

Nancy Newman of Liberty Hall

Words and music by
Malvina Reynolds

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is simple and folk-like. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: Dm, Am, E7, C, G, and Am. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words hyphenated across lines. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat signs.

I'll tell you the story of Nan - cy Newman Who
crossed the ocean to Dublin town, - - - She
went to work in a pizza parlor And turned old Dublin
up - side down, Now what would they want with a
pizza parlor In Dublin City by Lif - fey strand?
Since they have MacDonald's on Champs Él - y - sées In
Ci - ty Center it's Pizza - land.

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Nancy enrolled in Trinity College
To learn of the Gaelic lore and rhyme,
And she had to work in a pizza parlor
To earn the fees for her study time.
The wage was low and the work was heavy,
The boss he hustled them night and day,
And Nancy went down to the Union office
To organize for a better way.

It was Richard Lennon the secretary
That heard her out with a gentle smile,
Fifty pence for an hour's labor,
Nothing extra for overtime.
He signed her up as a union member
Joined with every craft and brand.
Liberty Hall was the union building
Just a short way from Pizzaland.

Nancy spoke to her fellow workers
To have them sign with the union, too,
But most of them were afraid of Hassan,
The boss who harried the kitchen crew.
Mary McArdle she joined with Nancy,
Signed with the ITWGU,
When Hassan saw what was going forward
He told the two women that they were through.

Mary McArdle she left for London,
But Nancy went up to Liberty Hall,
When Mr. Lennon he heard her story,
He lifted the phone and made a call.
His gentle voice became cold as iron,
"Is this the boss of Piazza Cafe?
You've fired a member of the General Union,
Mr. Hassan, you will rue the day!"

Nancy Newman began her vigil,
Walking alone on a picket line,
Up and down in front of the cafe
Nancy carried her picket sign.
Now O'Connell street is a might Broadway,
Hotels theaters and shops and all,
Office buildings and patriot statues,
And over them looms great Liberty Hall.

Out of the Shelbourne and out of the Gresham,
From hotels and cafes large and fine
From lorries and trams came the union workers
To join in Nancy's picket line.

(Instrumental break)

Soon it was tens and soon it was hundreds,
Hassan and Mamud they shook with fear,
But it wasn't till after the shift was over
The Pizzaland workers joined them there.
For if they'd walked out they would have been fired
Without being members of ITU,
But now they went up and signed in a body
And the strike was won ere the day was through.

Nancy Newman she got strike money,
Was reinstated with all back pay,
Associated Restaurants signed a contract
For the first time in their history.
This is the story of Nancy Newman,
Crossed the ocean to Dublin town,
Learned to speak in the Gaelic language,
And pulled the restaurant combine down.