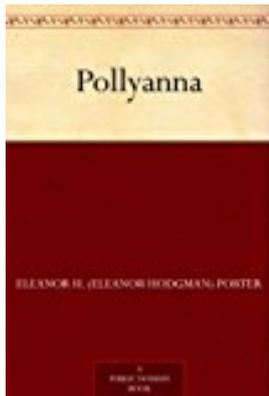


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Books Details:

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Description:

From School Library Journal

Gr 7 Up-Unloved and unwanted, orphan Pollyanna Whittier boards an eastbound train to live with her Aunt Polly, a wealthy spinster. Aunt Polly treats the child insensitively, giving her a musty room in the attic and expecting her to keep quiet and stay out of the way. Pollyanna, with her optimistic outlook on life, turns all the lemons thrown her way into lemonade; punishments are viewed as rewards, unfriendly people in town are befriended. Pollyanna's "Glad Game" is soon played by all the people of the town. A terrible accident with a motor car as she is crossing the street finally breaks Pollyanna's spirit. When long-held secrets are finally revealed, even Aunt Polly comes around to

warming up not only to her niece, but to a relationship she had long denied herself. This recording is based on the book by Eleanor H. Porter, originally published in 1913. It remains a charming, albeit old-fashioned, classic. Barbara Caruso's narration is faithful to the text, with a few minor changes sprinkled throughout. Caruso makes use of vocal inflections to differentiate characters. There is no background music or sound effects to distract listeners. Comparable in quality to Pollyanna read by S. Patricia Bailey (Blackstone Audiobooks, 1996), this recording is preferable to the same title available from Chivers (1995).-Stephanie Bange, Dayton & Montgomery County Public Library, OH

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From Life couldn't be much worse for Pollyanna Whittier after her father dies and she is sent to live with stern Aunt Polly. Pollyanna carries on as her father would have wanted her to, looking for the best, even in bad situations. Lefkow imbues this timeless 1913 classic with a turn-of-the-century flair yet wisely eschews a saccharine portrayal of the bubbly and adventurous Pollyanna. Lefkow's reading embraces the characters as she varies her tones to indicate changes in their personalities. Cheerful Pollyanna softens gruff John Pendleton, cantankerous and demanding Mrs. Snow, and frosty Aunt Polly. Piano interludes punctuate chapter endings. This entertaining release of a junior classic may revive interest in this once popular novel. Grades 3-6. --Patricia Austin

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