

## Episode 6: The end, the beginning

Narrator:

Welcome to *Play it by Ear*, a podcast for extensive listening designed for English language learners. This is the last episode of *The First*. This story is made for people who are learning English at an intermediate to advanced level. Extensive listening means listening to English that is very easy to understand. If you have trouble understanding this story, please ask us questions on [alleande.com](http://alleande.com). We have a PDF version of this conversation on the website as well. Previously on, *The First*, Michelle met Mai and they talked about Tyler cheating on both of them. Michelle and Mai made a plan to meet Tyler at his house. Now, let's start listening to *Play it by Ear's* story, *The First*. This episode is called *The End, The Beginning*.

Tyler: Hey babe, uhm... I forgot to tell you last night, but I have to meet some classmates to work on a group project.

Mai: Oh, but I thought we were going to get Chinese takeout and watch a movie.

Tyler: Oh man, I forgot about that.

Mai: Mm, you always forget.

Tyler: I'm sorry, but I really have to work on this group project. I already missed one meeting to take you to the doctor's.

Mai: I could have ordered a taxi from an app if you needed to do your homework.

Tyler: Eh, that's old news now. I just have to meet them today to make it up.

Mai: What time?

Tyler: 11:30 at the library.

Mai: Well, it's almost 11 now, I need to do some studying as well, so can I join you?

Tyler: Uh... I gotta pick up my group mates on the way, so my car will be full.

Mai: Mmm. Well, okay. Next time then.

Tyler: Of course, babe. Well, I think I need to get going.

Mai: Before you go, can you go get me my wheelchair gloves. I'm going to go check the mail when you leave.

Tyler: Okay. Um... Where are they?

(walking sound)

Mai: I think I left them on the nightstand.

(walking sound)

Tyler: Here you go. You ready?

Mai: Yup. The gloves are on.

(door opens)

Michelle: Hey, Tyler.

Tyler: Michelle, uhh... what are you doing here? I was gonna pick you up for our meeting.

Michelle: Oh really? You told me we were gonna meet me at the restaurant for our date.

Tyler: Michelle, how many times have I told you, we're partners.

Michelle: And by partners, you mean...?

Tyler: You know... partners.

Michelle: And by partner, you mean I'm your girlfriend, right?

Tyler: Michelle, just hold on a second.

Mai: Tyler!! Cut the crap, stop lying! I know about Michelle.

Tyler: What?

Mai: I know what you've been doing.

Tyler: Babe, it's not what it looks like. Ok, I can explain.

Michelle: Umm, I thought I was 'babe'?

Mai: Well, apparently, Michelle is your aunt, right Tyler?

Michelle: And Mai is your mom, right?

Tyler: Yeah...

Mai: (sigh) Why, Tyler? Was taking care of me too hard?

Tyler: Well...

Mai: You know you don't have to take care of me. I'd rather you break up with me than cheat on me.

Michelle: And I'm no side-girlfriend.

Tyler: Let me explain.

Mai: Tyler! Just shut up! After all these years we've been together?

Tyler: Well... It's been different since the accident. I couldn't help it.

Mai: Well, you could have told me. I could try to change things.

Tyler: You can't change being in a wheelchair.

Mai: It's not my fault!

Michelle: If you don't love her anymore, why don't you just break up with her?

Tyler: I do love her, but I feel so guilty because I was driving and Mai got injured.

Mai: It's not your fault either, accidents happen.

Tyler: It is my fault. I made the decision to drink and drive.

Michelle: But Tyler, you weren't injured?

Tyler: I got a few scratches, but my airbag went off. But Mai's airbag didn't.

Mai: You should have told me about this. Maybe things could have been different.

Tyler: Things can be different now.

Mai: No, they can't. I'm sorry you feel guilty, but I can't stay with you. You cheated on me!

Tyler: Umm, I can...

Mai: No! You broke my trust and you hurt Michelle. She's a nice and pretty girl. You shouldn't have done that to her, too.

Michelle: Thanks, Mai.

Tyler: But we live together.

Mai: I'm moving out.

Tyler: What? Where are you going?

Michelle: She's going to live with me.

Tyler: What?

Michelle: I need a new roommate anyways.

Mai: You didn't even notice I packed a lot of my clothes already. You've been out of the house so much lately.

Tyler: But Mai...

Mai: We're finished.

Michelle: Let's go.

(walking/rolling sound)

Michelle: So... you really think I'm pretty?

Mai: Of course! I thought you were so pretty when I first saw your social media.

Michelle: Well... I think you're pretty, too... You have nice taste in black lipstick.

Mai: Thanks.

Michelle: I'm excited. You're my first female friend!

Mai: Well, I'm looking forward to being your first!

Narrator:

That's the end of our sixth and last episode of *The First*. How do you think Michelle and Mai's future will be together? Let us know at [alleande.com](http://alleande.com). The writers of this story were Raquel Reinagel and Linda Wong. Thanks to our voice actors: Marek Booth, Aldo Garcia, Hoa Le, and Michelle Tanabe. Thank you for listening to our podcast and we hope you will listen again in the future.

Grade level: 2.9

Reading ease: 87.9