**Rachels Don’t Run:** Excerpt for performance  
English Listening and Pronunciation, Fall 2023

For the part | you’re going to perform | with your \*partner, ⤻||  
use a vertical line | to mark \*pauses, ⤻ | and a double vertical line ⤻ | to mark longer pauses. ⤵ ||  
Then \*underline ⤻| all the stressed**\***syllables, ⤻|| and mark the \*tonic stresses. ⤵||

**6, 7, 8**

Leah (as AI Rachel): Actually...Isaac, there's something I've...kind of been meaning to tell you for a while now.

Isaac: Oh yeah? (silence)

Leah (as AI Rachel): I lost my mom too.

Isaac: Oh, god, I...how...when, when did it happen?

7. Leah (as AI Rachel): Just before we met.

Isaac: Well, why didn't you ***tell*** me until now?

Leah (as AI Rachel): I just wasn't sure you'd want to hear about it.

Isaac: Well, like, um...I guess you...kinda know what it's like, then.

Leah (as AI Rachel): I kinda do, yeah...

(silence)

Isaac: What did your mom, um, sound like?

8. Leah (as AI Rachel): She had this...sort of raspy voice...but in, like a warm, comforting way. When I was a little kid she'd read me bedtime stories and I'd fall asleep, like, instantly.

Isaac: Yeah, my mom never really read me stories as a kid. That must have been nice.

Leah: Yeah, she must have read me Stellaluna like 300 times. (heh) She basically had it memorized. Yeah, sometimes I'll think about that book and I'll just start crying out of nowhere.

Isaac: Yeah, I, uh, yeah, I got things like that too. People always tell me that it gets better with time, but, here I am, just waitin' for that day to come. (laughs)

**9, 10, 11**

9. Leah (as AI Rachel): I don't know. When people say it gets better, I...I almost feel like they're just telling you to get over it. But then, when you ***do*** start to move on, that's really the hardest part, right? I mean, it's like what you said earlier, I still feel guilty to this day when I...enjoy something, and forget, even if it's just for a minute. Sometimes I feel just...as broken and helpless as I did when I first found out. (And) does that mean that I'm...not doing it right?

10. Leah (as AI Rachel): Then there are other days when I don't think about her as much, and I...I don't feel as terrible about that as I used to...And I don't know if that's like...better, or what.

Isaac: (silence; sighs) Um, client services request?

11. (Recorded female voice): Thank you for contacting client services. As a valued Gold Member with Iris, your feedback is important to us. A live agent will be with you shortly. This conversation may be recorded for quality and training purposes. (music)

Leah: (sniffles; taps key and music stops) Thank you for calling client services. This is Leah. How may I assist you this evening?

Isaac: Hi!

Leah: Hi.

Isaac: Thi-, this is a...weird thing to ask. Um, did you run an update or change Rachel's backstory?

**12, 13, 14**

12. Leah: Um, no, nothing major tonight, just some network updates.

Isaac: OK, well, I'm not sure what's up, but she is really off.

Leah: Oh, can you describe what happened?

Isaac: She was just talking about all this stuff that, like, ***I*** didn't know what ***I*** was supposed to say. Like, saying that ***she*** had a dead mom, and just being really ***negative*** about ***everything***?

13. Isaac: I don't know if you guys are beta-testing something, or if this is something based on our conversation history with, with ***my*** mom having passed away, but...uh, it's just not working for me, you know?

Leah: No, absolutely, I completely understand, Sir. (holding back tears)

Isaac: Oh, and she goes ***running*** now, too? Rachel's not supposed to be athletic, like at ***all***. I...look, I'm sorry, I'm just going through a ***lot*** right now, and I don't need to be worried about my mile time on top of everything else.

14. Leah: Of course. We want to make sure you're having the conversation that best suits your needs.

Isaac: So, yeah, could you please just revert back to normal Rachel? Oh, and also maybe tone down the dorky laugh. It's starting to get kind of annoying.

Leah: I'll make a note of that.

Isaac: Thank you. (dial tone)

Leah: (Slams the receiver and begins to sob and cry. Incoming phone call sound. Leah sniffles, hesitates a long time, then speaks with a broken voice.) Thank you for calling Iris. Client services. This is Leah. How may I assist you this evening? (Music)

First part (2):

1. 周敏歆 Cindy: Leah

陳品彣 Astrid: Isaac

2. 李柏賢 Brad: Leah

官育全 Dylan: Isaac

3. 何思嫻 Anita Ho: Leah

李彥臻 Jenny: Isaac

4. 陳 昕 Michael: Leah

詹元齊 Phil: Isaac

黃于珊 Ivy: Share parts

5. 吳家謙 Esther: Leah

王欣宇 Yuni: Isaac

6. 毛宣云 Sherry: Leah

王士晉 Howard: Isaac

7. 劉子郁 Ariel: Leah

曹允誠 Chris: Isaac

8. 張盈蓁 Janice: Leah

邱俞融 Veronique: Isaac

9. 黃子倩 Lina: Leah

卓昱安 Ian: Isaac

Second Part (3)

10. 林靖芸 Erin: Leah

林若潔 Melody: Isaac

11. 李仲勛 Gregory: Leah

邱彥鈞 Allen: Isaac

12. 黃毓庭 Hitty: Leah

林昀潔 Jasmine: Isaac

13. 彭賀琳 Helena: Leah

楊庭瑜 Inez: Isaac

14. 石彥妮 Ellie: Leah

曾柔瑾 Tina: Isaac

15. 鍾愷頤 Kai Yi: Leah

辛永浩 Eric: Isaac

16. 翁妤安 Ashley: Leah

郭子甄 Jenna: Isaac

17. 王亮勻 Emily: Leah

張家齊 Jacky: Isaac

18. 程冠榛 Gladys: Leah

陳玟翰 Hank: Isaac

19. 許子玥 Tsu-yueh: Leah

邵咨燕 Anita Shao: Isaac