

# *Barbara Gardener*

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

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How did it come to this? You had been cheating on your husband - with his brother. You are now two and a half months pregnant, and you can't be sure who is the father. Where do you even go from here? You wish you knew.

You have a horrible feeling about tonight. You know that you need to tell William about your pregnancy, but somehow that will make everything all too real. You will find yourself trapped for the rest of your life this way. A big house, nice things, a child, but a passionless and rarely-home husband. You can't go on living this lie. You broke things off with Charles, but you almost regret it. You need to come clean, and tell William that he has two choices: take you back anyway and make this marriage meaningful again, or let you go. You don't want to be divorced with a child, but you can't go on like this.

It isn't that William doesn't provide for you. No, he's out working hard at the law firm because he wants to give you all the material comforts you could ever need. Somehow that makes it all that much worse. After the past few years, any hope of real passion in this marriage has dried up.

You know that you're keeping the child. Despite everything, you couldn't imagine not having it. This little child will need and care for you in a way that no one else has. The question is whether or not the stability and financial support that William provides is enough. Can you stick it out purely for these things, or do you need to get out now, however hard it will be for you and your child alone? You know one thing: you can't go on living a lie, pretending things are ok, and sleeping with your husband's brother on the side. William needs to understand what this empty marriage has made you do.

If he doesn't care enough to understand that some things are more important than stability, you're better off without him. If this doesn't break through his shell, nothing will.