

Tiffanie Sheets

Developing New Worlds

Full Sail University

June 27, 2021

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The Start of My Journey

Story Premise

Angelica, a heroin addict, becomes homeless in New Orleans. She lost everything when she cheated on her sophisticated husband for a guy at a bar. She struggles to keep herself clean, but she sees a sign at a store that promotes a free rehab. She enters the program in hopes of getting the help she needs.

She is released from rehab six months later. Angelica stays at a sober living house until one day she comes across a talking black cat in the French quarter. The cat wants to help her. Angelica is afraid that if she joins she'll lose her room at the sober living home.

Historical Background Information

Angelica Ali grew up in a nice neighborhood in New Orleans, Louisiana. Her father, Danny, passed away when she was thirteen years old. Angelica found her father on the bathroom floor. The cause of her father's death was an overdose. Angelica was diagnosed with depression not long after. After the passing of her father, Angelica's grandmother stepped up and helped raise her with Angelica's mother. By time Angelica was fifteen she started using drugs. Her friends, Stacy, and Ally, followed right in her footsteps. She was heading in the wrong path at such an early age. One day while Angelica was at school, she did heroin under the bleachers in the school's gym alongside Stacy and Ally. The principal calls Angelica's mom to inform her. Of course, Angelica finds out when she returns home. Arlene, Angelica's mother, offers her a program. Angelica storms out and doesn't return home until two days later. Arlene no longer will bother Angelica about her addiction. Fast forward two years later, and Angelica is getting ready to graduate high school. She doesn't attend the graduation ceremony. Angelica is on the streets of Bourbon, where she meets a very sophisticated guy named Jose Lee. They fall in love and get married about a year later. Their marriage was very rocky from start to finish. It didn't last but two years once he walked in on Angelica at a bar trading drugs for sex. Once she realized what she did she filed a divorce. That was the beginning of the rest of her life as she knew it. Trading drugs for sex, living on the streets under a bridge, and only speaking to her mom when it's convenient for her.

Main Character(s)

Angelica Ali- 28 Years old.

Angelica is from New Orleans, Louisiana and resides there. She was married at eighteen years old. Angelica becomes divorced and homeless by the time she reaches twenty years old. By the age of twenty-eight she finds a program for a sober living house and lives there. The cause of her being homeless is being addicted to heroin. Throughout the day she roams the streets of New Orleans. Mainly through Bourbon and the French Quarter. When she's not doing drugs, she's jamming to music with her friends at a local club. Music she tends to like is mainly rock and Latin. Her style is very casual. Her outfits most days consist of tank tops, skinny jeans with boots. The only jewelry she has that she wears is a locket and pearl earrings. Angelica is very caring but sarcastic when she needs to be especially when random people are near trying bug her for drugs or sex. Angelica behaviors would include a lot of hair fixing and scratching. She tends to say "Oh my gosh" a lot. Especially when she's excited. Angelica only sees her family around holidays, although her sister, Jolene, doesn't have any ties with her.

Simon- Black Cat

A cat that surprises Angelica after she has been sober for six months. He has magic but only uses it when it's convenient. He uses it when he wants to help Angelica get her life back. He is fully black, no white spots whatsoever. Simon only shows up to help Angelica. Once he knows she is finally stable and happy, he leaves. He is a very strong-minded and intelligent animal. He can talk like a human.



Supporting Characters

Arlene Ali- Mother of Angelica Ali. Her style is more formal. She wears a lot of dresses or pant suits. She is always there for Angelica when she needs to be. Arlene works as a registered nurse for New Orleans Children Hospital. Arlene's personality is very serious but can crack a joke at the right time. Arlene hosts the holiday parties at her house such as Christmas, Thanksgiving, and Easter. Arlene is more worried about her kids than herself. Her world is built around her kids. She doesn't have one selfish bone in her body.

Jolene Ali- Sister of Angelica Ali. Her style is more on the goth side. Black hair, bold makeup, black ripped jeans with a mesh top. She has that "I don't care" attitude towards her family especially Angelica. Jolene has a few facial piercings such as her lip and left eyebrow and wears chain necklaces. She doesn't support Angelica's habits but also could care less what she does. The only holiday parties she cares to attend is Christmas. Jolene mostly hides out in her room and stays to herself.

Jose Lee- The husband/ex husband of Angelica Ali. His style is very sophisticated. He always wears a suit. You'll rarely see him dress casual except for bedtime. You wouldn't ever imagining him being with someone like Angelica. Jose comes from a rich family. He is very wealthy himself. Jose has a career in real estate. He's always too busy for Angelica and that's what starts the problems in the beginning of their marriage. His personality is very arrogant. Jose doesn't have any hobbies. He tends to think work is his hobby. As for accessories, he only wears diamond stud earrings and a silver watch.

Ally Smith- Best friend of Angelica Ali. Supports Angelica in everything she does. Occasionally does drugs with Angelica. Her style consists of graphic t-shirts of bands and baggy joggers with vans or converse shoes. She loves to wear silver chain necklaces with locks. A lot of times she's always around Angelica but still does her own thing. Her personality is very caring and sensitive. When Angelica enrolls into a rehab program, she agreed and stuck by her side. Ally is also homeless but never stays in one spot. She roams the city a lot.

Stacy Holmes- One of Angelica Ali's friends. She's not around Angelica that much but pops up every now and then. Stacy lives with her drug dealer or as known as, her boyfriend. Stacy is very girly. She wears a lot of mesh tops with short skirts and wedges. The only jewelry she wears is hoop earrings and colorful bangles. She is a stripper for a living. Stacy is very cocky, especially when it comes to her job. She believes she's the best dancer around town. When it came down to Angelica getting sober, she didn't care. Her attitude is very apathy.

Locations

There will be at least four locations. One of them is the French quarter in New Orleans, Louisiana. That's where Angelica spends a lot of her time and that's where her mother lives. The other one will be Bourbon Street. That's where Angelica will most likely be at when she's homeless. The sober living house will be on Earhart Boulevard. The last location is Angelica's high school which is Benjamin Franklin High School.



Additional World Information

New Orleans is very hot and humid. Around July-October it is hurricane season. New Orleans had many bad hurricanes but one of the worst ones was Katrina in 2005. Angelica's home life as a teenager was unique. Her mother's house had four bedrooms, three bathrooms, and had an outdoor underground swimming pool in the backyard. Angelica's mothers house was a two-story home. In the front yard she had flower beds and a two-car garage. The sober living house that Angelica lives at is big and spacious. She has a room by herself. Angelica's bed is a twin bed. The furniture and decoration styles are very retro and vintage. When Angelica is out on Bourbon Street, it's always a party being hosted. Tons of people are on the street, sometimes there are parades. The bar that Angelica was caught cheating in by her husband, Jose, is very small. It has an area for drinks and an area to play pool. The location where Simon, the black cat, takes Angelica is a very subtle neighborhood. It's around a lot of woods. Basically, it's a campground. It's very clean and has a pond to fish at. Angelica's high school is near the French Quarter. It is very big and red. It looks like it resembles a brick house but more of a mansion. At night, it is lit up with bright lights. The gym is very spacious. It has a basketball court, and plenty of bleachers. Angelica is religious, well tries to be at least. Her religion is Christian. She was born into religion, as a kid her mom use to bring her to church. Through her addiction, she prays before she falls asleep to help her give her strength and faith. The only magic is when Simon takes Angelica into a different location instantly. The only language that is spoken is English and French. Not much technology is used except for television and computers in Angelica's mother's house.

Story Synopsis

This is the story of a girl, Angelica Ali, who has faced a troubling addiction throughout her life. Growing up Angelica had that perfect lifestyle. The fancy house with both a mom and dad. It wasn't always milk and cookies. At the age of thirteen, Angelica's dad had died due to an overdose. Once she saw her father's death, as she knew it her life was over. Throughout Angelica's teenage life she picked up on a heroin addiction with her friends, Ally and Stacy. Even though she had an addiction, Angelica was still able to graduate high school. Not long after she met a guy on Bourbon Street. Angelica thought she had her life together. A nice, sophisticated man, just graduated high school, but little did she know that was the beginning of the rest of her life. Despite the divorce she had from cheating on her husband, Jose, she felt like it was finally time to get clean. Fast forward to a few years later, she sees a sign at a store for a free rehab program. Angelica entered a sober living house and stayed there for six months by far. Till one day she takes a walk and stumbles upon a black cat, Simon. Simon offers to help Angelica to rebuild her life, not only a sober life but to also get back close to her family, such as her mom, Arlene and her sister, Jolene. She had a choice, do I stay, or do I go with Simon? The only difference in change from choosing Simon over the sober living house is Angelica is guaranteed to have her relationships back with her family.

Story Excerpt

As I walk through bourbon street, I seen a sign for a free rehab program. I instantly think this is the sign God is giving me to get my life back together. There is no way I'm going to pass this up!

I walked up to the cashier and say, “Can I have the rehab program sign on the window?”

She gave me the sign, now I can go check this place out. I walked over to Earhart Boulevard, and I found the rehab which looked a lot like a sober living house. I walked inside, and they enrolled me in the next few minutes.

It's six months later and I felt so clean like a new woman! I'm walking down the street and I stumbled upon a cat. My heart just melted; he was so cute!

“Are you Angelica?” Simon said.

“Wait, what? You can talk?” I said.

“Of course, I can. I need to take you with me.” Simon said.

“To where? Where can you possibly take me around here that I haven't already been?” I said.

“Just trust me, I can promise you to stay sober plus get your relationships with your family back.” Simon said.

“Okay fine, just no monkey business. Ah, lets go!” I said.

Adobe Visual Element

The application I decided to use is Photoshop. This image is the sober living house that Angelica stays at during her time getting sober.

