

Barbara Gardener

Act I, Scene 3 (ADE) — Two years later

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How did it come to this? Your husband has been cheating on you. He's out drinking, gambling, or off with his pretty little actress almost as many nights as not. And here you are at home, now two and a half months pregnant. Where do you even go from here? You wish you knew.

You have a horrible feeling about tonight. You know that you need to confront Charles about his affair and find out if he is still committed to this marriage. He needs to know about the child you are carrying, but you need to know first whether or not there is a marriage worth trying to save. Right now your needs, and the needs of your child-to-be, come first. You and your child are going to need support. You are going to need a stable environment. You need to know where you stand. Anything else is secondary.

If Charles isn't going to, or can't focus on your marriage, you need out now. You love him, but not enough to subject your child to life like this, not knowing if or when their father might or might not be there. You aren't sure what you are going to do if it comes to that, but you won't raise your child in a situation like this. You just can't, no matter what comes of it.