

The Choice

A Spiritual Drama

Tristen Sides

INT. CAR - NIGHT

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

START

TRISTEN (CONT'D)

I was angry at you for so long, I hated you for what you did. I thought you were weak and a coward, but- but now... I hate myself more for letting it happen.

Michael gently shakes his head.

TRISTEN (CONT'D)

I should've known something wasn't right. You were my best friend. How could I not have known?

Michael looks away with guilt, and Tristen as much to himself.

TRISTEN (CONT'D)

But part of me did know, I- I just didn't want to admit it, I thought it was just a phase or something.

MICHAEL

Tristen--

TRISTEN

- I knew like when you were always drunk before

five, I knew when you'd get angry over every little thing, and... and when you wouldn't go out anymore, I- I-

MICHAEL

- Tristen, look at me.

He doesn't.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

There was nothing you could've done. Nothing.

Tristen, still looking at the ground, can't look at Michael.

TRISTEN

(pained)

Yes, there was.

MICHAEL

No, there wasn't.

TRISTEN

But if I didn't ignore the signs.

Tristen looks up at Michael with pained eyes.

TRISTEN (CONT'D)

I mean it's not like I wanted to ignore them, it's just I couldn't accept it. You've always been so happy so I just figured you would get over it.

MICHAEL

Tristen, whether you accepted them or not nothing would've changed.

END