

The Music Box

Father

Sit down here, please. Come.

Daughter

Who is this Berchovich person?

Father

Someone I must have known a long time ago.

Daughter

Is he trying to hurt you?

Father

No, I think I must have hurt him. I thought we had laid to rest, these ghosts, but it is not so... I had hoped I would never have to speak to you this way. When there was the madness in Romania, I was in the middle of it.

Daughter

But it wasn't like what Micheal said... You couldn't have been ...

Father

It was a different time, a different world. There was no pity then.

Daughter

But you weren't one of them. You wouldn't have been!

Father

There was only those who killed, and those who were killed..
I was not killed. What I did was what I thought I had to do.

Daughter

Well, then there was a reason, an explanation.

Father

Reason? Reason was dead!

Daughter

You did those things?

Father

Some of them, yes.

Daughter
But you told me, it was all lies.

Father
That was the lie.

Daughter
How could you? How could you lie? Lie to Me?

Father
How could I tell a child such things? A child who I loved with all my heart & soul? I told your Mother. She left us! I tried to explain then. I was a different man.

Daughter
I don't know what to do.

Father
I will answer to God for what I have done. BUT, I have been as good a man, and as good a father, as I know how. In this, I have done no wrong. I love you more than life itself. It would break me to lose you..

Daughter
It was you, Papa. You killed them all. I saw those photos. You killed them. You killed that boy in front of his Father. You raped that woman. You threw their bodies into a ditch. I went to see that place! The man's son was seven years old. He was only seven years old, & you shot him in the head. You shot them all in the head!! You shot that boy in the head while he was crying over his dead Mother!

Father
Who told you this?

Daughter
Berchovich was blackmailing you.

Father
No. He was a friend.

Daughter
I saw the scar. I saw the scar, Papa. The scar running down your face, just like they all said. How could you do those things? I love you, Papa. Why did you do those things?

Father

I love you, too. What happened to you? What did those Communists do to you?

Daughter

I don't ever want to see you again. I don't want Mikey to ever see you again. You don't exist.

Father

He's MY BOY!! My son!!

Daughter

You don't have a grandson!!

Father

You going to poison his mind? With this garbage? Like the Communists poisoned you? You are like a stranger to say these things. You tell him anything you want. Mikey will not believe you. No one will believe you. They are going to say you are crazy.

Daughter

Why can't you try to say the truth?

Father

The truth? Something happened to your mind. I have powerful friends over here, and over there. And believe me, you will know the truth.
(exits) Mikey! Mikey!!