THE PROMISE

Anne Warren is a happily married woman. One nice day she meets John Derby, who has just moved into the same building in the second-floor apartment beneath Anneís. He seems like an agreeable young man but she has a feeling that he carries a secret with him so she spends a lot of time thinking about him. As soon becomes evident, he also spends a lot of time thinking about her. At first, she thinks he is a stalker following her, but then they become friends. They even get closer, and they develop an unusual love without physical intimacy and passion. Anne believes in the previously unknown warm feelings so different from those for her husband and feels that John loves her, too. She realizes that she cannot live without her husband, Dan, but also cannot be without John. When John distances himself physically and emotionally for a longer period of time, Anne concludes that he has found another love and abandoned her. She falls into sorrow and lethargy. Through the love and support of her husband, she is brought out of the deep darkness and healed, and begins to enjoy everyday life again.

One morning, she believes to hear Johnís screams for help. Fiercely determined, she goes to his apartment to talk to him before she falls into a new depression. She finds John seriously ill. Anne looks after him. John asks her not to neglect her husband, Dan, for him. That evening, Anne makes dinner for her husband, but at night she cannot come to rest, and returns to Johnís apartment to persuade him to go to the hospital right away. But John has disappeared without trace. With no news whatsoever from John, Anne falls into an even deeper depression than before. She cannot fall asleep without taking pills. In one of those nights, just after having fallen asleep with the aid of one of these pills, she is awakened by a commotion downstairs. The ambulance is in front of the house, and John is being taken out of his apartment on a stretcher. How can that be...?
