

SMALL ANNIE

CHARACTER DESCRIPTION

Small Annie, 9 years old. A curious, innocent child who adores her father and believes every story he tells her. She's tucked into bed listening to Pete tell her the story of how her mother died—a heroic firefighter who gave her life for duty. Small Annie is sweet, sleepy, and completely trusting. She has no idea that the bedtime story is a lie, that her real mother was shot by an abusive boyfriend, or that her father has been living a double life.

SCENE CONTEXT

It's bedtime, and Pete has just finished telling Small Annie the fictional story of how her mother "died as a brave firefighter." Small Annie is sleepy but hanging on every word, asking questions about her mom with the innocent curiosity of a child who never knew her. Pete kisses her forehead goodnight, and she drifts off to sleep, safe and loved, while downstairs in the basement, Pete has a man tied to a chair being tortured. Small Annie has no idea about the monster under her bed—she only knows the loving father tucking her in.

SMALL ANNIE

Dad? Dad? What happened with my
mommy? Where did she go?

PETE

Oh... Well.

PETE (V.O.)

...She had to leave that day, she
was a brave firefighter, and gave
her life for her duty. But, I don't
like to talk about that.

PETE (V.O.)

She told me to take care of you
before she left, the last time I
saw her.

SMALL ANNIE (V.O.)

Were you sad when she left?