

# *William Gardener*

## **Act I, Scene 3 (ACF) — Two years later**

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How did it come to this? What were you possibly thinking? An affair with your brother's wife?

The affair with Barbara went on for the better part of the last year. It was only a month ago that you broke it off, but it had been eating away at you since almost the beginning. Even if Charles has been a terrible husband, out drinking, gambling and disappearing for days or weeks at a time, it doesn't justify what you've done to him. That is why you need to confess and apologize tonight. No matter what comes of it, you can't live with the lie anymore.

Barbara... you love her. There is no doubt about it. But she made her choice when she married Charles. It has taken you this long to really and truly come to grips with it, but you have at last. She may regret it at times, but it was the decision that she made and you can't help her, your brother, or yourself by denying it any longer. What she needs... what all of you need is to start acting like adults and living with the choices that have been made.

Their marriage needs help, lots of it. You can't be part of the problem anymore. You just can't and won't do that now or ever again.