

PIETA SIGNORE

A play in one act

by

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Revised

Pieta Signore

CHARACTERS

ANGELICA *Early 20's. Asian. Mysterious stranger. Insistent on hearing the stories of all the inhabitants of the cafe and the town history rather than talk about herself.*

ANNA *Mid 50's. Latina. Owner of the Café. Calm and reserved.*

JUSTIN *Late 20's. French Canadian. Investment Broker. Burdened by regret.*

EMILY *Late 20's. Irish. Art Student. Daughter of the richest family in town.*

MR. EVANSON *Mid 50's. Black. Mysterious man in the corner.*

RADIO ANNOUNCER *Reports the news.*

A Coffee Shop called Pieta Signore in Thornton County. Present.

ACT 1

Present. An excerpt from Bach's requiem is heard. MR. EVANSON sits in Pieta Signore. He is drinking a cup of coffee. In the coffee shop, there are tables, chairs, a piano with no bench, and a Karaoke machine. ANNA serves a cup of coffee to MR. EVANSON. She wears a dark maroon sweater with black slacks. There is no verbal contact. JUSTIN sits at a table. He is wearing a dark navy blue sweater and blue jeans. EMILY sits at the counter reading. She is wearing a long black skirt and a purple top.

RADIO ANNOUNCER

This is the worst storm ever in the ATG area! The temperature will continue to drop while the folks out in Thornton, Shank, and Dawson County can expect another eighty centimetres to be dumped on their doorsteps when all is said and done. City officials have announced a state of emergency and are encouraging residents to not venture outside. People with life and death emergency are asked to contact their local authorities for any assistance.../

ANNA

(Turning off the radio)

They've been saying that for the last three hours. People get worried when a little snow falls.

JUSTIN

How bad is it?

ANNA

Little wind, snow. Pretty dark.

EMILY

So it's a blizzard? Justin, if you start singing, I'll.../

JUSTIN

Would you really get out of your chair? Stop reading?

EMILY

Reading expands the mind instead of those video games which.../

ANNA

If you two don't behave, I'll throw you both out. Justin, a little music would be nice.

EMILY

Anna! I believe.../

(A gust of wind and snow blasts the door open. **ANGELICA** stomps in with her duffel bag, knap sack, laptop briefcase, and 30" suitcase. She is wearing a big dark green winter coat with a matching toque. She immediately removes all of her outerwear and dumps it on the nearest chair. She is clothed in a variety of non-complimentary colours. They do not acknowledge her.

ANGELICA

Hello! Hi! Hello! Boy it's cold out there.

ANNA

This isn't a hotel.

ANGELICA

I didn't want to leave anything behind. Does anyone have a phone?

ANNA

No need to yell dear.

(**ANNA** grabs the phone from under the counter.)

No tone. Well...do you think that...?

(**ANNA** walks away.)

JUSTIN

Don't bother. She hates winter. She hates people who dump their wet bags and clothes on her tables. You're not from around here, are you?

ANGELICA

Is it that obvious?

JUSTIN

Justin.

ANGELICA

Angelica. Thank you. Do you have a phone?

JUSTIN

No service.

ANGELICA

Do you know any other place that might have a phone?

JUSTIN

In this weather? Do you have any games on your computer?

ANGELICA

I couldn't tell you. The battery must be dead. I've been walking for a long time.

JUSTIN

Do you have an extension cord?

ANGELICA

Well...I.../

JUSTIN

Do you mind if I try?

EMILY

Justin leave Angel girl alone. We should conserve energy.

JUSTIN

Funny, I don't remember hearing that on the radio.

EMILY

Yes, how stupid of me to think ahead. Yes, we should wait to be asked before thinking for ourselves. Forget about the possibility that the electricity lines might freeze and we place too much pressure on the grid and the grid crashes. We would freeze. But you're right, since we haven't been instructed to conserve we should go ahead and waste energy to kill your dullness.

JUSTIN

When did you get a degree in Emergency Situations?

EMILY

It's called common sense. You should try it sometime.

JUSTIN

Emily is anti-social.

EMILY

Fine, ignore me! When we're stuck together in here till dawn with no heat and come close to death, I won't say I told you so.