

Charles Gardener

Act II, Scene 1 (ACFHI) — Four years later

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You've really done it this time. Everything was hard to begin with. You're still in debt from Virginia's funeral, and you didn't have enough to pay rent and Stephanie's expenses. You were struggling, and when you're struggling, you and Barbara fight.

You've gotten better at dealing with it, but this time it was too much. So you did what you usually do when that happens: you went out to drink and play cards with your friends. This time, however, you had too much to drink, stayed out too long, and lost too much money on the cards. You aren't sure you have enough to pay rent this month, let alone Stephanie's expenses and the costs for Virginia's funeral.

You've worked so hard since Stephanie was born. Now you don't know what to do. You could probably turn to William for help, but you've never completely forgiven him after the affair. You and Barbara mended your relationship, but it left a permanent rift with your brother. He'd probably help, but can you stomach asking?