

# *Barbara Gardener*

## **Act I, Scene 3 (ACF) — 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 confront Charles about his instability - the drinking, the disappearances, the fights - and find out if he is still committed to this marriage. If he is, you need to figure out what and how to tell him. 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.

William is wracked by guilt over the affair and you're worried he'll just blurt it out to Charles. It was William that ended the affair because he just couldn't stand the thought of hurting his brother anymore. But right now, your needs and the needs of your child-to-be come first. You and your child are going to need to know where you stand and anything else is secondary.

If Charles isn't going to, or can't focus on your marriage, you need out now. You could try to convince William that the child is his. Either way, you won't raise your child in a situation like this. You just can't, no matter what comes of it.