

1422

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, BALDWIN COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

BERNICE T. DONHOST Complainant

VS.

WALTER E. DONHOST Respondent

This cause coming on to be heard was submitted upon Bill of Complaint, Decree Pro Confesso

the Answer and Waiver and Testimony as noted by the Register, and upon consideration thereof, the Court is of the opinion that the Complainant is entitled to the relief prayed for in said bill.

It is therefore ordered, adjudged and decreed by the Court that the bonds of matrimony heretofore existing between the Complainant and Defendant be, and the same are hereby, dissolved,

and that the said BERNICE T. DONHOST is forever divorced from the said WALTER E. DONHOST

for and on account of Cruelty

It is further ordered and decreed that Complainant have the sole care and custody of Gwendolyn Donhost the child of said marriage and that Respondent pay to Complainant on or before the 15th day of each month, commencing October 15th, the sum of \$50.00 for the maintenance and support of said child till she reaches the age of 18 years.

The court reserves control of this case pending minority of said child for the purpose of making such further orders and decrees as that become necessary.

It is further ordered, adjudged and decreed that neither party to this suit shall again marry except to each other until sixty days after the rendition of this decree, and that if appeal is taken within sixty days, neither party shall again marry except to each other during the pendency of said appeal.

It is further ordered that the Complainant and Respondent be, and they are hereby permitted to again contract marriage upon the payment of the cost of this suit.

It is further ordered that WALTER E. DONHOST the Respondent pay the cost herein to be taxed, for which execution may issue.

This 5th day of October, 1945

[Signature] Judge Circuit Court, in Equity.

I, _____, Register of the Circuit

Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of the original decree rendered by the Judge of the Circuit Court in the above stated cause, which said decree is on file and enrolled in my office

Witness my hand and seal this the _____ day of October, 1945

Register of Circuit Court, in Equity

No. 1422 Page _____

The State of Alabama
BALDWIN COUNTY

IN CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

BERNICE T. DONHOST

vs. Complainant

WALTER E. DONHOST

Respondent

DIVORCE DECREE

Filed this _____ day of

OCTOBER, 1946

Register

Bernice T Donhost

THE STATE OF ALABAMA
Baldwin County

vs.

Walter Donhost

IN EQUITY
Circuit Court of Baldwin County

This cause is submitted in behalf of Complaint upon the original Bill of Complaint, _____

~~and Testimony of Complainant and Minnie Teaford~~

and in behalf of Defendant upon ~~answer and Waiver~~

Elliott G Rickarby



Register.

1422

No. 1422

THE STATE OF ALABAMA
Baldwin County

IN EQUITY
Circuit Court of Baldwin County

Bernice T. Donhost

vs.

Walter Donhost

NOTE OF TESTIMONY

Filed in Open Court this 6th

day of Oct, 1945

R. A. Neal
Register.

BERNICE T. DONHOST
Complainant

E Q U I T Y

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

vs

WALTER E. DONHOST
Respondent

Comes WALTER E. DONHOST, Respondent in the above styled cause, and his answer to the Bill of Complaint, says he denies each and every allegation of same.

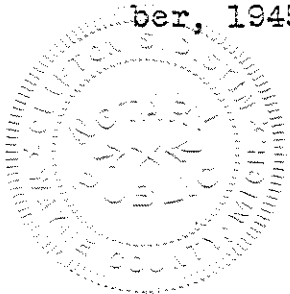
Respondent hereby waives notice of demand for oral examination of Complainant's witnesses; of the issue of commission to take testimony; of the time and place set for taking same and of the right to introduce evidence in his own behalf. He further agrees that this cause may be submitted for final decree at any time on the pleading and Complainant's evidence as noted by the Register.

Respondent further agrees to pay \$50.00 per month for the support of the child of the marriage.

Walter E. Donhost
Respondent.

Before me, the undersigned Notary, personally appeared WALTER E. DONHOST, who is known to me to be the Respondent above named and who acknowledged that he executed the foregoing answer voluntarily with knowledge of its contents.

Witness my hand and official seal this the 28th day of September, 1945.



Clifton D. Diction
Notary Public, Wayne County, Michigan.

com'n exp. 12/8/48.

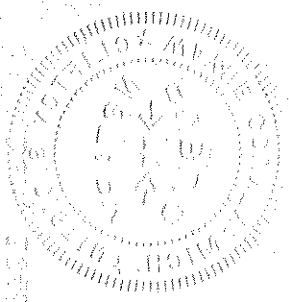
1422
BERNICE T. DONHOST
Complainant

vs

WALTER E. DONHOST
Respondent

ANSWER AND WAIVER

Filed Oct 4 1945
[Signature]



BERNICE T. DONHOST
Complainant

E Q U I T Y

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

vs

WALTER E. DONHOST
Respondent

DEPOSITIONS OF BERNICE T. DONHOST
and MINNIE TEAFORD, WITNESSES FOR COMPLAINANT.

The above named witnesses, being first duly sworn, upon examination by the Solicitor for the Complainant testified as follows:

BERNICE T. DONHOST

I am the Complainant in this cause, and my husband and I are both over the age of twenty one years and was married to Walter Donhost the Defendant in September 16, 1934, in Jonesville, Indiana, and we have lived together as husband and wife up to October 1944; since that time have lived entirely separate and apart. I am now living with my parents in Fairhope, and have been for the past year, and my husband is now working in Detroit.

For sometime prior to our separation I had reason to suspect that he was unfaithful to me and had a number of instances turn up that indicated this, but have no positive proof. For several years he has in addition to his infidelity, mistreated me in other ways by abuse and cruelty. He has a violent temper and loses control of himself when enraged so that I am afraid to continue to live with him. This climaxed when in a rage he seized me, shook me violently and threw me down and shortly after this I left him for fear of my personal safety and possibly my life if I continued to live with him. We have been apart ever since.

We have one child of this marriage, a daughter, Gwendolyn now nine years of age, who lives with me and who is going to school in Fairhope. My husband knows that I will not live with him again and he has agreed to support our daughter.

Bernice T. Donhost

MINNIE TEAFORD

I am a resident of Fairhope, Baldwin County, Alabama, and am the Mother of the Complainant and while I do not know of my personal knowledge of Walter Donhost's cruel treatment of his wife, I do know that she was made very unhappy by his behavior, and after this had continued for quite a while my daughter told me of his unfaithfulness and cruelty which naturally depressed her a great deal, and I know she was being neglected, and this only confirmed my suspicions. Walter was careful not to let my husband or me know of his mistreatment of Bernice, by doing nothing when we were present. But when she left him and came to me in October of last year, I could readily see that she had ample complaint for leaving him and that she is wise in doing so for a man of his temper and habits is not safe to live with.

Minnie Teaford

CERTIFICATE

I, Cecelia S. Mickle, acting as commissioner by agreement of parties hereby certify that in the case of BERNICE T. DONHOST vs WALTER E. DONHOST, pending on the Equity side of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, I caused BERNICE T. DONHOST and MINNIE TEAFORD, witnesses for the Complainant, to appear before me at my office in the Bank Building, Fairhope, Alabama, where, after being duly sworn, upon examination by the solicitor for the Complainant, they testified as is above written and their testimony, after being reduced to writing, was read over and signed by them.

I further certify that I am neither of counsel nor of kin to either party to the cause or in anywise interested in the result thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereto set my hand and seal as commissioner this the 5th day of October, 1945.

Cecelia S. Mickle
Commissioner.

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Wed Oct 4 1945
R. P. [unclear]
[unclear]

TO THE HONORABLE F. W. HARE, JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA; IN EQUITY.

Comes BERNEICE T. DOMHOST, and by this her Bill of
Complaint, presented against WALTER E. DOMHOST, respectfully
shows:

FIRST: That Complainant and Defendant are both over
the age of twenty-one years; that she is a bona fide resident
of Baldwin County, Alabama; the Defendant since October 1944,
is employed in the city of Detroit, Michigan, where he is now
domiciled.

SECOND: That Complainant and Defendant were married
on December 16, 1934, in the City of Jonesville, Indiana, and
lived together as husband and wife up to October 1944, since
which time they have remained separate and apart.

THIRD: That for some time prior to their separation,
Complainant had reason to suspect that the Defendant was
unfaithful to her and though she had a number of suspicious
indicia, she had no definite proof of his misbehavior.

FOURTH: That relations between the parties in due time
became strained and unpleasant because of his behavior and
mistreatment of her, and finally because of his cruelty she
was compelled to leave him in October, 1944, and return to
the home of her parents with whom she has lived since that
time, entirely separate and apart from Defendant.

FIFTH: That after Defendant in a fit of rage had
seized her, shaking her violently and thrown her down, she
feared to continue living with him because of danger to her
personal safety and health and left as aforesaid.

SIXTH: That there was born to this marriage one
daughter, Gwendolyn, now nine years of age, who lives with
Complainant.

THE PREMISES CONSIDERED, Complainant prays that WALTER E. DONEOSTE, be made party defendant to this cause, and by proper process required to answer this Bill within the time prescribed by law.

The Complainant further prays that upon the hearing of this cause a decree be rendered forever divorcing her from said WALTER E. DONEOSTE, giving her the custody and control of the child of the marriage, allowing to her out of the estate of the Defendant, a suitable sum, for the maintenance and support of said child, granting her the right to marry again should she so desire, and to have such other, further or different relief as to equity may seem meet.

Edwitt A. Rindley

Solicitor for Complainant.

RECORDED & INDEXED

APR 10 1910

1110

FILED
APR 10 1910
CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT

WALTER E. DONEOSTE

RECEIVED FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D.C.
 TO THE DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 FROM THE SAC, NEW YORK
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1422
 RECORDED

BERNEICE T. DONHOST

vs.

WALTER E. DONHOST

BILL

Filed Oct 4 1945
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Elliott G. Rickaby