



One Bird at a Time
2018 / 10 Episode Web Series
United States / English / Comedy/Drama

Director + Writer: Darcy Miller
Producers: Darcy Miller + Aileen Sheedy
Co-Producers: Christine Autrand Mitchell + Christen Kimbell
See in the Dark Productions LLC

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Logline

When do-gooder and lovable neurotic Julie strives to save the neediest and the craziest of the world, she has to start in her own backyard.

Episode Breakdown

EP 1, “TEAMWORK”

At the end of a romantic evening, Jeff wants some action — but Julie, her mind on a vagrant they passed on the street, needs action of a different kind. Together with dog Rocco, they set out to find him, but the night ends differently than any of them guessed.

Guest Starring Patrick Green as Frank

EPISODE 2, “MARKETING 101”

In the park on a lunch break, Julie meets sweet but unsuccessful Nelly, whose jar is always empty. Julie, along with co-worker Marla, and clueless boss Walter set out to help, but find that marketing for the homeless is a lot harder than they thought.

Guest Starring Betty Moyer as Marla, Nahanni Arntzen as Nelly and Rich Hinz as Walter

EPISODE 3, “JUST THE FACTS”

Julie is minding her own business in a retail store when she overhears some teenage girls sharing some very inaccurate information. How will it go when the shy and awkward Julie intervenes to help?

EPISODE 4, “GUY TALK”

When Julie and Jeff jog across a high bridge and pass a sad-looking boy contemplating the water far below, Jeff offers to take the lead — but he’s not as good at this guy talk as he thought.

EPISODE 5, “DR. HELFMANN, SESSION #1”

Julie, at the urging of her best friend, visits a therapist to discuss her helping problem. Unfortunately, school psychologist Dr. H is the one who needs a therapist.

Guest Starring Dana Millican as Dr. Helfmann and Ayanna Berkshire as Gena

EPISODE 6, “GIRL TALK”

When Julie and Jeff take a friend in to live with them, they discover that her problems are more than even they, or their marriage, can handle.

Guest Starring Jana Lee Hamblin as Lizzie

EPISODE 7, “LIFELINES”

Calling a suicide hotline for a friend turns out to be a depressing venture for Julie, Jeff — and Rocco.

EPISODE 8, “MVP’S”

An encounter with an older man at a bus stop gets Julie thinking about all she’s got, and all she’s scared of losing.

Guest Starring Victor Mack as James

EPISODE 9, “FIRST STEPS”

Julie and Marla convince boss Walter to go to an AA meeting with them, but Walter seems to be the only one of the three who is beyond the “first steps.”

Guest Starring Betty Moyer as Marla and Rich Hinz as Walter

EPISODE 10, “DR. HELFMANN, SESSION #2”

Dr. Helfmann’s back, this time in a couples session with Jeff and Julie. And she’s still not helpful. At all.

Guest Starring Dana Millican as Dr. Helfmann

Director's Statement

The title comes from Charles Bukowski's quote — “You begin saving the world by saving one person at a time; all else is grandiose romanticism or politics.” That's where we start. How do you save the world, when it's full of craziness, neuroses, and uncertainty? One Bird finds comedy seamlessly in its plot and characters — which, in a world where we are all honest about our looniness, isn't that hard to do. Everyone here is out of place. Yes, we understand: a synopsis that talks about homelessness and addiction — and then calls itself a comedy — touches a few nerves. Well, all we can say is, you gotta see it. As I hit 40 and recently had my first child, I realized that, as the world gets darker, humor is more important than ever. It allows us to explore the worst things and feel it all — the ugliness, the sadness, the absurdity, the hilarity, the reality — equally.



Select Bios



Darcy Miller – Showrunner

Darcy is the creator, director, and producer of One Bird. Her other films include "180 Degrees" (written and executive produced) and "Rise" (written, directed, and co-produced). The script she co-wrote, "Caroline's Wedding," an adaptation of the short story by Edwidge Danticat, recently won the Grand Prize in the American Zoetrope Competition. She's been an actress since she made her first film at 13, starred in the cult hit "Morris County," and has been appearing in shorts, features, and TV for the last 25 years. Perhaps you recognize her as one of the Rat people in Grimm last season.



Aileen Sheedy – Producer

Aileen is the owner of Pencil Ink Productions. Two of her videos won First Place in RPI's McKinney Contest in 2011 and 2012, and another film, "Refurbished," screened at the Arts Center of the Capital Region in 2012. In 2015, Aileen created a 40-episode multimedia web series called "The Misselthwaite Archives," which is a modern teen adaptation of The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett. The show aired on YouTube and has been nominated for the Oregon Actor Awards, the Portland Indie Short Film Awards, and the Literary-Inspired Webseries Awards.



Nathan Coltrane - Cinematographer

Is a photographer and cinematographer who grew up making movies with his friends in the back yard. He graduated from Eastern Washington University where he studied Film, Music and Photography. His work includes a number of feature films, TV shows, commercials, music videos, and independent shorts. Nathan is also a published photographer.

Full Credits

CAST

Julie Darcy Miller
Jeff Jason Rouse
Dr. Helfmann Dana Millican
Lizzie Jana Lee Hamblin
Frank Patrick Green
James Victor Mack
Gena Ayanna Berkshire
Marla Betty Moyer
Nelly Nahanni Arntzen
Walter Rich Hinz
Kimmy Sophie Giberson
Kathy Riley Stewart
Sam Ethan Reed McKay
“Craig” Jacob Lee Smith
Katrina Emma Mitchell
Johnny LJ Dixon
Voice Melissa Tvetan
Parker Donovan Gehrke
Café Guy Dayton Rodegerdts
Rocco Sir Finn



CREW

Written + Directed by Darcy Miller
Produced by Darcy Miller + Aileen Sheedy
Co-Producers Christen Kimbell + Christine Autrand Mitchell
Associate Producer Melissa Gregory Rue
Director of Photography Nathan Coltrane
Edited by Melissa Tvetan, Brian Belefant, + Ethan Derner
Assistant Director Cassie Cohn
Production Design: Kayla Larson
Original Music by Alan Singley