

The Choice

A Spiritual Drama

Michael Sides

INT. CAR - NIGHT

Michael and Tristen are sitting in the car having a heartfelt conversation.

START

MICHAEL

Tristen! The only one to blame is me. It was my fault, not yours!

Michael's face is full of remorse. Michael takes a moment to respond.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

I was in a rut for a long time, I failed out of college, I couldn't get a job, I had no friends, Anna left me, and when my mom died I...

Michael closes his eyes and sighs and then opens them slowly.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

I had nothing... and all I could hear was my father's voice telling me I was a mistake and a disappointment, and how he was right...

Tristen looks up at Michael.

TRISTEN

Why didn't you say anything to me?

MICHAEL

I wanted to, more times than I could count, but I saw how your life was finally coming together and how happy you were. I couldn't bring you down with what I was going through.

END

CONTINUE READING NEXT SCENE

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS**START****MICHAEL**

I've had a lot of time to reflect on life, what I've done, and... the things I miss.

A melancholic smile grows on Michael's face.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Like the warmth of the sun hitting my skin, the wind blowing in my face... I miss the beauty of life. You don't truly understand how precious something is until it's gone.

Tristen looks remorseful at Michael. Michael sighs.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

What's done is done. This pain you feel, the pain that I caused is my burden, my cross to bear, and mine alone. And if you do this, if you choose the path that I did, then you'll only be hurting someone else...

Tristen looks away from Michael.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

But you can choose a different path, the path that I should have chosen.

Tristen looks at Michael with sorrow.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

And if you choose this path I promise you life will be beautiful again.

END