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**GREAT ILLUSTRATED CLASSICS**

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# **POLLYANNA**

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“Put the Dishes Down and Pay Attention!”

## Chapter 1

### Miss Polly

Miss Polly Harrington was in a great hurry. It was very unusual for Miss Polly to rush, so Nancy knew right away that something was afoot.

“Nancy, listen to me!” snapped Miss Polly to the servant girl. “Put the dishes down and pay attention!”

Nancy always experienced a combination of fear and anger when Miss Polly spoke to her. She never seemed able to please her demanding mistress and was afraid of losing her job. But she certainly didn't like to be scolded all

## POLLYANNA

the time.

“When you finish your kitchen duties, you may clean the little room in the attic and make up the cot,” said Miss Polly. My niece, Miss Pollyanna Whittier, will sleep in that room. She is eleven years old and is coming to live with me.”

“It will be so nice to have a little girl here!” said Nancy, already feeling sorry for the child.

“I would hardly call it nice,” replied Miss Polly. “But I will do my duty and take care of her.”

“Of course, ma’am. I just thought that a little girl would, uh, brighten up the house.”

Miss Polly glared at Nancy.

“But don’t you want your sister’s child?” Nancy persisted.

“Well, really, Nancy, I hardly look forward to taking care of a child that my sister was silly enough to bring into a world that’s already too full of children. But there’s no more time for talk. My niece will soon be here. Be sure to



“Don’t You Want Your Sister’s Child?”