The Contract

Music and Lyrics by Grace Oberhofer
Additional Text by Allison Benko

Allegro; urgent

NORA

TORVALD

KROGSTAD

Allegro; urgent

I'll

mp

p, simmering

5

K

stop with these pre ten-ses I know you are na-ive But for my child-rens sake

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you I must ag-grieve you see once ma-ny years a-go I was stripped of

my good name one for-ger-y and I was trapped, damned by the shame I turned

to the work you know of but soon I re-a-lized My sons were ol-der, res-

pect was what I prized This job at the bank gave me a new be-

Pno.
ginning I cannot bear disgrace so you will be so good as to tell your husband I de-

Freely

serve my place

Freely

not the influence I meant

You

Ah, you need to be swayed, but soon you will relent
mean what you lent?

You, miss-es Hel-mer have a

To tell Tor-vald in such a way I've been so proud un-til to

se-cret I can share

day How could he learn it from you? I've been proud un-til to

You are
proud of your achievements, but one fact I cannot gauge, see your father wrote his signature

on the second page Yes you used him as your guaran-tee, Re-mind me when he died?

The twenty-ninth of September
you have lied? freely

Now it could be that he forgot to write the date but I recognize this penmanship

Is this your father's writing
Do you know what you've done?

tell him of my troubles? The worry for my husband would have brought upon his end

And to think that we are guilty of the very same offense ruined by one thing we
poco più lento
It was for penned!
And now this shame will follow me for life
Your good intentions

poco più lento
(sardonic)

Your love!

filled with strife
Let me make this clear
If I fall then so will you my

Allegro
But it was for love!
It could not be a
dear

And to think that you are guilty

Allegro
Only protected what was mine

Just the same, you and I
Shame will follow me for life!

Yes, it was for love
Torvald must not

Your intentions won't suffice
think, oh, it was not a crime!

Let me make this clear.

If I fall then so will you my dear

[KROGSTAD exits]