 AUDITION SIDE - MARCUS

\*IN MY PAIN\*

Written by Bobby & Renee Peoples

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CHARACTER  
DESCRIPTION:

Marcus is charismatic, confident, and emotionally manipulative. He knows how to make Sharon feel seen and wanted, but underneath the charm is control, insecurity, and danger. The actor should be able to shift from smooth and comforting to intimidating without raising his voice much.

INT. CAR - DAY

Marcus drives while Sharon sits in the passenger seat. The energy between them is calm, but Marcus is already studying her.

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MARCUS  
You always this quiet?

SHARON  
Depends who I'm around.

Marcus smirks slightly.

MARCUS  
So what that mean for me?

Sharon shrugs.

SHARON  
I'm still decidin'.

Marcus laughs softly, nodding like he respects it.

MARCUS  
That's cool. I like people that  
take they time.

A beat as he glances at her.

MARCUS (CONT'D)  
Most people talk too much anyway.

Sharon looks out the window.

SHARON  
You seem like you know a lot about  
people.

MARCUS  
I know enough.

A beat.

MARCUS (CONT'D)  
Especially when somebody tired.

Sharon looks at him now.

SHARON  
Tired of what?

Marcus shrugs casually.

MARCUS  
Fightin'. Surviving. Actin' like  
they okay when they not.

That lands harder than she expected.

SHARON  
You don't even know me.

Marcus looks over briefly.

MARCUS  
I know your type.

A beat.

MARCUS (CONT'D)  
You used to takin' care of  
everybody else... but ain't nobody  
really takin' care of you.

Silence.

Marcus leans back comfortably, already feeling himself  
pulling her in.

MARCUS (CONT'D)  
That get lonely after a while.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Marcus and Sharon are in the middle of an argument. Marcus is trying to maintain control without fully exploding.

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SHARON

You always turn everything into a problem.

MARCUS

Nah. You just don't listen.

SHARON

I'm tired of you talkin' to me like I'm stupid.

Marcus steps closer—not aggressive yet, but controlling the space.

MARCUS

Then stop movin' stupid.

Sharon shakes her head, frustrated.

SHARON

See? That right there.

Marcus laughs under his breath.

MARCUS

You swear you got everything figured out now.

SHARON

I'm trying to do better.

Marcus' expression changes slightly. Less charm. More edge.

MARCUS

Better for who?

A beat.

SHARON

For me. For my kids.

Marcus looks away for a second, jaw tightening.

MARCUS

Everything ain't always about them kids.

That instantly changes the energy.

SHARON  
Don't do that.

Marcus steps even closer now, lowering his voice.

MARCUS  
You think they gon' save you?

Silence.

MARCUS (CONT'D)  
Ain't nobody savin' you, Sharon.

A long beat.

Then Marcus softens slightly—almost like he regrets it.

Almost.

MARCUS (CONT'D)  
I'm the only one still here.

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# SELF-TAPE  
NOTES:

Actors auditioning for Marcus should:

- \* Avoid playing him overly aggressive too early
- \* Focus on subtle manipulation and emotional control
- \* Show charm AND danger
- \* Play the pauses and eye contact

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# SUBMISSION INFO  
Please send headshot, resume, and  
self-tape to:

 [TPNCasting@gmail.com](mailto:TPNCasting@gmail.com)

Subject Line:

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