## Appendix 1: Editions of *Huckleberry Finn* Referenced in this Volume

Here I offer a brief overview of the editions of *Huckleberry Finn* that I discuss in the later chapters of this book, while also introducing the abbreviations that will be used in reference to the editions.

### Ru1: Prikliucheniia Gekl’berri Finna, translator Mikhail Engel’gardt, 1911

Mikhail Engel’gardt’s translation, first published in 1911, remained popular in the Soviet era according to Marinova, presumably being passed down through generations as family heirloom or being sold at used book markets.[[1]](#footnote-1) This is a complete translation that strikes the reader as rather more verbose than subsequent editions (this is also reinforced by Marinova’s comparison of a passage in Engel’gardt’s version with the corresponding text in Daruzes’s Soviet-era translation[[2]](#footnote-2)).

### Ru2: Prikliucheniia Gekkel’berri Finna i beglogo negra Dzhima, translator unknown, Leningrad, 1926

This is a heavily abridged and modified version of the novel, with the notorious retitling to emphasize that it is about the adventures of Huckleberry Finn *and the runaway Black (or Negro) Jim*. The forty-three chapters of the novel are cut down to twenty-six, with episodes such as the rivalry between the Grangerfords and the Shepherdsons, or the Boggs–Colonel Sherburn episode, left out entirely. Most chapters are a consistent seven to eight pages in length, suggesting that the translators or editors not only removed chapters, but also abridged the content of individual chapters. Despite the title and the custom cover depicting Huck and Jim on the raft (the illustrations inside are from E. W. Kemble’s classic set), the edition ends up reading more like an adventure novel, not least because the Evasion, preserved almost in full, takes up a disproportionate amount of room in the text (it runs from Ch. 17 through 26).

### Ru3: Prikliucheniia Gekl’berri Finna, translation “under the editorship” of K. Chukovsky, Leningrad and Moscow, 1933

Like Ru2, this is an abridged edition at thirty-three chapters, with the last eleven chapters (23 through 33) consisting of the Evasion. In an oft-cited review of this edition, Viktor Shklovsky charges Chukovsky, as editor (the translator is not listed), with eliminating descriptions of nature and making excessive cuts which, in his view, damaged the text, including the episode of the rivalry between the Grangerfords and Shepherdsons, described by Shklovsky as “one of the most striking pages by Twain-the-satirist.”[[3]](#footnote-3) Like Ru2, Ru3 also reads more like an adventure story. At the same time, a read-through of this edition suggests that fewer modifications were implemented, not least the fact that its chapters are not uniform in length. Although Ru3 (again not unlike Ru2) drops Ch. 31 with Huck’s famous decision to “go to Hell” and attempt to save Jim, this edition actually draws more attention to Jim’s plight than the tendentiously titled 1926 version.

### Ru4: Prikliucheniia Gekl’berri Finna, translator Rakhil’ Braude, Moscow, 1949

This is a complete translation of the novel carried out by Rakhil’ Braude, a librarian at the Saltykov-Shchedrin Public Library in Leningrad (present-day National Library of Russia in St. Petersburg). To my knowledge, this is the only complete translation of *Huckleberry Finn* made in the Soviet period besides Nina Daruzes’ canonical version, and a comparison between the two is particularly revealing because of Braude’s intentional effort to convey colloquialisms and the conversational nature of Huck’s speech through run-on sentences linked with the conjunction “and” (*i* in Russian). Braude also appears to use more set words, especially verbs, to convey specific words in English, instead of the more conventional practice of translating words variously depending on context. A more thorough discussion of these features will come later in this chapter.

### Ru5: Prikliucheniia Gekl’berri Finna, translator Nina Daruzes, Moscow, 1960

This is the canonical Soviet-era translation of *Huckleberry Finn*, here referenced in its publication in the 1959–1961 edition of Twain’s *Collected Works*. Daruzes avoids any dialecticisms, and colloquialisms are deployed sparingly, arguably less than by Braude. Daruzes’ translation stands as one of the monuments of the Soviet School of Translation. Yet the question of orality, dialect, and colloquialism, and the failure (or refusal) to convey those in translation, marks any discussion of this version as the most prominent of all. Chukovsky criticizes what he perceives as the excessive literariness of Huck’s descriptions of nature in Daruzes; conversely, Lauren Leighton, while appreciating the thoroughness with which Daruzes renders the text, faults her for missing “an important stylistic key” by smoothing over Huck’s dialect and colloquial speech.[[4]](#footnote-4)

### Ru5b: Prikliucheniia Gekl’berri Finna, translator Nina Daruzes, Moscow, 1962

This edition will be referenced primarily due to its illustrations, by the prominent Soviet graphic artist Vitaly Goriaev. Although this volume reproduces Daruzes’s translation, it features different chapter titles and is intended for children, unlike the more academic edition from 1960.

In addition to these five Russian-language editions, throughout this chapter I also allude to two Ukrainian translations; if my discussion of these translations is less thorough than of the Russian texts, this is due to my linguistic limitations that make it difficult for me to give these texts their due, rather than to any lesser value that might be imputed to my decision.

### Uk1: Prihody Heka Finna, translator unknown, Kharkiv, 1924

This is a slightly abridged edition of the novel. Inexplicably, the version omits the Boggs–Colonel Sherburn episode altogether; in the process, it merges chapters 21 and 22 of the book, thereby reducing the total chapter count from forty-three to forty-two. Chapter 21 encompasses the arrival of Huck, Jim, the King, and the Duke in the Arkansas town, the circus performance, and the rogues’ first performance of the Shakespeare monologues and scenes. Chapter 22 picks up where 23 in unabridged editions usually begins.

### Uk2: Prihody Hakl’berri Finna, translator Iryna Steshenko, Kyiv, 1966

This is a complete translation of the novel, issued in an edition that, in terms of formatting and illustrations, very much Ru5b. An editorial note alludes to the fact that the translator attempted to convey Twain’s colloquialisms and dialects in Ukrainian. Unlike Uk1, this edition also differs significantly from Russian-language translations, suggesting that Steshenko had access to the source text (rather than translating from a Russian translation) or was given freer rein. This edition, as noted in its title, spells Huck’s name differently: H*a*kl’berri rather than H*e*kl’berri as in Uk1 (and all Russian translations), another alteration that is advertised as being more aligned with correct phonetic transliteration practices from English to Ukrainian.

### Illustrations

Several editions (Ru2, Ru3, and Uk1) display illustrations from the set by Kemble, the author of the original illustrations to the British and American editions; each of these three books displays a different custom illustration on its cover, sometimes creating a strange contrast with Kemble’s traditional illustrations inside, most notably in Ru2. Ru4, Ru5b, and Uk2 are illustrated by the Soviet artist Vitaly Goriaev, who produced two sets of prints made before and after his trip to the United States. Ru5b and Uk2, having been published later, appear to use more prints from the latter set; illustrations in Ru4 belong to the early set, and suggest a more superficial familiarity with the United States.

1. Marinova, “Huck Finn’s Adventures in the Land of the Soviet People,” 123–4. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Marinova, 132. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Shklovskii, “O Marke Tvene i o tom, kto emu blizok,” 25; the discussion of Chukovsky’s edition spans pp. 23–6. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Leighton, *Two Worlds, One Art*, 125; see his thorough discussion of Daruzes’s translation, including his response to Chukovsky’s point, on pp. 121–6 of the same volume. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)