

From *The Fears of Harold Shivers* by Dawson Moore ([dawsonguy@juno.com](mailto:dawsonguy@juno.com))

The Mother of His Daughter: 20, a student.

MOTHER OF HIS DAUGHTER

I want a divorce, Harry. And yes... I am pregnant. That's why I've got to get away from you now, before she's born. She can't look at us as a couple, Harry. They're very impressionable. From the moment they're out in the air, they're taking things in. And she might look at us, might look at us and have her tiny baby brain think "parents, couple." And carry that with her through life. I can't have that. Not for my little girl. You're so scared, Harry. So scared. I don't know if I ever really loved you. I just wanted to help you stop shivering. I wanted to take your fear away. You're like a bird that's run into a window. I wanted to pick you up and cup you in my hands and calm your heart. But the bird has to get better. If it doesn't... you need to leave it to die.