

EMMY.
everyone thought you died,
everyone in town, everyone who—

NORA.
I didn't

EMMY.
except obviously
Torvald, Anne Marie,
my brothers—but I did for a long time—

NORA.
so when did you—?

EMMY.
when I was 7 or 8—

NORA.
I see

EMMY.
my brother told me.
They remembered things that I didn't or couldn't,
and they told me about how you left.
I didn't believe them at first—sounded
like the kind of thing you say to
avoid telling a kid the harder truth,
but I've said that if I didn't believe them,
that I could go down to the clerk's office
where they keep all the records—birth records, death records—
and he said that if I looked for your death certificate
there wouldn't be one

—and I went to school with a boy whose
father worked in the clerk's office,
and this boy liked me, so I acted like I liked him back,
and got him to let me into the office one night

EMMY #1

~~And I looked through the records,
and there was no death certificate,
and then I knew, that
you weren't dead,
you just left.~~

START

Bob and Iver told me that someday maybe you'd come back
and that I should be ready for it, that you would come
and that you would take us with you,
and that you would be a lot more fun to live with than Torvald
who—
he's not bad—but fun isn't the word I'd use to describe—

NORA.
yes—

EMMY.
I mean I think it's kind of adorable—his sort of—I don't know what
to call it

NORA.
gloom—?

EMMY.
no—that's not quite...

Bob remembered you best

NORA.
oh Bob.

EMMY.
Bob missed you the most.
Bob could draw.
I asked Bob if he would draw a picture of you—He wouldn't.
Iver said that it was probably because if he did,
Bob would start crying
and Bob never liked to be seen crying
because he thought crying made his face look fat.

NORA.
Yes,

I do remember that about Bob
about him—not the fat face thing—but the crying—he doesn't still
do that—?

EMMY.
he does

NORA.
poor Bob

EMMY.
Iver on the other hand—

NORA.
the opposite of Bob

EMMY.
in every way.

NORA.
Yes.

EMMY.
Now tell me something you remember about me

NORA.
you

EMMY.
yes!

NORA.
uhhhhh, what should I—well here's something:
When you were born

EMMY.
yes—?

NORA.
I had you very fast.
You came right out of me—like you were racing to get out into the
world—like you couldn't wait—The boys—they were very slow. I
was in labor for—oh god, it was terrible—
but you were very easy.

So. You can put that into your
book of memories.

EMMY.
And tell me something about you.

NORA.
Uh like what?

EMMY.
Oh I don't know—
Are you happy?

NORA.
Yes.

Very.

EMMY.
What makes you happy?

NORA.
My work makes me happy.
I like my house, I have a nice little house,
it's by a lake,
it's quiet.

EMMY.
That sounds nice...

NORA.
And are you happy, Emmy?

EMMY.
I am.

NORA.
What makes you happy.

EMMY.
All sorts of things:
I have enough money.
I have enough food.
Physically I'm
fine—there aren't problems
with my health.

NORA.
That's good.

EMMY.
I actually think in a lot of ways
things turned out better because you weren't around.

NORA.
...

END

~~EMMY.
I think I'm better at life because of it.
I had a lot more responsibility,
I had to deal with some difficult truths about life
at an earlier age than you usually have to deal with those types of things.
I feel bad for the kids who growing up had the usual life.
I feel special.~~

NORA.
...that's good to hear, it's—I'm happy that—

EMMY.
people say I'm an old soul.

NORA.
yes, yes—! you seem very
grown up. Very adult. Very
impressive.

EMMY. *(Smiling to herself.)*
Thank you.

And you, you've done well because of it too, haven't you

NORA.
what do you mean—?

EMMY.
Anne Marie told me that you have your own money,
and that you write books.

NORA.
I do

EMMY.
I find that very interesting.

NORA.
I'll send you one.

EMMY.
I don't really read books

NORA.
no?