

DETECTIVE MYLES & SHELLY

SIDES

"SHADOWS OF SILENCE"

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DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Welcome to the audition for the roles of Detective Myles and Shelly in "Shadows of Silence."

For those auditioning for the roles of Myles and Shelly, we're looking for actors who can truly embody the emotional depth and complexity of this intense moment.

Myles (Detective Myles Carter): We need an actor who can portray a detective with a sharp mind, yet a compassionate heart. Myles is faced with the shocking discovery of a colleague's death, and he must maintain composure while navigating through the initial investigation. Show us your ability to convey professionalism, authority, and a subtle hint of personal intrigue as Myles discovers a sense of familiarity with the victim. Bring forth the sorrow of uncovering a tragedy, the determination to find answers, and the quiet empathy as he interacts with Shelly. This scene requires a dynamic range, from stoicism to vulnerability, as Myles navigates the complexities of the situation.

Shelly (Shelly Porter): Shelly, Lauren's assistant, finds herself thrust into a nightmare when she discovers her boss's lifeless body. We're seeking an actress who can authentically portray Shelly's shock, fear, and sorrow as she grapples with this horrifying reality. Show us your ability to convey genuine panic and urgency as she calls for help, as well as the subtle strength that emerges as she tries to gather herself to assist the investigation. Shelly is also tasked with discretion, holding crucial information close while feeling the weight of the situation. Bring forth the raw emotions of grief and disbelief, along with the inner turmoil of suspicion and fear. This scene demands a powerful emotional range, from heart-wrenching sorrow to quiet determination.

In this audition, we want to see your ability to embody these characters' emotions fully, creating a palpable sense of tension and urgency. This is a pivotal moment in the story, and we're looking for actors who can bring depth, authenticity, and a strong presence to the scene. Show us your range, your vulnerability, and your ability to connect with the emotional core of the characters.

DETECTIVE MYLES AND SHELLY

1 INT. LAUREN'S OFFICE - MORNING

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Shelly enters Lauren's office with a cup holder carrying 2 coffees in one hand, and a bag of bagels in the other. She looks around, calling out for Lauren, but there's no response. She walks in and places the bag and coffee tray on the left side of her desk.

SHELLY
(calling out)
Lauren? I brought your morning coffee.

She then notices a crumpled photo on the floor at the corner of the desk. She picks it up, puzzled looks at it and drops it back on the floor. Looking around, she notices more photos scattered around, and Lauren's desk drawer broken into as if someone was searching for something. As she moves around the desk about to investigate further, Shelly's heart stops when she sees Lauren on the floor to the right side of her desk, unresponsive.

SHADOWS OF SILENCE
SHELLY
(gasping)
Oh my god... Lauren!

Shelly rushes to Lauren's side, kneeling down beside her. She tries to shake Lauren awake, but it's futile. She checks for a pulse and realizes the truth-Lauren is dead.

SHELLY
(panicked)
No, no, no... Lauren, wake up!

Shelly's hands tremble as she grabs her phone and dials 911.

SHELLY
(frantically)
Hello, yes, there's been... there's been a murder! Please, you need to send help!

With tears in her eyes, Shelly hangs up and realizes she needs to make another call. She takes a deep breath and dials another number, leaving a voicemail.

SHELLY
Noah, it's Shelly... something terrible has happened to Lauren. Please, call me back as soon as you

can. It's urgent.

Moments later, the police sirens wail outside. She quickly wipes her tears, gathers the photos and puts them in her pocket. She then picks up the crumbled photo but it's too late for her to put in her pocket so she hides it in the ball of her fist as she prepares herself for the officers who have just entered.

Detective Myles immediately goes to examine the body, a look of recognition crossing his face.

MYLES
(discreetly to Lauren)
Where the hell do I know you from?

Detective Myles Carter looks around, sees Shelly and walks over to her.

MYLES
(polite)
Excuse me, ma'am. I'm Detective Myles Carter. I need to ask you a few questions about what happened here.

Shelly nods, trying to keep her composure.

SHELLY
Hi. I'm Shelly, Mrs. James assistant.

DETECTIVE MYLES
You wanna have a seat?

Shelly takes a seat. Myles pulls out his notepad and pen and take a seat next to her.

MYLES
Can you start by telling me what happened here?

SHELLY
Well, I walked in to bring her, her usual morning coffee. She likes the Iced Latte from Starbucks with the extra shot because it gives her energy you know...It was her favorite. Anyway, when I got in, I found her laying there...dead...I don't understand...
(crying)
Who would do this to Lauren?

MYLES

I understand this is difficult Shelly.
But we need to know what happened. Did
you notice anything unusual when you
arrived?

SHELLY

(wiping her tears)
Everything seemed normal at first.
(hesitates)
Except... except for this.

She unbales her fist showing the crumpled photo.

Myles take the photo and uncrumples it.

MYLES

What is this?

Realization dawns on Myles as the picture reminds him of how
he knows Lauren. He discreetly keeps his suspicions to
himself as he continues to interview Shelly.

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SHELLY

I found it on the floor by the desk.
Does it mean anything?

Hands the photo back to Shelly.

MYLES

I don't know yet.
(beat)
Uh...Did Lauren ever mention anything
unusual lately? Any threats or
arguments?

SHELLY

(shaking her head, tearfully)
No, nothing... she seemed fine.

MYLES

(intently)
And she didn't have any enemies or
Anyone who wanted to harm her?

SHELLY

(shaking her head)
No, of course not. Lauren was kind to
everyone. I can't imagine...

MYLES

(gently)

I know this is hard and we'll do everything we can to find out what happened. But I need you to think carefully. Was there anyone here last night? Anyone at all?

SHELLY

(trying to remember)

I... I'm not sure. I left around...

(checks her watch)

around 7 PM. Lauren said she had work to finish.

MYLES

(nodding, jotting notes)

And after you left, did anyone else have access to the office?

SHELLY

(nervously)

No, just... just Lauren. She usually locks up...

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MYLES

(sternly)

Is there anything else you can tell me? Anything at all, no matter how small it may seem.

SHELLY

(crying)

I don't know, Detective! I don't know!

MYLES

(softening, comforting)

Shelly, it's okay. Take a deep breath. We'll figure this out together.

SHELLY

(sobbing)

I'm sorry...

MYLES

Shelly, I just have one more question. Did you see anyone leave the office last night? Or this morning?

SHELLY
(shaking her head)
No, I... I didn't see anyone.

MYLES
Thank you. You've been very helpful.
I'll need to take this photo with me.
It will be important for the
investigation.

Shelly hands Detective Myles the photo.

MYLES
(assuring)
Thank you. We'll do everything we can
to find out who did this. You should
go home. Take some time for yourself.

Shelly starts to walk away.

MYLES
And Shelly...I promise you, we will
get to the bottom of this.

SHADOWS OF SILENCE

As the coroner prepares to remove Lauren's body, Shelly
watches, feeling a sense of numbness wash over her.

SHELLY
(to herself)
This can't be real...

Shelly walks over and grabs her purse off the desk. She looks
up at Myles.

Myles steps aside, taking out his phone. He dials a number,
but there's no answer.

Shelly looks down at her pocket and places her hand in it as
she exits following the coroners out the door.

Frustrated and anxious, Myles leaves a voicemail, his voice
tense and urgent.

MYLES
Asa, it's Myles. We have a situation.
Call me back immediately. This is
urgent.

FADE OUT