



Marcus

Graduate Student

26 years	Graduate Student at UW
He/Him	Lives Alone
In A Long Distance Relationship	Currently Resides in Seattle

BACKGROUND

Marcus was born and raised in Chicago. He graduated from DePaul University a couple of years ago and took a break from school to work. This past summer he moved to Seattle and started as a graduate student at UW. This is Marcus's first time in Seattle. He wants to meet new people and make connections. He is struggling to find a platform for this. He has ruled out dating apps because he is in a long distance relationship with his partner in Chicago. Marcus doesn't know how to find events and how to meet people at those events.

GOALS AND NEEDS

- **Getting Comfortable Exploring Alone** - Marcus wants to be independent in navigating Seattle's social scene and be comfortable attending events solo.
- **Event Discovery** - Marcus needs a simple, centralized way to find relevant events in Seattle.
- **Building a Social Circle** - Marcus wants a space where he can meet people with shared interests without the pressure of dating.

FEARS

- **Feeling Isolated in a New City** - Since Marcus is new to Seattle, he is worried about feeling disconnected from a supportive group, especially while balancing the demands of grad school.
- **Navigating Unfamiliar Social Settings** - Marcus is unsure where to start when it comes to fitting in and socializing at events.
- **Overcommitting Socially** - Although Marcus is eager to meet new people, he doesn't want to overextend himself and prefers low-stake environments.

KEY QUOTE

"I want to find a way to meet people here that doesn't feel forced or too formal. I'd love a simple way to find events and places where I can just be myself and find community."

VALUES

- **Inclusivity and Diversity** - Spaces that are welcoming and diverse, where he can interact with people from different backgrounds.
- **Respect for Boundaries** - Prioritizes platforms where he can form friendships without pressure.
- **Personal Growth** - Seeks social and professional opportunities to grow.
- **Community Building** - Appreciates resources that encourage a sense of belonging and community.