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Pan·do·ra  (păn-dôr ə)

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n.

Greek Mythology

The first woman, bestowed upon humankind as a punishment for Prometheus's theft of fire. Entrusted with a box containing all the ills that could plague people, she opened it out of curiosity and thereby released all the evils of human life.

[Greek *Pandōrā*, having all gifts : *pan-*, *pan-* + *dōron*, gift; see **dō-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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