing out Bessie's things! We must help her!" they say. They give Aunt Bessie their last pennies. Now Aunt Bessie can pay the rich white man. She can live in the house another month¹. She begins to carry her things into the house again.

Tom runs home. He is afraid. Mr. Green may come² tomorrow and throw out their things, too!

LITTLE TOM IS ILL

Winter comes. Tom's shoes are very old. They are full of holes. His feet are often wet.

One day Tom comes home and goes to bed. His head is hot. His mother puts her hand to his head.

"Tommy," she says, "your head is hot. You are ill³. You must stay in bed⁴."

"We must take him to a doctor," says Tom's father.

"No, Tom must stay in bed," says Mother. "He must not go out. He is very ill. Ask the doctor to come here. Tell him that Tom is very ill. Tell him that we have no money to pay him now. Ask him to wait for the money."

¹ another month [э'паоэ тлпэ] — ещё месяц.

² may come — может прийти (может быть, придёт).

³ you are ill — ты болен.

⁴ You must stay in bed — Ты не должен вставать (ты должен оставаться в постели).

"All right," says Tom's father and he goes for the doctor¹.

Father soon comes back, but there is no doctor with him. He is sad when he tells his wife about the doctor.

"The doctor says: 'I am a white doctor and I only go to see white children² when they are ill. I don't go to see coloured children.'"

Mother begins to cry.

Tom is very ill. He is ill for a long time³. It is cold in their room. Tom's father has no money to buy good food⁴ for Tom.

At last Tom gets well⁵, but he is weak for a long time.

The Negro children are often ill. There are very few doctors and hospitals for Negroes. The white hospitals⁶ do not take in⁷ Negro children when they are ill, and many Negro children die.

"THE CIRCUS IS HERE!"

One day when Tom is playing near the river, a little white boy runs up to him. It is Billy Brown. Billy's father

¹ he goes for the doctor — он идёт за доктором.

² I only go to see white children — я хожу только к белым детям (я навещаю только белых детей).

³ for a long time — долго (долгое время).

⁴ to buy [bai] good food [fu:d] — чтобы достать хорошее питание.

⁵ Tom gets well — Том выздоравливает.

⁶ The white hospitals = hospitals for white people.

⁷ do not take in — не принимают.

and mother are poor white people. They work at a mill. Billy and Tom like to play together.

"Tom! Tom!" cries Billy. "The circus is in town! ³ Let's go to the circus, Tom! Now we can see lions and tigers and elephants and bears and monkeys and kangaroos! And acrobats and funny clowns, too! Let's go, Tom!"

"But how can we go?" asks Tom.

"I have some money ²," says Billy. "Today is my birthday. We can buy two tickets! Don't you want to see real lions and tigers and elephants and monkeys?"

TOM AND BILLY GO TO THE CIRCUS

Tom and Billy go to the circus. There are many children there. They all want to see the animals and clowns and acrobats.

"Please give me two tickets, ma'am ³," says Billy to the woman who is selling tickets. The woman gives Billy two tickets. He gives one to Tom.

"Here, Tom," says Billy. "This ticket is for you and this ticket is for me."

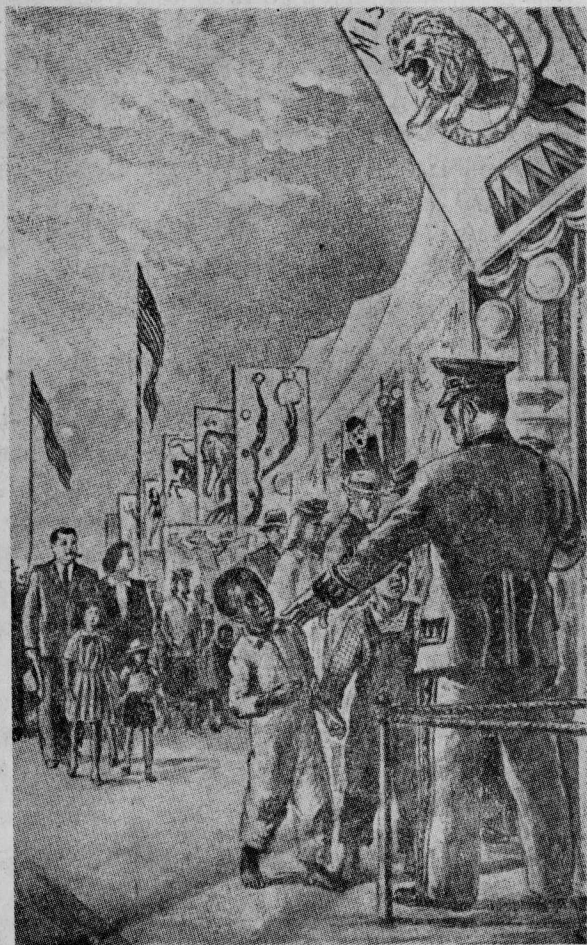
Tom is happy. Billy is happy, too.

"Oh, Tom! Look at those pictures! Look at those lions and tigers and elephants and bears! Now we can see all those animals. Let's go in!"

¹ The circus is in town! — Цирк в городе! (Странствующий цирк, который переезжает из города в город.)

² I have some [sʌm] money — у меня есть деньги (немного денег).

³ ma'am [mæm] = madam — госпожа, мадам.



Suddenly the big white man who takes the tickets at the door pushes Tom back ¹.

"Hey, little darky! ²" he cries. "Where are you going?"

"It's all right ³," says Billy. "We have two tickets. Here they are."

"All right. Go in, little white boy," says the man at the door to Billy. "But that little darky can't go in. This circus is for white children only!"

Billy goes into the circus alone. He sees all the animals — the lions, the tigers, the elephants and the bears—and the funny clowns, too. But now Billy is not so happy. He is thinking about his little black friend.

"Why can't Tom and I go to the circus together?" he asks himself.

In the Southern States ⁴ of America the Negro children cannot go to school with the white children. They cannot go to the cinema or to the park with the white children. They cannot go to the Zoo or circus together. They cannot sit together in the street car ⁵.

¹ the big white man ... pushes ['ru:fɪz] Tom back — большой белый мужчина ... отталкивает Тома (назад).

² Hey [hei], little darky! — Эй, маленький чернокожий!

³ It's all right [raɪt] — Всё в порядке.

⁴ In the Southern ['sʌðən] States — В южных штатах.

⁵ a street car — америк. трамвай; в Англии трамвай называется a tram.

The white children and Negro children like to play together. But the white people say to their children:

“Don’t play with coloured children! You must not play with coloured children!”

BILLY’S FATHER

In the evening Billy’s father comes home from the mill.

“A happy birthday¹, son!” says Mr. Brown. “Well, son, how do you like the circus?”

“I—I like the circus—but—” and Billy begins to cry.

“Then why are you crying? What’s the matter?²”

“Tom—Tom—Tom and I can’t go to the circus together.”

“Tom? That little black boy Tom?”

“Ye-es,” says Billy.

Mr. Brown is angry. “Don’t play with coloured boys, do you hear?”

“But why, daddy? Is Tom a bad boy? Why can’t I play with him?”

“Don’t talk so much! You must not play with coloured boys. Now go to bed!”

Billy goes to bed. But he cannot understand why he must not play with Tom.

¹ A happy birthday — Поздравляю тебя с днём рождения.

² What’s the matter? — В чём дело?