

Setting

Act I, Scene 2 (B) — Two years later

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Barbara and William Gardener have been married for almost two years now. William graduated from law school this spring and has just started a good entry level job at a large firm. They bought a house, and are starting to plan a family. On the surface, they are the perfect young couple, but underneath, something is missing. Despite William's gentle and caring ways, Barbara is lonely. She has been spending more of her time with friends, and less time with William. He's been so busy with work, but that isn't all. He never moved her in the way Charles did.

As she has been looking for something more, Charles has been right there. Charles has not found anyone else, and he's still head over heels for Barbara. He tries very hard to support his brother, but when Barbara comes to him, he can't help but think that it should have been him instead. The passion between them is still palpable to everyone except William. Even after the shocking proposal two years ago, William can't really believe his little brother would ever hurt him like that.

Meanwhile, Virginia has been watching all of this with great concern. She sees the same patterns in Barbara and William's marriage that happened in her marriage to Frederick, and she knows how lonely that can be. At the same time, she is very worried about the interaction between Barbara and Charles. The marriage vows are sacred; a little loneliness does not change that. She has been looking for ways to coax William and Barbara back together. William loves her so much. If only she could convince him to show it a little more. He's so quiet, so responsible. Barbara needs to truly know how important she is to William. Virginia has been trying to encourage William to be a little more like his brother, without losing his stability.

Virginia Vela

Act I, Scene 2 (B) — Two years later

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You're really worried about Barbara and William. You know what it's like to live in a boring marriage without passion, but Barbara never had your patience. She was always a little more like her father. William is a good and caring husband, but Barbara drifts further and further from him as time passes.

And while she drifts away from William, Charles is right there. You can tell the two of them are still in love. Anyone with eyes can tell that. Thankfully, William is blind as a bat to any flaws in Barbara. You worry about whatever is happening between the two of them. Marriage isn't always easy, but the marriage vows are sacred. If Barbara is bored, she needs to find a hobby, or have a child. Falling in with another man, especially her husband's brother, is dangerous and wrong.

Perhaps there is still hope for William and Barbara. William loves her dearly. If only he would show it a little more, things might be okay between the two of them. He's so quiet, so slow to act. He could learn something from the passion of his brother. Perhaps you could help him. Teach him something of what a woman wants to hear. If he were a little more passionate, a little more dramatic, maybe Barbara would understand how important she is to him. Women need a little romance, a little drama. Women need to know that they matter.

There must be something that William could do to stave off Barbara's frustrations and save their marriage. Maybe by talking to your daughter and her husband, you can find that and help them both.