

= Angie Bolen =

Angela de Luca , known in the series by the alias Angie Bolen , is a fictional character played by Drea de Matteo on the ABC television series *Desperate Housewives* . The character was created by television producer and screenwriter Marc Cherry and appeared throughout the series ' sixth season from September 27 , 2009 to May 16 , 2010 . Cherry describes Angie as a " loving but tough Italian woman . " Her gritty and blunt demeanor contrasts from the domesticated leading characters .

Angie 's storylines mostly deal with her family ? husband Nick Bolen (Jeffrey Nordling) and son Danny Bolen (Beau Mirchoff) ? and their attempts to escape their mysterious past , which is explored throughout the season . Although critics initially welcomed the character as a diverse addition to the cast , they grew frustrated with the slow pace of her storyline as the season progressed . Critics compared Angie to Betty Applewhite (Alfre Woodard) , a character whose lagging storyline was slow in developing during the series ' second season .

= = Development and departure = =

While developing new characters for the sixth season of *Desperate Housewives* , showrunner Marc Cherry and his writing staff aimed to create a housewife who would be different from the other female characters on the series . Cherry stated that he " wanted someone who didn 't seem suburban , who has a tough , blue @-@ collar exterior . " The staff ultimately decided upon an Italian New Yorker . Cherry stated that part of his inspiration for the character came from his childhood neighbors . He explained , " When I was growing up in Huntington , Calif . , two Italian families from the Bronx moved in across the street . We were so WASPy , so middle American . They had their own ethnic identity . It was an interesting juxtaposition . " Cherry insisted that Angie was not replacing the deceased Edie Britt character (Nicollette Sheridan) as a main housewife but would instead be the focus of the season 's mystery .

Drea de Matteo , known for her role on *The Sopranos* , an HBO television series about the Italian @-@ American Mafia , was immediately offered the role in July 2009 . De Matteo did not know the character 's name or storyline when she accepted the role . She acknowledged that the character was similar to her previous television roles and admitted that while she initially feared being typecast , she decided to accept the role . She explained , " Now that I am old and don 't really care , and remember how much fun I had playing that character ? I 'd rather be playing a character like that than some straight , normal , non @-@ accented person . " The character 's name was reported by several media outlets as Angie Vitale following the news of de Matteo 's casting .

In November 2009 , rumors surfaced that de Matteo was being released from her contract due to budgetary concerns . However , Cherry denied them and the actress appeared in 20 of the season 's 23 episodes . However , de Matteo did depart from the series in May 2010 after one season . Cherry explained , " Part of the deal when we hired Drea was she was only interested in doing one season . She has a baby and is eager to get back to her life in New York . "

= = Personality and characteristics = =

Before the character 's debut , de Matteo described Angie as " brassy " and a " liberal New Yorker , " which she said contrasts with the more conservative nature of the other characters . She commented that Angie " is less of a housewife than the rest of them . She 's a real broad . " However , de Matteo also noted that Angie is " not just the brassy smart @-@ talker " and has a vulnerable side , which would be explored in the show . Cherry boosted Angie as " a loving but tough Italian woman ... who will do what she has to protect her family . " He also described her as " brilliant " and " shielded , " which leaves her largely detached from the other women on the series . Michael Ausiello of *Entertainment Weekly* described the character as " icy . " *Entertainment Weekly* 's Tanner Stransky wrote that Angie was " very real and very gritty , " noting that the character was capable " of doing what they need to survive , no matter what the price . " Within the series , Bree Hodge (Marcia Cross) describes Angie as blunt and tactless .

= = History = =

= = = Past = = =

The character 's backstory is explored throughout the sixth season of Desperate Housewives . Angela de Luca lived in New York City with her mother , Rose De Luca (Suzanne Costallos) . At age eighteen , she dropped out of college , where she was enrolled as an engineering major , and joined a band of eco @-@ terrorists , led by Patrick Logan (John Barrowman) , with whom she became romantically involved . Patrick asked her to build a bomb that would be used against a corporate company . On November 10 , 1991 , the eco @-@ terrorist group bombed a building that was supposedly empty ; however , they unintentionally killed a man named Shawn . Angela sustained a large scar on her back as a result of the explosion . Consumed with guilt over having killed an innocent man , Angela agreed to run away with a private investigator (Jeffrey Nordling) who had been pursuing the terrorist group . Later , Angie discovered she was pregnant with Patrick 's child . She and the private investigator raised Patrick 's son as their own and moved several times , living under various aliases , in an attempt to evade both Patrick and the FBI .

= = = Season 6 = = =

In the sixth season premiere , the fugitive couple , now under the aliases of Angie and Nick Bolen , buys a house on Wisteria Lane in Fairview , Eagle State , with their nineteen @-@ year @-@ old son , Danny (Beau Mirchoff) . While Angie hesitantly befriends the other women on the street , Danny takes a liking to Julie Mayer (Andrea Bowen) , a neighbor who eventually rejects his attempts to form a romantic relationship . When Julie falls into a coma after being strangled , Danny is the prime suspect , thus creating tension between Angie and Julie 's mother , Susan Mayer (Teri Hatcher) . However , Danny is cleared of all charges when his alibi is validated . Meanwhile , neighbor Katherine Mayfair (Dana Delany) befriends Angie while experiencing a nervous breakdown as a result of Mike Delfino (James Denton) marrying Susan rather than her . When Katherine begins to question Angie 's past , Angie tells Susan that Katherine may have strangled Julie as an act of revenge .

Angie takes a job at the catering company of her neighbor , Bree Hodge (Marcia Cross) , and a friendship develops . Later , Angie learns that Nick had an affair with Julie prior to her attack , but she forgives him for this betrayal . When Julie rejects Danny once more , he attempts suicide by swallowing a large amount of pills . Angie and Nick admit him to the hospital , where he awakens with temporary memory loss and tells Nurse Mona Clark (Maria Cominis) , that his name is Tyler . Mona assumes that the family is in the witness relocation program , but Danny fully reveals his family 's secret . Mona demands \$ 67 @,@ 000 from the Bolens in return for her silence but is killed by a plane that makes an emergency landing on Wisteria Lane soon after .

Later , Danny begins to date Ana Solis (Maiara Walsh) , the fun @-@ loving niece of Gabrielle (Eva Longoria Parker) and Carlos Solis (Ricardo Antonio Chavira) . Gabrielle and Carlos overhear Angie and Nick fighting about their secret , which prompts them to send Ana to a modeling academy in New York for her safety . Danny follows Ana without his parents ' knowledge . Angie and Gabrielle travel to New York to bring Danny home and Angie confesses her past to Gabrielle in confidence . Patrick tracks Angie back to Fairview , where he hits Nick with his car . While Nick is in the hospital , Patrick moves into the Bolen home and takes Angie and Danny hostage and forces Angie to build him a second bomb . He plants the bomb inside the house and activates it with a detonator from down the street . However , the bomb in the house was a decoy ; Angie had planted the actual bomb in the detonator . Patrick dies in the explosion and Angie and Nick , still on the run from the FBI , relocate to Atlanta , Georgia while Danny moves to New York to be closer to his grandmother and Ana .

= = Reception = =

Both Drea de Matteo 's performance and the Angie character received positive reviews upon the season premiere . Stransky said " it 's great to see Drea de Matteo back on screen " and praised the contrast between Angie and the other characters . In her review of the season premiere , Isabelle Carreau of TV Squad called the character promising . TV Guide 's Mickey O 'Connor noted that the chemistry between Angie and the other characters was " a little off , " but predicted it would improve throughout the season . Four episodes into the season , Ken Tucker of Entertainment Weekly declared that Angie 's storyline was suffering from the lack of interaction between the character and the other leading women , similar to the Betty Applewhite (Alfre Woodard) storyline of season two .

By the middle of the season , Gael Fashingbauer Cooper of MSNBC complained that the Angie storyline was lagging , opining that the revelation that Angie is an eco @-@ terrorist " sounds like a plot summary dreamed up by The Onion wanting to spoof the ultimate suburban show . " Stransky declared that he was " tired of even wondering what 's up with the Bolens , " as their " who @-@ cares @-@ anyway mystery " storyline continued to move too slowly . However , his interest in the storyline was renewed when John Barrowman joined the show as Patrick Logan , stating that the storyline had " finally gotten hotter and , subsequently , better . " Stransky praised the " sweet vendiction " of the conclusion to Angie 's storyline in the season finale . Cooper also enjoyed the conclusion of Angie 's storyline , scoring her plot in the season finale with a ' B. ' She wrote that de Matteo " brought some needed fire and Italian backbone to a very bland street " and was disappointed that the character was written off the series . However , Robert Bianco of USA Today dismissed the finale 's devotion to resolving the Bolen family storyline , stating that the audience and other characters were not invested enough in the Bolens to care about their life @-@ threatening predicament or departure . Following the announcement of de Matteo 's departure , Ausiello reported that fans had not " warmed to " the character of Angie .