DAN

Audition Monologue  
***NEXT TO NORMAL***

Dan stands in the living room, having just returned from the hospital, where his wife has been admitted after a suicide attempt.

**DAN:** Standing in this room is surreal. I can’t help but wonder what happens now. I mean, I know I have to help Diana, but hell if I know how to do it. And after all the times people have told me that “this is just the way her illness goes.” I have come to understand the truth. Which is that nobody really knows. And every time we act like we’ve figured it out or like we do, somehow, understand…things seem to just get more and more absurd. And it scares me. But all of these fears that I have just sitting inside me, waiting to be heard… won’t be. Can’t be. I can’t say anything to anybody. Because I know that I can’t give up on her. Not now.

You know, I’ve never been alone, and I don’t think I ever could be. After all of this, after all of these years, I *can’t* end up alone.