

Learning by Ear – HIV

“An Angel in Everyone” Episode 03

Text: Romie Singh

Redaktion; Maja Dreyer

<i>CHARACTERS: Annie, Angela, Anita, MaTilly, Jet, Layla, Pinto</i>

Intro:

Welcome to Learning By Ear and Episode Three of our new 10 –part radio drama series, “An Angel in Everyone” in which we trace the lives of four teenagers and their early sexual encounters.

Angela is seven months pregnant and has told no one at school. Now she is left alone with so many unanswered questions.

Annie comes round to Angela’s house to find out why she was sick in class.

Let’s join them in Episode Three of “An Angel in Everyone”.

Scene One. Int. Kitchen

SFX: RADIO PLAYING/WASHING DISHES

1. ANNIE: (call off mic) Hallo! Is there anyone home?

SFX: KITCHEN DOOR OPENS/ SHUTS

2. ANGELA: (depressed) Come in Annie

3. ANNIE: Here. Give me a hug girlfriend.

SFX: KISS AND SQUEEZE

4. ANNIE: Is your ma home?

SFX: CLEARING DISHES

5. ANGELA: No. She's coming soon.

6. ANNIE: Stop working Angela. Sit down. You've been crying. I was worried yesterday when you left the class like that. Are you ill?

7. ANGELA: I'm not ill Annie. **(BEAT) (Whispering)**
I'm pregnant.

8. ANNIE: **(Stunned)** What? Angela- YOU? I don't believe it! Are you sure? How ?

9. ANGELA: Look– this shirt has just been covering it.
See?

10. ANNIE: My goodness Angela – who – how? You never go out? I’ve never once seen you at a party?

11. ANGELA: My cousins invited me – at the neighbour’s.
(Bursting into tears) Oh Annie – why me? I NEVER slept with any one before – or since – just that once. I could **die**. Ma is furious. She phoned Uncle Billy to tell him to tell Pinto.

12. ANNIE: Pinto?

13. ANGELA: The nickname of the boy next door.

14. ANGELA: I’m going to kill myself!

SFX: KITCHEN DOOR OPEN/CLOSE

15. ANNIE: Hallo maSelebi. I was just leaving.
(Whispering) Bye girlfriend. Keep your chin up. We’ll talk later.
(Louder) Bye Mrs Selebi.

SFX: DOOR OPEN/CLOSE.

16. ANITA: Angela. Stop crying. Your boyfriend has a duty. He has to be responsible for you. You’re not staying under my roof. As soon as my

brother calls back with his number and
address, you'll pack your bags and go.

MUSIC BREAK

Scene Two. In MaTilley's house

SFX: TV SOAP ON LOUD

1. ANNIE: (over TV) Ma.
2. MaTILLY: What? I can't hear.
3. ANNIE: Ma please turn the TV down.
4. MaTILLY: What? I can't hear. I'm watching TV.
5. ANNIE: **(Shouting)** I'm going to clean Gogo Nati's house

Meanwhile MaTilly turns the volume down

6. MaTILLY: There's no need to shout. I'm not deaf.
Where are you off to?
7. ANNIE: To Gogo Nati's house. To do some cleaning.
8. MaTILLY: It's a bit late isn't it?
9. ANNIE: Well- it won't take long
10. MaTILLY: Oh it's 6.30. It's starting. You go off. I don't want to miss the beginning.
11. ANNIE: And then I'm going to Angela's to play music.
12. MaTILLY: Shh now.
13. ANNIE: Bye ma.

No reply. TV volume UP

Scene Three. Ext. Early evening

SFX: CRICKETS. KNOCKS ON METAL DOOR.

1. ANNIE: Jet! It's me

2. JET (from inside) (tired voice) OK. Just coming.

SFX: OPENS DOOR

3. JET: (sleepily) I just got back from the building site in town

4. ANNIE: Why is it so dark?

5. JET: I thought you'd like a bit of atmosphere. Here.
I'll light a lamp.

SFX: MATCH STRIKING. HISSING SOUND OF PARAFFIN LAMP

6. JET: How's that? Hey – why the long face?

7. ANNIE: (grumpy) My mom doesn't care. All she cares about is her evening soapies.

8. JET: (laughing) Good- then we can have more fun.

9. ANNIE: Aren't I more important than her TV? She doesn't care where I am or what I do.

10. JET: Look – I care. Want to know how?

11. ANNIE: (still grumpy) How?

12. JET: I saved up my laundry for you to do! You always do such a good job. And then you'll be able to buy yourself something pretty with the

money won't you. The water's already hot on the stove so cheer up for God's sake.

13. ANNIE: Hmmm- OK.

14. JET: Come – the bed's still warm. There's plenty of time. Come (**Kissing**) come here.

SFX: **BED CREAKS. KISSING.**

15. JET: You are on contraceptives aren't you?

16. ANNIE: Yes- you know I am!

17. JET (kissing) Hmmm. Just checking.

18. ANNIE: And then I must go over to Angela's She's my alibi.

MUSIC BRIDGE

Scene Four. Int. Living room

SFX: **MUSIC PLAYING. JUST FINISHES**

1. ANNIE: And now? Would you like to hear something else?

2. ANGELA: (happy) That was lovely. Thanks for coming.

3. ANNIE: It was hard pulling myself away from Jet but- hey- you're more important. (BEAT)

4. ANGELA: (Sad) Annie, what's going to happen to me?

5. ANNIE: Well first of all- you're going to have a baby and we'll all help you,

6. ANGELA: Ma won't. She hates me. She's sending me away.

7. ANNIE: No Angela she doesn't hate you. She's just angry. She'll come round. Listen- give me your hand. You're so cold, poor darling. I think you need to tell me the full story. All I know is you went to a party with Layla and Mo. And now this Pinto..what happened eh? It'll help to talk.

8. ANGELA: Well. It was Saturday last September. Ma wanted to visit a friend and didn't want to leave me on my own. She never trusts me – that's the problem. She has never trusted me.

FLASH BACK MUSIC BRIDGE (MUSIC CAN PLAY UNDER THE WHOLE FLASH BACK). PARTY NOISE

1. ANGELA: It was a party. We'd had a few drinks. We met these boys- Steve and Pinto. They were so cute. Pinto did all the talking.

2. PINTO: Hey girls – how ya doing?

3. LAYLA/ANGELA: Just fine! (**giggling**)

4. PINTO: Here- have another!

SFX BEER CAN OPENING. SIPPING NOISES

5. PINTO: There's a party in the house opposite

6. ANGELA: But I thought you lived here.

7. PINTO: I do. Steve's house is over there. He's got
food and great music. Come on ! Be nice!

SFX: GIGGLING. BEING PERSUADED.

DOOR OPENS/SHUTS. QUIET HOUSE

8. ANGELA: There is no party here.

9. LAYLA: We'll go back Angie. Are you coming?

10. PINTO: No she's not.

11. ANGELA: No – not just yet Layla- I'll join you later.

12. PINTO: Come – sit here. What's your name?

SFX: SOUND OF KISSING..HEAVY BREATHING

MUSIC BRIDGE. END OF FLASHBACK

9. ANNIE: You weren't safe Angela. Especially not with
booze inside you. It blurs your senses.

10. ANGELA: I felt very safe – warm – in his arms.
I was happy! I was so happy! I wanted to stay
for ever. It was my first time and Pinto was

nice. It was so different to what I had expected. Ma always made it sound horrible and dirty but then she has never explained anything properly.

11. ANNIE: My mum hasn't either. They just think we know., from watching TV and movies – but hey- I only found out by doing! I was lucky though. Must have been the wrong time of the month. When he heard I wasn't on contraceptives he insisted I go to the clinic to get sorted. Since then I go for my regular injections. I'm safe.

12. ANGELA: Who was he?

13. ANNIE: **(Flippantly)** Oh Spike - the boy at the taxi rank.

14. ANGELA: **(BEAT)** I'm glad school break's started. I've got to get up early and go to the clinic tomorrow.

15. ANNIE: **(surprised)** Oh? **(BEAT)** Well I suppose you need regular check ups now.

16. ANGELA: That too. No. The doctor gave me a blood test.

17. ANNIE: A blood test?

18. ANGELA: Yes. He said something – I didn't really understand. He took some blood. He said it's an HIV test. I get the result tomorrow. Annie, I'm so scared! What does it mean?
Am I going to die? **(Bursts out crying)**

19. ANNIE: No of course not. Shhhh. I'll go with you.
(gently) Shhhh. We'll find out together.
Shhhh. Don't worry now.

END OF EPISODE THREE

Outro:

"An Angel in Everyone" was written by Romie Singh.

And that's all from Learning By Ear for today.

Please join us again next time and find out: Is Annie's sugar daddy so sweet after all? Also; can her friend Djamila help Angela as she struggles to understand what an HIV test result really means?

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Goodbye.