

INT. UPSCALE BAR - NIGHT

JAMES and DENISE wipe tears from their eyes as they laugh. There's a warm, conspiratorial energy between them - like misbehaving teens.

JAMES

I'm sorry, but have you seen Jay's pre-nup?! It makes *no sense* - I'm not even sure half of it is *legal* -

DENISE

(looking around)  
Shhh! You're so bad - we shouldn't be gossiping outside the firm -

JAMES

Gossip? I thought this was a consultation - I'm expecting you to bill me.

DENISE

You couldn't afford my rates.

JAMES

(feigning hurt)  
No friends and family discount? God, marrying someone like that - I wish I could just tell my client, *This guy sucks! Run away!* But -

DENISE

But you'd get disbarred?

James grins, sips his drink. Denise narrows her eyes.

DENISE (CONT'D)

Would you ever get married?  
(James chokes on his sip)  
What? Weren't you getting serious with that pediatrician...Nancy?

JAMES

Natasha? Nice memory. She was great. We just weren't...compatible long-term.  
(off her smirk)  
Don't give me that look - just 'cause you're with perfect Chris -

DENISE

Actually, he...ended things.  
(beat)  
Also not compatible, I guess.

JAMES

Oh. Wow, I - sorry, I didn't...you  
okay? You wanna talk?

She shakes her head. The energy between them shifts, suddenly  
charged.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Yeah, Nat and I...we were always  
running around. We could never  
just...be together. Y'know?

(beat)

But I think I would. If I was with  
the right person.

Their eyes meet. A spark.

They look at each other: excited, scared - then it gets too  
intense, and they break away.

DENISE

Wow, it is *late* - gotta be up early  
tomorrow.

JAMES

Yeah yeah, I should get going too -  
(looking around)  
Wait, have we closed this place  
down?

The bar is completely deserted. They look at each other and  
start to laugh again.