

left town, visiting family,
something like that.

He really didn't say much about it, he didn't want to lie,
but then when about two or so months had gone by,
and you were still gone—I mean I don't know exactly how it happened,
obviously I was so little, I wasn't aware of what was happening—but
someone made the assumption that you weren't well,
that you had gotten sick,
and Torvald didn't say no,
so that's the story that went around—
that you were gone and you were sick
and recovering at a sanitarium.
And then another month or two passes,
and someone somewhere says something or makes the assumption
that it's worse than that,
and that you hadn't recovered
and you were
no longer alive.

And that's what people assumed,
and Torvald—now he's so far in
and to explain the truth—I know it's a weak thing he did
but he had his job at the bank and was
a very respected member of the community,
very well-liked, trusted,
to have to explain such an embarrassing set of
truths and misunderstandings and so on—
so he said nothing.
And by saying nothing
he was sort of saying something
which is that you
had died.

And once people came to think that,
that's when—well you know what happens when that happens—
there's an outpouring of affection and support,
people visited,

EMMY CB

they brought food,
they really rallied around him
and us—the whole family.

And there's also some government support for the families,
there's that—some money you get—of course there was no death
certificate ever filed,
but these things happen, mistakes, oversights—
just because of the way people found out,
this gradual sort of realization that that's what was—and because
Torvald is well-respected, well-liked, and because he runs the bank—
You see?

It's a problem. You being here, doing what you're doing.

Do you—?

NORA.
No, I don't—

EMMY.
It's fraud, technically, it is—it's fraud, and Torvald could be tried—
he could lose everything—just like you, and that's why
he can't give you your divorce

~~NORA.~~

...

EMMY.
but...

there is another option:

START

NORA.
...

EMMY.
You die.

NORA.
What?

EMMY.
Let me ask you:
who have you seen while you've been in town?
me, Anne Marie, Torvald...
anyone else?

NORA.
...no.

EMMY.
Good.

Remember how I said there's no death certificate?
What if there was one. What if—using what connections I have—
that piece of paper were to just show up in the files of the local
clerk's office?

You see?

If you're dead, there is no marriage.

NORA.
Does Torvald know about this idea?

EMMY.
No.
This is my idea.
I came up with it myself.

NORA.
...

EMMY.
It's clever, isn't it.

NORA.
It is.

EMMY.
Thank you.
So will you do it then?

NORA.
...

EMMY.
Will you—what reason would you have for not doing it.
I can't think of one, can you?

NORA.
You'd be committing forgery

EMMY.
yes

NORA.
of public records

EMMY.
sure, but—

NORA.
the kind of trouble, you'd—

EMMY.
no one will find out

NORA.
I do have some experience with this kind of thing, and you'd be
surprised by how these kinds of things can just sorta come to light
at the worst possible—

EMMY.
but if Torvald's lie is exposed—

NORA.
How is this right!

How is it right that Torvald lies
and I'm the one paying for it—
that you're paying for it—
that—and I'm expected to be the one to lose everything because—

EMMY.
It's just that I'm engaged.

NORA.
...ah.

EMMY.
To a man.

NORA.
I see.

EMMY.
Named Jorgen.

NORA.
...Jorgen.

EMMY.
He's a banker

NORA.
of course he is

EMMY.
he works with Torvald.

NORA.
...

EMMY.
And if you cause a scandal he won't be able to marry me.
And there goes my future.
Gone.

NORA.
...

EMMY.
You don't like that, do you

NORA.
what

EMMY.
that I'm getting married.
You think no one should get married

NORA.
no, I—

EMMY.
Anne Marie told me.
She told me, "Don't bring up Jorgen."
But it seemed weird not to tell you,
because we're in love.
I know you probably don't believe in "being in love."

~~NORA.
But I do. I do believe in—
I have nothing against love, Emmy, but
love
love is different from marriage.~~

END