

Who is Dre?

DRE

Age: 28 | Baltimore, Maryland

The Big Brother. The Protector. The Man Who Came Home and Refuses to Let Anyone Touch His Family.

UNDERSTANDING DRE

The first thing the actor needs to understand about Dre is simple:

DRE LOVES HIS LITTLE BROTHER.

Everything else comes after that.

Dre has been away for **five years**. Now he's home, and almost immediately he realizes something is happening with Moe.

Tavon has been inside his mother's house.

Moe is acting differently.

Something doesn't feel right.

Dre doesn't know every detail of what's happening between Moe and Tavon.

BUT HE KNOWS ENOUGH.

And unlike most people around Tavon, Dre isn't willing to stand there intimidated while his younger brother is being threatened.

That's what puts these two men on a collision course.

WHO HE IS

Dre is 28.

He's older than Moe.

More experienced.

Protective.

Proud.

Confident.

And willing to stand on what he says.

But don't reduce Dre to **"the tough older brother."**

There's something underneath the toughness:

RESPONSIBILITY.

He's been gone for five years.

The script doesn't tell us everything that happened during those five years, so don't invent it for the audition.

What matters is that Dre is back now.

And he's looking at his little brother thinking:

WHAT HAPPENED WHILE I WAS GONE?

That can live underneath the performance.

HIS PERSONALITY

Dre is **protective, fearless, direct, proud, loyal, confrontational and deeply**

family-oriented.

He isn't interested in Tavon's games.

He doesn't want a philosophical conversation.

He doesn't care about Tavon's reputation.

As far as Dre is concerned—

THIS IS ABOUT MOE.

And that's important.

Don't enter the scene thinking:

I'm going to challenge the most dangerous man in the neighborhood.

Enter thinking:

I'M GOING TO MAKE SURE THIS MAN UNDERSTANDS HE'S NOT GOING TO HURT MY LITTLE BROTHER.

That makes the confrontation personal instead of performative.

DRE & MOE

Moe is his little brother.

That relationship should carry history.

Dre remembers Moe before any of this.

Before the court case.

Before the deal.

Before Tavon was standing in their mother's house.

DRE STILL SEES HIS LITTLE BROTHER.

That means Moe's problems don't feel distant to him.

They're family problems.

And when Dre senses that Moe is afraid, he doesn't think:

Moe needs to handle his own business.

His instinct is:

WHO DID THIS TO MY BROTHER?

THE FIVE YEARS

The five-year absence is important without needing to be over-explained.

Dre has missed things.

Relationships changed.

Power structures changed.

Moe grew up.

Tavon became Tavon.

DRE MAY BE WALKING BACK INTO A WORLD THAT ISN'T EXACTLY THE WORLD HE LEFT.

That's important because Dre's confidence may partly come from the man he remembers Tavon being.

But the Tavon standing in front of him now is something different.

The actor doesn't have to announce this.

Let the story reveal it.

DRE & TAVON

This is where the character becomes especially interesting.

DRE ISN'T AFRAID OF TAVON.

Don't fake fear because the audience already knows Tavon is dangerous.

Dre isn't the audience.

Dre has his own history, pride and understanding of the world.

And he has something powerful motivating him:

FAMILY.

So when he approaches Tavon, he means what he says.

This isn't empty posturing.

THE MEN BEHIND DRE

Dre doesn't confront Tavon alone.

He has roughly eight men with him.

That matters psychologically.

DRE BELIEVES HE HAS CONTROL OF THE SITUATION.

He has numbers.

He has people behind him.

He's making his position clear.

From Dre's perspective, this isn't reckless.

He has come prepared.

That confidence should be real.

DON'T PLAY THE OUTCOME

This is extremely important for the actor.

You know what happens because you read the script.

DRE DOESN'T.

Don't walk into the confrontation behaving like you're about to die.

Don't secretly fear Tavon because you know what's coming.

Don't prepare yourself emotionally for the violence.

Dre believes he's the one bringing pressure.

PLAY THAT TRUTH.

It will make what happens far more shocking.

DRE IS DRAWING A LINE

The confrontation isn't about taking Tavon's territory.

It's not about becoming the new boss.

It's not about proving Dre is tougher.

The message underneath everything is:

"WHATEVER YOU HAVE GOING ON WITH MOE ENDS BEFORE IT TOUCHES MY BROTHER."

That's the objective.

Protect Moe.
Everything comes from there.

TAVON'S STILLNESS

This is where the actors can create a great contrast.

Dre arrives with men.

Energy.

Pressure.

A warning.

Tavon doesn't need to match that energy.

DON'T LET TAVON'S CALM MAKE DRE BACK DOWN.

If anything, Dre may interpret the calm as Tavon needing to understand how serious he is.

So Dre keeps pressing.

That's what makes the scene dangerous.

Neither man is willing to surrender the position.

THE VIOLENCE

Then everything changes.

Tavon attacks Dre with a knife, stabbing him multiple times. When one of Dre's men attempts to respond, Tavon shoots him.

The confrontation explodes far beyond what Dre expected.

And Tavon's final attitude is summed up with:

"Say less."

This is the moment Dre discovers something the audience has already been learning:

TAVON DOESN'T PROCESS THREATS LIKE MOST PEOPLE.

FOR THE ACTOR — WHEN THE ATTACK HAPPENS

Don't make the attack heroic.

Don't suddenly become an action star.

The shock matters.

DRE DID NOT EXPECT THIS.

Your body understands what's happening before your mind fully catches up.

The confidence from seconds earlier is interrupted by physical reality.

That's what makes the moment brutal.

Follow stunt coordination precisely in production, but emotionally:

PLAY SURPRISE BEFORE PAIN.

Then survival.

DON'T TURN DRE INTO A FOOL

This is important.

The fact that Tavon gets the better of Dre doesn't mean Dre was stupid.

He came with numbers.

He confronted someone he believed he understood.

He was defending his brother.

HE SIMPLY UNDERESTIMATED HOW FAR TAVON WAS WILLING TO GO.

That's different.

We should respect Dre even though his decision has devastating consequences.

HIS PRIDE

Dre has pride.

That can be a strength.

And a weakness.

His pride tells him:

Nobody is going to threaten my family.

Good.

But pride can also tell him:

I'm going to handle this myself.

That's where things become dangerous.

DRE'S BEST QUALITY AND HIS BIGGEST PROBLEM MAY COME FROM THE SAME PLACE.

He doesn't back down.

HIS MOTHER

Remember where all of this began.

TAVON WAS INSIDE HIS MOTHER'S HOUSE.

That's different from hearing Moe had trouble somewhere on the street.

Home is supposed to be protected.

Family is supposed to be protected.

And Dre has just come back after five years away.

There's something almost territorial about that emotionally:

YOU BROUGHT THIS TO MY MOTHER'S DOOR.

That's personal.

FOR THE ACTOR

DO NOT PLAY DRE AS A GANGSTER.

Play the brother.

That's where the power is.

Don't walk into the scene trying to out-Tavon Tavon.

You don't need to be colder.

Scarier.

More unpredictable.

Or louder.

YOUR POWER COMES FROM CONVICTION.

You mean what you're saying because Moe matters to you.

DON'T PLAY CONSTANT ANGER

Dre can absolutely be angry.

But underneath the anger should be concern.

If you remove the concern, Dre becomes just another tough guy.

The audience needs to understand:

THIS MAN IS DOING THIS BECAUSE SOMETHING HAPPENED TO HIS LITTLE BROTHER.

That gives the confrontation emotional stakes.

PHYSICAL PRESENCE

Dre should feel like someone capable of taking care of himself.

But we don't need exaggerated toughness.

No unnecessary chest puffing.

No constant pacing.

No forced stare-down.

STAND ON WHAT YOU SAY.

Sometimes the strongest performance is simply:

You tell Tavon what isn't going to happen.

And you fully expect him to understand.

THE TRAGIC PART

Dre is trying to protect Moe.

But by confronting Tavon—

HE MAY ACTUALLY MAKE MOE'S SITUATION WORSE.

That's part of what makes the story powerful.

People in DEEP often make decisions for understandable reasons.

But understandable decisions still have consequences.

Dre's motive can be completely right—

while the result is disastrous.

EMOTIONAL RANGE

Dre gives the actor room for:

brotherly concern, suspicion, confidence, anger, protectiveness, pride, confrontation, surprise, physical vulnerability and survival instinct.

The key is not beginning at maximum intensity.

Let the concern become confrontation.

Let the confrontation become danger.

Let the danger become something Dre never expected.

WHAT NOT TO DO

Don't play a stereotypical street tough.

Don't force an accent or slang.

Don't try to out-intimidate Tavon.
Don't walk into the scene afraid.
Don't play the outcome before it happens.
Don't make Dre reckless for no reason.
Don't make his men props for his ego.
Don't make everything about pride.
And don't forget the most important thing:
THIS STARTED WITH MOE.

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

We're looking for an actor with **presence, maturity, confidence, physical credibility and emotional depth.**

Someone believable as an older brother who has been away and returns to discover his younger brother has gotten caught in something dangerous.
Someone who can stand across from Tavon without looking intimidated.
Someone who can make us believe the confrontation comes from love rather than ego.

And someone capable of making the audience think:

"DRE REALLY BELIEVES HE CAN HANDLE THIS."

Because if we believe that—
what happens next hits much harder.

THE HEART OF DRE

Dre has been gone for five years.

Now he's back.

And one of the first things he discovers is that his little brother is in trouble.

So Dre does what he believes an older brother is supposed to do.

HE STEPS IN FRONT OF HIM.

He gathers his people.

He finds Tavon.

He draws a line.

He makes it clear that Moe has a brother now—and anyone planning to hurt him will have to deal with Dre first.

That's not stupidity.

That's love expressed through the only language Dre believes this world respects:

STRENGTH.

But Dre is about to learn something.

Tavon speaks that language too.

And he speaks it without hesitation.

Dre came home believing he could protect his little brother from the world.

HE NEVER CONSIDERED THAT PROTECTING MOE MIGHT PUT HIM DIRECTLY IN THE PATH OF IT.

That's Dre.

Now show us your version of him.

