

# *William Gardener*

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

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Your brother has ruined the best thing that ever happened to him: his marriage to Barbara. He's gone more nights than not drinking, gambling, or just out making trouble. You don't know if you can ever forgive him for what he has done to Barbara. You've been as supportive of Barbara as you possibly could, but you don't know how much more she can take. At first you thought he must be having an affair, but if so, you haven't found out about it. He's just this irresponsible, even without any distractions.

You plan on calling out Charles for his bad behavior tonight and challenging him to shape up. You hate to ruin Barbara's party, but something needs to give. Better to take the time now than to see this drag on any longer. They're both suffering, and if neither of them will take action, it will have to be you.

You get the feeling from talking to Barbara that she realizes this as well and that some kind of breaking point is necessary. Over the past several weeks, she's been so... quiet. You think she's finally realizing, just as you have, that things can't go on without a real change. Tonight is the time for that change.