

# *Setting*

**Act II, Scene 2 (AHK) — Eight years later**

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This year, the garden party is celebrating Stephanie's 17th birthday, but all is not well in the Gardener family. Stephanie has been caught driving drunk and her court date is next week. While this is the first time she has been caught, everyone knows it's not the first time she has been off drinking. Barbara and Charles are concerned about her behavior.

William has strong connections, and with a little pushing, he could get the case put in front of a lenient judge, and either get her off entirely, or get her off with a slap on the wrist. He has certainly done it for Charles in the past. At the same time, after all the help he has given the couple, can they really turn to him again? Even if they can, is it a good idea to get Stephanie off the hook for this?

If she does get convicted, she will lose her license until she's 18. She has an after school job working at a restaurant that she needs the car to get to. Barbara has been very busy with her new teaching job, and could not drive her. If Stephanie gets convicted, she would probably have to quit her job. Barbara encouraged her to get a job in the first place to learn some responsibility. If she has to quit over this it might be a good lesson, but it would also leave her with no money of her own and take away that learning opportunity.

# *Stephanie Gardener*

**Act II, Scene 2 (AHK) — Eight years later**

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Seriously. How is this a big deal? You had a couple of beers, that's all. If your family had money, this would be over already. Your friend Rebecca got caught last month, but it just got handled. This isn't really a big deal.

But you can't lose your license! Your job is the only freedom you have. As long as you are making your own money you get to decide what to do with it. If you didn't have money of your own, you couldn't go out with your friends, and you'd be stuck wearing clothing your mom likes. Plus there are some days you think your job is the only reason your mom lets you out of the house.

Your uncle William is a big lawyer. He's helped your family out with money issues in the past. Surely he'll help you out of this as well.