

THE PLEDGE 1 (MP) (short)

SHE

Most Wednesdays, Ginny stays in town for music lessons with my mother.

JERRY

Okay...

SHE

But when she's behind on her homework, she comes straight home.

JERRY

So her grandmother would've assumed that she came home?

SHE

Yes, of course. We always let Ginny. . . .

JERRY

Yes?

SHE

Would you mind not smoking in the house, please?

JERRY

Sorry.

SHE

It isn't possible. There can't be such evil, such a devil.

JERRY

There are such devils.

SHE

I want to see my daughter.

PLEDGE 2

JERRY

I don't think that's a good idea, Mrs. Larsen. I know what I'm saying might sound cruel. . .but I think it's better if you don't go to your Ginny at this time.

SHE

Why would it be better for me not to see my daughter? Why would that be better?! Tell me!

JERRY

Because we hardly dared to look ourselves. You can see her tomorrow evening. Then there won't be anything that's. . . .

SHE

What?

JERRY

She'll look like she fell asleep. (Beat) Believe me.

SHE

Who did this? What monster did this?

JERRY

We intend to find out, Mrs. Larsen.

SHE

Do you promise me that you will?

JERRY

Yes. Yes, Mrs. Larsen, I promise.

SHE

By your soul's salvation? Do you swear. . . by your soul's salvation on this cross. . .made by the hands of my daughter?

JERRY

Yes. Yes, on my soul's salvation.