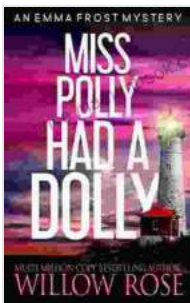


# Miss Polly Had Dolly Emma Frost: Exploring the Intriguing Life and Legacy of a Victorian Socialite

The Victorian era was a time of great social and economic change in Britain. Amidst this transformation, a remarkable woman named Miss Polly Had Dolly Emma Frost emerged as a prominent socialite and philanthropist who left an enduring mark on British society. Her life, characterized by wealth, philanthropy, and a touch of scandal, continues to captivate historians and enthusiasts alike.



## Miss Polly had a Dolly (Emma Frost Book 2) by Willow Rose

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 2432 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 274 pages
Lending	: Enabled



## Early Life and Family Background

Polly Had Dolly Emma Frost was born into a wealthy family in 1827. Her father, William Frost, was a successful merchant and banker, while her mother, Sarah, came from a prominent landed gentry family. Growing up in

a privileged household, Polly received an excellent education and developed a keen interest in social issues.

## **Marriage and Social Stature**

In 1849, Polly married Captain Cecil Mercer, an officer in the British Army. The marriage was a grand affair and elevated Polly's social status. As Captain Mercer's wife, she entered the highest echelons of Victorian society and became acquainted with prominent figures of the day, including Queen Victoria herself.

## **Philanthropic Endeavors**

Throughout her life, Polly Frost dedicated herself to a wide range of philanthropic causes. She was particularly interested in improving the lives of women and children. She established hospitals, schools, and orphanages, and tirelessly worked to alleviate poverty and suffering in her community.

One of her most notable contributions was the establishment of the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Sick Children in Brighton. The hospital, which opened in 1868, was one of the first dedicated children's hospitals in the country and provided much-needed medical care to countless young patients.

## **The Scandal**

In the midst of her charitable work, Polly Frost found herself embroiled in a scandalous affair that rocked Victorian society. In 1870, she was accused of having an extramarital relationship with a young army officer named

Lieutenant Frederick Somerset. The scandal caused a great deal of public outrage and damaged Polly's reputation.

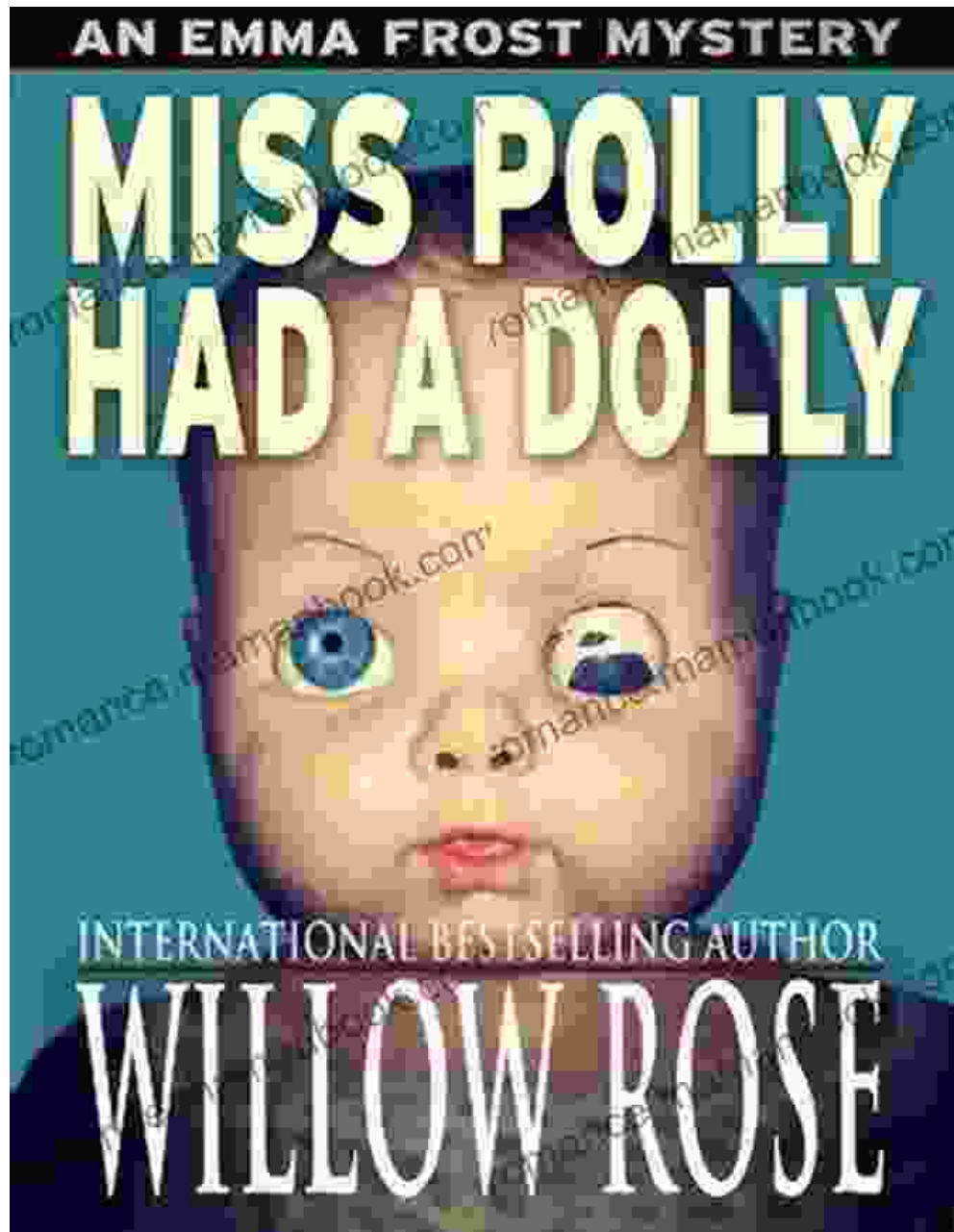
Despite the scandal, Polly refused to retreat from public life. She continued her philanthropic work and used her influence to advocate for social reform. Her resilience and defiance made her both an admired and controversial figure in her time.

### **Later Life and Legacy**

Polly Frost passed away in 1909 at the age of 82. She left behind a legacy of philanthropy and social activism that extended well beyond her lifetime. Her work in the establishment of the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Sick Children continues to benefit young patients to this day.

Polly Frost's life and legacy stand as a testament to the power of one person to make a difference in the world. Her unwavering commitment to helping others, despite personal adversity, serves as an inspiration to all who seek to improve the lives of those around them.

Miss Polly Had Dolly Emma Frost was an extraordinary woman who lived an extraordinary life. Her wealth, philanthropy, and scandalous past have all contributed to her enduring fascination. She stands as a symbol of the complex and often contradictory nature of Victorian society, and her legacy continues to inspire and intrigue people to this day.

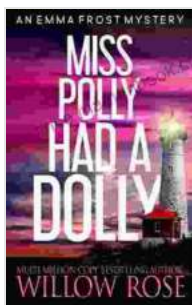


Miss Polly Had Dolly Emma Frost, c. 1860

### Sources

- Miss Polly Had Dolly Emma Frost | University of Brighton
- Mrs. Cecil Mercer (Polly Had Dolly Emma Frost) | Victorian Web

- A Rich History of Caring | Royal Surrey County Hospital



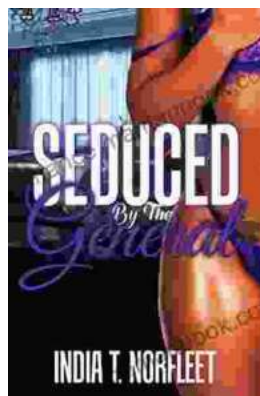
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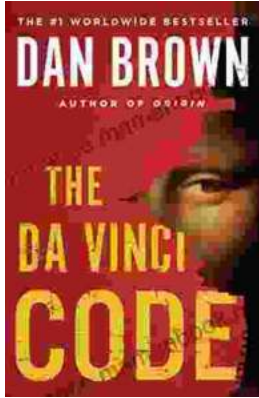
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