

= Pandora (Skins) =

" Pandora " is the fourth episode of the third series of the British teen drama Skins , which first aired on 12 February 2009 on E4 in both Ireland and the United Kingdom . The episode was written by Bryan Elsley and Georgia Lester , and was directed by Simon Massey . The episode focuses on the character of Pandora Moon (Lisa Backwell) , who is miserable after her boyfriend , Thomas Tomone (Merveille Lukeba) , recently returned to the Democratic Republic of the Congo . She holds a small pyjama party for her friends , but it descends into chaos when uninvited guests arrive and the food is spiked with drugs . Pandora and Effy get into an argument after both girls have sex with James Cook (Jack O 'Connell) , but the argument is interrupted when Thomas unexpectedly returns .

" Pandora " was filmed in September 2008 . It featured guest appearances by Sally Phillips and Harry Enfield , as well as real @-@ life partners Morwenna Banks and David Baddiel , who played on @-@ screen lovers . The episode brought in 701 @,@ 000 viewers and was E4 's highest @-@ rated programme of the week . It received generally positive reviews from critics . Harry Enfield and James Fleet who both appear in this episode previously starred together as father and son in the 2000 film Kevin & Perry Go Large .

= = Plot = =

At the house of her friend , Effy Stonem (Kaya Scodelario) , Pandora (Lisa Backwell) tells Effy 's mother , Anthea (Morwenna Banks) , that she misses Thomas , who recently returned to his country of origin , the Democratic Republic of the Congo . Later , Effy 's father , Jim (Harry Enfield) , discovers his wife 's infidelity when his boss , Steve (David Baddiel) , arrives at the house , declaring his love for Anthea . Effy grows miserable after Jim leaves the family , and Pandora , desperate for some fun , throws a pyjama party . Effy and Katie Fitch (Megan Prescott) arrive with Pandora at her house for the party and meet her neurotic mother , Angela (Sally Phillips) . Disappointed by the lack of boys , drugs and alcohol because of Angela 's strict supervision , Katie spikes the brownies that they make with MDMA . As Naomi Campbell (Lily Loveless) and Katie 's twin sister , Emily (Kathryn Prescott) , arrive together , Naomi urges Emily to admit that she is gay , but Emily denies it . All of the girls indulge in the brownies and Pandora is unhappy to see her mother 's behaviour grow increasingly erratic . After Angela is carried into a bedroom to sleep , Pandora locks herself in the bathroom , upset about Thomas 's departure and angry with Effy , who she believes spiked the brownies .

Outside , Cook and JJ Jones (Ollie Barbieri) try to sneak into the girls ' party . Cook enters the house through a window , but accidentally locks himself inside a wardrobe . After calling his friend , Freddie Mclair (Luke Pasqualino) , for help , JJ goes into the house by himself and sees Emily and Naomi kissing . Katie , too , witnesses the pair kissing , but is interrupted when her footballer boyfriend , Danny Guillermo (Henry Garrett) , and dozens of his friends arrive at the house to crash the party . Hiding from the rest of the party , Effy finds Cook , and they have sex in the wardrobe . They fall through the wall into the next room and find a DVD which shows Angela having sex with her older neighbour , Martin (James Fleet) . Freddie comes to take JJ home and confronts Effy about leaving Pandora for Cook . As he leaves , so does Effy .

By the time Pandora comes out of the bathroom , Cook is the only person left at the house . Together they play Twister , which was all Pandora had wanted to do , along with learning from her friends about human sexuality . Cook offers to have sex with her , and they spend the night together . Effy visits Pandora the next morning , and sees Cook share a kiss with her as he leaves . Feeling hurt , she confronts Pandora , but to no avail , as Pandora is slightly empowered after losing her virginity . Pandora defiantly tells Effy that Cook , due to his promiscuity and impulsive , carnal behavior , belongs to no one . Effy appears to understand , and makes no rebuttal . Suddenly , Thomas appears and runs up to Pandora , and she sobs in his arms as a thoughtful Effy looks on .

= = Production = =

" Pandora " was filmed in September 2008 in the same production block as the series ' sixth episode , " Naomi " , and the series ' opening title sequence . Lisa Backwell described filming Pandora 's episode as " brilliant " and said that " spending 12 hours everyday [sic] in the loopy world of Pandora wearing wacky floral prints and bright yellow trainers is probably the most fun I 've ever had " . Comedian David Baddiel appeared in a brief cameo appearance as the lover of Anthea , who is played by Baddiel 's real @-@ life partner , Morwenna Banks . Kaya Scodelario said that working with Baddiel was " amazing " and that returning to work with her on @-@ screen parents , Banks and Harry Enfield , after the show 's second series was " brilliant " . Pandora and her friends ' rendition of the nursery rhyme " London 's Burning " using kitchen utensils while making brownies was arranged by Fat Segal in homage to Matmos 's 1998 album , Quasi @-@ Objects .

Published in an article for the Daily Mail discussing a rise in bi @-@ curiosity amongst middle class teenage girls , an E4 spokeswoman said of Emily and Naomi 's kiss : " Skins is written by young people who don 't see sexuality as defining who they are . They 're a bit cooler about it than that , so they think of the characters they create as being in love with a person , rather than a boy or a girl . "

= = Music = =

" Dancing On A Wire " by Keygrip

" London 's Burning " by Lisa Backwell , Kaya Scodelario , Megan Prescott and Sally Phillips .

= = Reception = =

" Pandora " brought in 701 @,@ 000 viewers and was E4 's highest @-@ rated programme of the week with an audience share of 4 @.@ 5 percent . Another 165 @,@ 000 viewers watched the episode an hour after its initial broadcast on E4 's timeshift channel , E4 + 1 .

The episode received mostly positive reviews . A critic for PopSugar.com called " Pandora " a " fantastic episode " and was pleased that Pandora 's character " graduated from being random light relief and we got a real insight into her life " . They praised each of the " superb " guest actors , particularly Harry Enfield , David Baddiel and Sally Phillips , who she thought played Angela " brilliantly " . Digital Spy 's Neil Wilkes gave the episode a positive review , describing it as " probably the most outrageous of the series to date " . He wrote that the tension between Effy and Freddie " set things up nicely " for the following episode , which focused on Freddie . The entertainment editor for eurOut.org , a website for European lesbians , thought that the episode included " a lot of confusing straight relationship drama " and felt like she was " stuck in high school hell " . She wrote , however , that the brownie @-@ making scene was " so ridiculous it 's kind of funny " and likened Skins to " Gossip Girl on crack " . Jason Hughes of TV Squad felt that within the ensemble cast " most of these kids were so unlikable " , though he attributed this to the series " show [ing] us their weaknesses " . He found Pandora to be more likable , however , believing that her innocence was " more representative of youth than most of the other characters " . One reviewer for lesbian @-@ based website AfterEllen.com called the episode " must @-@ see TV " , while another reviewer expressed disapproval of the use of Katy Perry 's song , " I Kissed a Girl " , in promotional videos for the episode .