

Learning by Ear – HIV**“An Angel in Everyone” Episode 01****Text: Romie Singh****Redaktion: Maja Dreyer**

CHARACTERS: Anita (36); Angela (17); Annie (16); Tom (18); Djamila (17); Mixed boys and girls (15-17); Teacher (Male 40).

Intro:

Welcome to Learning By Ear and Episode and our new radio drama series, “An Angel in Everyone”.

The next ten programs will trace the lives of four young learners at the same school; Angela, 17, who has been strictly brought up; Annie, 16, whose mother is not strict at all; Djamila 17, whose family forms a protective shell around her and Tom 18, who seems to know what he wants.

Yet all four teenagers are vulnerable to peer pressure, adult pressure and the dangers of living in a world of HIV and AIDS.

In our first episode of “An Angel in Everyone” we join Angela as her mother rages at her for hiding the truth about her condition. But was Angela really aware of what her condition was?

Scene One: Living room.**SFX: EVENING SOUNDS.**

- 1. ANITA: (Excited)** How COULD you – how could you do this to me.
(Breaks down sobbing) I name my own daughter Angela – After an angel that I thought you were. You're not an angel! Angel's don't let their mother down like this. Oh my my my...
- 2. ANGELA:** **(sobs)** Ma I'm so sorry ma. I didn't know. I'm so sorry. Please ma.
- 3. ANITA:** How long have you known?
- 4. ANGELA:** I don't know – I didn't know ma. I..
- 5. ANITA:** Don't give me that nonsense.
- 6. ANGELA:** No ma! I didn't . I thought it was funny that my period didn't come but , I was afraid to ask you.
- 7. ANITA:** And your stomach – I mean I don't see you undressed.
But YOU do- didn't you see your stomach was swollen when you washed?

- 8. ANGELA:** **(getting loud)** Yes I looked – but - but then I thought it was normal.
You're my mother and you didn't notice!
- 9. ANITA:** Oh so now I 'm to blame. This is too much! I've worked so hard, SO HARD to keep you on the straight and narrow
- 10. ANGELA: (sobs)** Yes ma
- 11. ANITA:** Why did I go to all that trouble – make all those rules – keep such a strict household - if at the first opportunity – or maybe it wasn't the first? Maybe you've done this before
(Getting loud again) Maybe you're the local..the local.... Arrrghhh
(Breaks down crying)
- 12. ANGELA:** Ma please – I never...I'm sorry – I didn't mean to.
- 13. ANITA:** The school bus is coming. I don't want to talk to you.Go!

Scene 2. On the bus to school.**Noisy singing/fighting/playing. Teenage boys and girls (15 +)**

1. **TOM:** Hey Annie. Nice to see you on the school bus –
(meaningfully) for a change.
2. **ANNIE:** Meaning?
3. **TOM:** Where’s the fancy car you usually come to school
in?
4. **ANNIE:** Tom – mind your own business.
5. **TOM: (intimately)** Have you changed your mind about meeting me
after school ?
6. **ANNIE:** Well, what are YOU going to do to change my mind
Tom?

So far I haven’t heard a single good reason from
you why I should lie to my ma about having some
sport practice?

What’s in it for me- hey?
7. **TOM: (laughing)** I’m in it for you gal! That’s what!
8. **ANNIE:** Sorry Tom – that just ain’t good enough! There are
plenty of others who have something to offer, as
well as their good looks! **(giggling)**

9. **TOM: (angry)** Oh - you mean like – like a fancy car?
10. **DJAMILA:** **(off mic)** What are you two getting excited about hey? Tom? Are you harassing my sister?
11. **TOM: (turned off)** No, I'm not, Djamila - if it's any business of yours. But Annie – you sure have some skewed ideas about dating. Argh! I'm moving – let me through – and forget I even asked.

SFX

SOUND OF BOYS TEASING

12. **BOY 1:** **(off mic)** Annie's a lost cause. She only goes for men with money! Isn't that right Annie?
13. **ANNIE:** Shut up you little snail. Creep back into your shell.
- SFX:** **GIRLS JOIN IN. CALLING BOY NAMES**
14. **ANGELA:** Oh you guys please. I can't stand the noise. Be quiet.
15. **DJAMILA:** What's up lady friend?
16. **ANGELA:** I've got a headache. Please –leave me alone.
17. **DJAMILA:** OK. **(To Annie)** But the dishiest boy in the school? And you send him packing like that? Annie – What did you say?

18. ANNIE: I told him like it is – I don’t need to date if that’s all there is. Jake will give me a lift to school, Tallboy buys me sweets. Spike even offered me a cell phone. Look !

SFX: **CELL PHONE - CHEEKY NEW RINGTONE**

19. DJAMILA: Wow – that’s a cute machine! Look Angela!

20. ANGELA: Yes. Cute.

21. DJAMILA: Oh! Sorry. **(To Annie)** And? What’s the trick?

22. ANNIE: Now that would be telling, my dear Djamila.
(Giggling together) But what I don’t need, is my mum finding out. So sister, keep quiet, right? You too Angela.

23. ANGELA: For sure- my mother’s not even speaking to me any more so your secret’s safe with me.

24. DJAMILA: Hey Annie! Really! I don’t know how you do it.
My mum’s so strict. She wants to know when I’m even **two** minutes late from school.

25. ANGELA Sounds like **my** mum.

26. DJAMILA: Except I can only go out if my brother accompanies me.

- 27. ANNIE:** Well you Muslims ARE strict. But **my** people – well – my grandmother **would** be strict if she lived with us. My mum's easy and I never knew my dad. And if my uncle shows any interest, it's usually for the wrong reason.
- 28. ANGELA:** My uncle's great. But my mother doesn't think so.
- 29. DJAMILA:** What are you saying Annie – interested for the wrong?
- 30. ANNIE:** Oh come on Djamil! You know what I mean. Don't you have an uncle who gets too close sometimes? Come on – You can't tell me you're all angels in your family?

MUSIC BRIDGE

Scene 3. In class: Teacher giving biology lesson.**SFX: WHISPERING/ GIGGLING**

1. TEACHER: The fallopian tubes are on the left and right as you see on the chart. The ovum or egg descends down the right hand side tube one month and the left hand tube the following month.

RECORD FOLLOWING TEXT SEPARATELY: FADE UNDER NEXT**DIALOGUE:**

1 TEACHER: Turn to page 56. There are two Fallopian tubes, attached to either side of the cornual end of the uterus, and each terminating at or near one ovary forming a structure called the fimbria. The Fallopian tubes are not directly attached to the ovaries, but open into the peritoneal cavity in other words- the inside of the abdomen. They thus form a direct communication between the peritoneal cavity and the outside via the vagina.

2. ANGELA: **(Groaning softly)** Ouch...

4. DJAMILA: What is it Angela? Are you OK?

5. ANGELA: I think I'm going to be sick – please- let me
....**(retching)**

6. DJAMILA: Sir- Sir!

SFX **END FADED TEXT**

2. TEACHER: Yes – what is it Djamila

3. DJAMILA: Please sir, Angela needs to go outside.

She's going to be sick!

SFX: **COMMOTION IN CLASS**

4. TEACHER: Shh! Shhh I say. Make way - come on Angela –

SFX: **CLASSROOM DOOR OPENS.**

5. TEACHER: Calm down pupils – Stop talking. Djamila! You go
with her. And report back to me after class. Class!

Silence!

SFX **CLASS CALMS DOWN**

6. TEACHER: Now where was I? Hah yes. Page 56.

When an ovum is developing in an ovary,

(FADE OUT VOICE) it is encapsulated in a sac

known as an ovarian follicle. On maturity of the

ovum, the follicle and the ovary's wall rupture,**(END)**

Scene Four Int. Living room

SFX: **SOUND OF KEYS. DOOR OPENS**

1. ANITA: **(off mic. Sharp voice)** Angela ?

2. ANGELA: **(approaching)** Yes ma.

3. ANITA: (coldly) After our talk this morning- it's quite clear you kept quiet about meeting a boy. I trusted you when I sent you to stay with your cousins. You have broken all my rules- God's rules.

4. ANGELA: Yes ma.

5. ANITA: I want to send you out of the house and tell you to go to your boyfriend and live with him. Let HIM take care of you.

6. ANGELA: **(sharp breath)** No Ma – please. I don't know him. He lives near Uncle – that's 20 ks from here. I can't...**(breaks down)**. I want to stay here.

7. ANITA: **(Firmly)** Alright! First things first. I want to know for sure. Maybe you're not pregnant at all? We need to go for a test. I want it done properly- so that means going to the clinic. I will take you in person and we'll

wait, even if we have to sit all day and all night. We will find out the truth. And THEN I will decide what to do. Is that understood?

END OF EPISODE ONE

Outro:

"An Angel in Everyone" was written by Romie Singh. And that's all from Learning By Ear for today.

Join us next time when Angela faces more rejection from her mother and very little sympathy from the local doctor. Also- find out how blind young Annie is to the dangers of her life style.

Remember, if you want to hear the program again or tell friends about it, please visit our website at

www.dw-world.de/lbe

Goodbye